

## DRAFT TEXT

on

### SBSTA 51 agenda item 11 Methodological issues under the Paris Agreement

Version 1 of 6 December 2019 11:00

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#### Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) continued its consideration of methodological issues under the Paris Agreement to develop, pursuant to the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement:<sup>1</sup>

(a) Common reporting tables for the electronic reporting of the information in the national inventory reports of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases;

(b) Common tabular formats for the electronic reporting of the information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement;

(c) Common tabular formats for the electronic reporting of the information on financial, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building support provided and mobilized, as well as support needed and received, under Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement;

(d) Outlines of the biennial transparency report, national inventory document and technical expert review report pursuant to the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support;

(e) The training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review.

2. The SBSTA welcomed further submissions from Parties<sup>2</sup> on these matters and took note of the views expressed by Parties at the session. The SBSTA took note of the informal notes<sup>3</sup> prepared by the co-facilitators of the relevant informal consultations under their own responsibility, which have no status and do not reflect the consensus views of Parties.

3. The SBSTA noted that the information sessions on experience with reporting quantitative information in greenhouse gas inventories and on the technical paper<sup>4</sup> on the existing training programmes for technical expert reviews, which includes lessons learned and relevant statistics, contributed to advancing the discussions on the matters referred to in paragraph 1 above at SBSTA 51.

4. The SBSTA, recognizing the importance of the provision of flexibility in the modalities, procedures and guidelines for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities, also noted that the dedicated discussion during the session on how to operationalize the flexibility provisions set out in decision 18/CMA.1 contributed to a better understanding of and clarity regarding the options for taking the flexibility provision into account in work on the methodological issues described in paragraph 1 above.

5. The SBSTA further noted the rich exchange of views by Parties at the session on what flexibility entails in the work on the methodological issues described in paragraph 1 above and the approaches Parties may consider when operationalizing specific flexibility provisions. The SBSTA noted that the modalities, procedures and guidelines contain specific

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 18/CMA.1, para. 12.

<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.

<sup>3</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/sbsta-51>.

<sup>4</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/tp2019\\_05.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/tp2019_05.pdf).

paragraphs referring to the flexibility available for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities. In addition to these flexibilities, Parties are given choices as to how they complete their reporting (e.g. reporting of non-mandatory information).

6. The SBSTA also noted that Parties discussed a number of options for implementing the flexibility provisions in the modalities, procedures and guidelines, including making use of footnotes, new or existing notation keys, documentation boxes and drop-down menus; removing or hiding rows, columns and tables, or making other modifications to the tables; and using explanatory narrative in the national inventory document and biennial transparency report. The SBSTA agreed to continue its consideration of how flexibility should be operationalized under each element of the methodological work referred to in paragraph 1 above at SBSTA 52 (June 2020).

7. The SBSTA recognized that in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 14, of the Paris Agreement, support shall be provided to developing country Parties for implementing Article 13, and in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 15, for building the transparency-related capacity of developing country Parties on a continuous basis.

8. The SBSTA acknowledged the progress on the outlines and training programme referred to in paragraph 1(d) and (e) above, respectively, as reflected in the informal notes,<sup>5</sup> and agreed to revisit and finalize the outlines and training programme at SBSTA 53 (November 2020) with a view to recommending a draft decision for consideration and adoption at CMA 3 (November 2020).

9. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to:

(a) Prepare a technical paper considering the views of Parties contained in their submissions on these matters, the views expressed by Parties during SBSTA 50 and SBSTA 51, the information contained in the informal notes referred to in paragraph 2 above and the informal notes from SBSTA 50, as an input to further consideration of these items at SBSTA 52 and in the workshop referred to in paragraph 9(b) below;<sup>6</sup>

(b) Organize a workshop, to be held prior to SBSTA 52 (June 2020), on the common reporting tables on greenhouse gas inventories and common tabular formats on support, and prepare a report on the workshop, as an input to further consideration of these items at SBSTA 52;

(c) [Placeholder for the mandate to develop training modules]

10. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraph 9 above.

11. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

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<sup>5</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/sbsta-51>.

<sup>6</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/bonn-climate-change-conference-june-2019/sessions/sbsta-50#eq-23>.