

SBI 52-55 (54) - plenary statement by the UNFCCC secretariat

Item 20: Administrative, financial and institutional matters

Sub-item (f): Annual Report (for 2019 and 2020)

Thank you Mme.Chair, distinguished delegates,

Under this agenda item 20 (f), the secretariat was tasked to produce an annual report.

At SB 45 in 2016¹, Parties requested the secretariat to provide brief information on the secretariat's activities of the preceding year delivery highlights and financial performance. This is to facilitate the understanding of a broad range of stakeholders and interested observers regarding the deliverables and challenges of the secretariat.

Annual Reports provide Parties and non-Party stakeholders with information on the UNFCCC activities of the preceding year. The introduction of annual reports enhances the overall transparency of the secretariat and the UNFCCC process, and provides additional performance and financial information to Parties.

For the year 2019, the secretariat published its Annual Report on 20 August 2020. The report focused on secretariat's efforts in mobilizing Party and non-Party stakeholders to act on climate change.

As the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded, the work of the secretariat continued, albeit in virtual mode. The 2020 Annual Report was published virtually during the June session, on 3 June 2021. It provided highlights on secretariat's endeavours to support Parties in developing their medium- and long-term commitments to zero greenhouse gas emissions.

We look forward to continuing producing the Annual Reports for the benefit of Parties and all stakeholders, and we will welcome any comments and feedback on how to improve the readability and value of those reports.

¹ FCCC/SBI/2016/INF.14, paragraph 37.