

Information note by the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies on the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation

7 April 2022

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. The Paris Agreement, in its Article 7.2, established the global goal on adaptation (GGA) of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2 of the Agreement. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) decided, at its third session, to establish and launch a comprehensive two-year Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation to start immediately after CMA 3 and be carried out jointly by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) (decision 7/CMA.3).¹

B. Scope and purpose of the information note

2. We, as the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies (SBs), have been entrusted by the CMA to carry out the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation. Knowing the great expectations by Parties and non-Party stakeholders and the necessity of adaptation as recently underlined by the IPCC, we are committed to ensuring that the objectives of the work programme are being met.

3. We are fully aware and in agreement that the implementation of the work programme should reflect the country-driven nature of adaptation and avoid creating any additional burden for developing country Parties.

4. It is not our intention to prejudge the submissions; however, given the late deadline for the submissions informing the work programme, and the desire of Parties to ensure prompt implementation and avoiding delays, we would like to use this note to lay out our initial thinking of how the work programme could be organized in 2022.

5. The note first provides a short overview of the work programme and a summary of informal reflections heard so far from Parties. It then elaborates a tentative timeline from now until November this year. It is our sincere hope that Parties will find this note useful, in particular as they prepare their submissions.

6. We will refine and revise our planning as more views from Parties are being submitted, and will stay abreast of any relevant developments.

¹ <https://unfccc.int/documents/460952>

II. Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation

A. Overview of the work programme as contained in decision 7/CMA.3

7. As agreed, the objectives of the work programme should be to, inter alia:
 - (a) Enable the full and sustained implementation of the Paris Agreement, towards achieving the global goal on adaptation, with a view to enhancing adaptation action and support;
 - (b) Enhance understanding of the global goal on adaptation, including of the methodologies, indicators, data and metrics, needs and support needed for assessing progress towards it;
 - (c) Contribute to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation as part of the global stocktake referred to in Article 7, paragraph 14, and Article 14 of the Paris Agreement with a view to informing the first and subsequent global stocktakes (GST);
 - (d) Enhance national planning and implementation of adaptation actions through the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and through nationally determined contributions and adaptation communications;
 - (e) Enable Parties to better communicate their adaptation priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions, including through adaptation communications and nationally determined contributions;
 - (f) Facilitate the establishment of robust, nationally appropriate systems for monitoring and evaluating adaptation actions;
 - (g) Strengthen implementation of adaptation actions in vulnerable developing countries;
 - (h) Enhance understanding of how communication and reporting instruments established under the Convention and the Paris Agreement related to adaptation can complement each other in order to avoid duplication of efforts.
8. The subsidiary bodies were invited to carry out the work programme in an inclusive manner with the involvement of Parties, on the basis of equitable geographical representation as well as observers, relevant constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, organizations, experts and practitioners and with contributions from the current and incoming Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties (COP), the Adaptation Committee (AC), Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), as appropriate, and other relevant constituted bodies and experts.
9. It was also decided that activities carried out under the work programme should build on the work of the AC related to the global goal on adaptation, draw on a variety of sources of information and inputs, including national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, take into account traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, and be gender-responsive. The IPCC was invited to inform the work programme by presenting at SB 56 the findings of the contribution of Working Group II to its Sixth Assessment Report that may be relevant to reviewing overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation, and engage in the work programme by clarifying methodologies and other elements related to the global goal on adaptation.
10. Under the work programme, four workshops should be conducted per year, with the support of the secretariat and under the guidance of the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies,

namely two virtual intersessional workshops and two workshops in conjunction with the sessions of the subsidiary bodies, starting at SB 56.

11. To inform the work programme, Parties were invited to submit by 30 April 2022 views on how to achieve the objectives under the work programme, based on which the SB Chairs were invited to select themes for the workshops. The secretariat was requested to prepare, under the guidance of the SB Chairs a compilation and synthesis of those submissions for consideration at the workshops.

12. To inform Parties of progress made, the secretariat was requested to prepare, under the guidance of the SB Chairs, a single annual report on the workshops for consideration at the SB sessions coinciding with the sessions of the CMA, and the SBs were invited to report annually to the CMA on progress in implementing the work programme with a view to recommending a draft decision thereon for consideration and adoption by CMA 5 (November 2023).

B. Informal reflections by Parties on the organization of the work programme

13. Since COP 26 in Glasgow, Parties have met in a number of informal settings to exchange initial views as to how they see the work programme being undertaken, including during multilateral consultations for Heads of Delegation on adaptation convened by the presidencies on 9 March.

14. Parties called for an immediate start of work under the work programme in order to yield substantive progress in time for COP 27 and for conducting the work programme in an inclusive manner recognising that the work programme should reflect the country-driven nature of adaptation and avoid creating any new additional burden for developing countries.

15. Some Parties already made proposals for conducting the workshops planned in 2022, for example focusing on clusters of objectives and/or logical flows, e.g. the first workshop could focus on enhancing understanding of the GGA, the second on ways to review progress, etc. Some Parties saw this sequencing as a good approach for enabling Parties to agree, at COP 27, on criteria and elements relevant for reviewing progress towards the goal as part of GST 1. It was mentioned that other aspects of the work programme could be left to 2023, noting that all objectives of the work programme must be addressed in order to inform the GST and to make an essential contribution towards enhancing action on adaptation and support.

16. Regarding the organizational aspects of the workshops, it was underlined that they will need to be organized in a way that allows smaller delegations and all developing countries to participate and some Parties called for applying innovative approaches when designing the workshops. Many Parties have highlighted the importance of the work programme being conducted in an open and transparent manner, inclusive to experts and stakeholders.

III. Tentative planning of the work programme for 2022

17. Taking into account the guidance provided in decision 7/CMA.3, the initial reflections from Parties and deliberations between us Chairs, we propose the following timeline for organizing the work programme from April until November this year as elaborated and summarized in the table below.

18. **Submissions by Parties by 30 April.** We congratulate Australia for being the first Party to submit its views and strongly encourage other Parties and Groups of Parties to provide their views, in particular on the themes and sequencing of the workshops, to allow

us to put forward a comprehensive and balanced proposal for undertaking the work programme.

19. **Informal event in the first week of May.** During this event, we would like to offer Parties and non-Party stakeholders the opportunity to reflect on the submissions, including their expectations for the work programme and organization of the workshops. It will allow those Parties to provide views who had not been able to provide a submission and will also offer an opportunity to hear from non-Party stakeholders to ensure that the work programme is comprehensive and inclusive.

20. **Compilation and synthesis of the submissions by 30 May** to be prepared by the secretariat under our guidance. This document will inform the organization and also the discussions at the workshops.

21. **First workshop under the work programme (in person) during the first week of the June session.** There are several benefits of having the first workshop during the June sessions, including:

(a) Having had time to incorporate the guidance received from Parties through the submissions and the informal event;

(b) Being inclusive and able to meet in person and having formal and informal exchanges between Parties and non-Party stakeholders;

(c) Exchanges at the workshop being informed by the IPCC's presentation on the findings of the contribution of Working Group II to its Sixth Assessment Report that may be relevant to reviewing overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation, including relevant methodologies.

22. In terms of the format of the workshop, we plan to have it run over two days and employ approaches that would encourage real and active engagement by Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

23. We will issue a concept note on the workshop by 16 May containing a tentative programme and guiding questions.

24. **Informal event in the second week of SB 56.** As the Chairs of the SBs have been entrusted with carrying out the work programme, we strive to ensure that the views of all Parties are reflected in undertaking the work programme. To allow for further exchanges outside the setting of the first workshop, we would like to invite Parties to an informal event on the work programme during the second week of SB 56, with a view to hearing feedback on the first workshop, views and expectations for the remaining workshops of 2022 and expectations for CMA 4.

25. **Second and third workshop in late August and late September respectively.** We plan to organize the second and third workshops in a virtual format ensuring that they build on the first workshop and each other so we can accumulate our understanding of the objectives of the work programme. Planning for the second and third workshop will be informed by submissions received in April, the first workshop as well as the informal event referred to above. Concept notes for the respective workshops will be made available well in advance of the workshops.

26. **Fourth workshop and reporting at CMA 4.** We plan to hold the fourth workshop in person in Sharm el-Sheikh, possibly as part of the pre-session week. We would then request the secretariat to swiftly prepare under our guidance the annual report on the workshops for consideration during SB57, which would then enable the SBs to report to CMA 4 on progress made in implementing the work programme and provide any additional guidance with a view to successfully concluding the work programme at CMA 5 in 2023.

Table
Tentative timeline April–November 2022

<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>
By 30 April 2022	Parties to provide views via the submission portal
First week of May	Informal event (virtual) organized by the SB Chairs
16 May	Concept note for the first workshop
30 May	Compilation and synthesis of the submissions
7 June	IPCC event on the contribution of WGII (in-person, Bonn)
8–9 June	First workshop (in-person, Bonn)
14 or 15 June (tbc)	Informal event by the SB Chairs (in-person, Bonn)
End of August	Second workshop (virtual)
End of September	Third workshop (virtual)
November, possibly pre-sessional	Fourth workshop (in-person, Sharm el-Sheikh)
November, COP 27	Annual report on the workshops for consideration at SB 57
November, COP27	SBs to report to CMA 4
