

DRAFT ELEMENTS
on
SBI 50 agenda item 4(b)
Terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts
Version 1 of 18/06/2019

Possible elements of revised terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts

Note by the co-facilitators: The possible elements outlined below have been prepared under the full responsibility of the co-facilitators as input to Parties' discussions on the matter. They should not be considered an indication of the outcome of the negotiations.

PART A: Decision elements

PART A.1: Chapeau

1. Recall relevant Articles of the Convention, for example Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3 and 7, and Article 12, paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 7,
2. Recall relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties, for example decisions 3/CP.8, 17/CP.8, 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17, 14/CP.17, 17/CP.18, 18/CP.18, 19/CP.19, 20/CP.19, 20/CP.22 and 11/CP.24,
3. Recall decision 18/CMA.1, paragraph 15, whereby the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement decided that the Consultative Group of Experts shall serve the Paris Agreement starting from 1 January 2019 to support the implementation of the enhanced transparency framework under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement,
4. Recognize that the Consultative Group of Experts plays an important role in providing technical advice and support for the preparation and submission of national communications, biennial update reports and biennial transparency reports,
5. Recall decision 11/CP.24, paragraph 2, which states that the Consultative Group of Experts, in fulfilling its mandate, shall function in accordance with decision 19/CP.19 and its annex,
6. Note the ongoing implementation and delivery of the 2019 work programme of the Consultative Group of Experts,
7. ...

PART A.2: Operative part

8. Language that adopts the revised terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts contained in the annex;
9. The Consultative Group of Experts to develop at its first meeting in 2020 a work programme for the period 2020–2026 and a two-year rolling workplan starting from 2020, taking full account of the elements listed in paragraph 2 of the annex;
10. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider reviewing the terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts at its fifty-fourth session (May–June 2021) and to recommend a draft decision thereon for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-seventh session (November 2021);
11. Request the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider the annual progress report of the Consultative Group of Experts referred to in paragraph 2(g) of the annex and, as appropriate, provide guidance;
12. The actions of the secretariat called for in this decision be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources;

13. ...

PART B: Annex elements

1. The objective of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) shall be to improve over time the process of preparation and the quality of national communications, biennial update reports and biennial transparency reports by providing technical advice and support to developing countries.
2. The CGE, in fulfilling its mandate, shall:
 - a. Support the implementation of the existing measurement, reporting and verification arrangements under the Convention by, inter alia:
 - i. Providing technical advice and support to developing country Parties to improve the process and preparation of their national communications and biennial update reports in accordance with the “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”, contained in the annex to decision 17/CP.8, and the “UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”, contained in annex III to decision 2/CP.17;
 - ii. Providing guidance and periodic advice to the secretariat to assist it in fulfilling the selection criteria for the composition of the teams of technical experts, taking into account the reports provided by the secretariat in this regard on a semi-annual basis;
 - iii. Organizing, with the assistance of the secretariat, training programmes for technical experts nominated to conduct the technical analysis of biennial update reports;
 - iv. ...
 - b. Support the implementation of the enhanced transparency framework under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement by, inter alia:
 - i. Facilitating the provision of technical advice and support to developing country Parties, as applicable, including for the preparation and submission of their biennial transparency reports, and facilitating improved reporting over time in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement;
 - ii. Providing technical advice to the secretariat on the implementation of the training of the technical expert review teams referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, paragraph 12(c);
 - iii. ...
 - c. Identify problems, constraints and needs that are affecting the implementation of the existing measurement, reporting and verification arrangements under the Convention and the enhanced transparency framework under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement by developing country Parties with a view to providing targeted technical advice and support;
 - d. Provide technical advice and support to facilitate the development and long-term sustainability of the report preparation processes referred to in paragraph 2(a) and (b) above, including the elaboration of appropriate institutional arrangements and the establishment and maintenance of national technical teams, on a continuous basis;
 - e. Collaborate, to the extent possible, with other expert groups and constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement as well as other relevant multilateral programmes and organizations;
 - f. Revise its rules of procedure, if needed;
 - g. Submit an annual report on the progress of its work for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its session held in conjunction with session of the Conference of the Parties;

- h. Forward recommendations on the matters referred to in paragraph 2(a–g) above for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, as appropriate;
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