Consultations by the SB Chairs on matters relating to the second periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention and of overall progress towards achieving it

Concept Note: 12 April 2021

The Bureau at its meeting on 25 February 2021 requested the presiding officers to make available a plan of upcoming activities in preparation for a successful COP 26 in November 2021. Following this guidance, the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, Mr. Tosi Mpanu Mpanu, and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, Ms. Marianne Karlsen, are convening a series of activities, including informal consultations, technical expert meetings and other events.

This concept note presents background on the informal consultations by the SB Chairs on matters relating to the second periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention and of overall progress towards achieving it.

I. Context

COP 25 decided that the second periodic review of the long-term global goal (LTGG) and the progress towards achieving it (PR2) shall start in the second half of 2020 and conclude in 2022, with the structured expert dialogue (SED) held in conjunction with sessions of the subsidiary bodies, starting at their fifty-third sessions (November 2020) and being completed at their fifty-fifth sessions (November 2021).

COP 25 further agreed that the outcome of PR2 will not result in an alteration or redefinition of the LTGG stated in decision 10/CP.21, and decided that that PR2 should, in accordance with the relevant principles and provisions of the Convention and on the basis of the best available science:

a) Enhance Parties’ understanding of:
   i. The LTGG and scenarios towards achieving it in the light of the ultimate objective of the Convention;
   ii. Progress made in relation to addressing information and knowledge gaps, including with regard to scenarios to achieve the LTGG and the range of associated impacts, since the completion of the 2013–2015 review;
   iii. Challenges and opportunities for achieving the LTGG with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the Convention;

b) Assess the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by Parties in order to achieve the LTGG in the light of the ultimate objective of the Convention.

The first session of the first meeting of the structured expert dialogue (SED) took place during the 2020 Climate Dialogue and was co-facilitated by Mr. Xiang Gao (China) and Ms. Tara Shine (Ireland). The second session of the first meeting is planned for June 2021.

The second periodic review has not yet been considered by the subsidiary bodies (SBs) in a joint contact group due to the postponement of the sessions in 2020.
II. Objective

The objective of these Party-only consultations is to provide an informal space for Parties, under the guidance of the SB Chairs, to reflect on SED 1.1 and to exchange views on the SEDs that could inform the preparations for SED 1.2 and subsequent SEDs, and to discuss at which SED to consider the report of the pre-2020 roundtable on implementation and ambition convened during the UN Climate Dialogues in December 2020.¹ The Co-facilitators of the SED will attend the meeting as observers.

III. Description

The informal consultations between Parties may include the following areas of discussion:

- Reflections on SED 1.1;
- Expectations for SED 1.2 and subsequent SEDs, including related to focus of the meetings and themes to be covered;
- Reflections on convening SED 3 in mid-2022 to allow for consideration of WGII and III reports of IPCC AR6, which are delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Reflections on when the report of the pre-2020 round table on ambition and implementation should be considered – June 2021 or Glasgow, November 2021;
- Any other matters related to the second periodic review.

IV. Proposed Timeline

The consultations will be held virtually on 27 April 2021 04:00 – 05:30 AM CEST.

V. Event chairs: SBSTA and SBI Chairs

VI. Agenda:

- Brief opening remarks by the SBI Chair
- Brief reflections by the SED Co-facilitators on SED1.1
- Reflections by Parties on SED1.1 and the way forward
- Discussions facilitated by the SBI Chair
- Closing remarks by the SBSTA Chair

VII. Contact/Additional Information

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¹ Decision 1/CP.25, paragraph 21.