



Agenda and annotations

Twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance

**19 to 20 May 2021
(Virtual meeting)**

1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Election of officers.
 3. Organizational matters.
 4. Fourth (2020) Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows, including, information relevant to Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the Paris Agreement.
 5. First report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement.
 6. Forum on Finance for Nature-based Solutions.
 7. Draft guidance to the Operating Entities of the Financial Mechanism.
 8. Linkages with the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the constituted bodies of the Convention.
 9. Report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance.
 10. Dates and venues of future meetings.
 11. Other matters.
 12. Closure of the meeting.
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Annotations to the agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

1. The twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) will be opened by the Co-Chairs on Wednesday, 19 May 2021 at 12:00 (CEST).

2. Election of officers

2. **Action:** *Members of the SCF will be invited to elect the Co-Chairs of the SCF for 2021.*

3. **Background:** The revised composition and working modalities of the SCF adopted at the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) provided that the Committee shall elect annually two Co-Chairs from among its members for a term of one year each, with one being a member from a Party not included and the other being a member from a Party included in Annex I to the Convention.

3. Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

4. **Action:** *The SCF will be invited to adopt the agenda for its twenty-fourth meeting.*

5. **Background:** The provisional agenda was prepared by the Co-Chairs and circulated to the SCF prior to the meeting.

SCF/2021/24/1	<i>Provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance</i>
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SCF/2021/24/2	<i>Provisional agenda and annotations for the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance</i>
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(b) Organization of the work of the meeting

6. **Action:** *The SCF will be invited to agree on the organization of the work of the meeting.*

7. **Background:** SCF 24 will be held virtually from Wednesday to Thursday, 19–20 May 2021. A provisional schedule of the meeting is contained in the annex to this document.

8. The virtual meeting will be open to attendance by observers from Parties and accredited observer organizations, except where otherwise decided by the SCF. The meeting will be broadcast live. The SCF may decide at any time that a meeting or part thereof should be closed to observers and the broadcast should be interrupted.

4. Fourth (2020) Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows, including information relevant to Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement

9. **Action:** *The SCF will be invited to:*

(a) *Provide guidance on the preparation of the final draft of the technical report of the Fourth (2020) Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows (Fourth BA) for consideration at SCF 25; and*

(b) *Provide preliminary views on the possible elements of the summary and recommendations by the SCF.*

10. **Background:** In accordance with decision 2/CP.17, the SCF shall prepare a biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, to include information on the geographical and thematic balance of such flows, drawing from available sources of information, including, inter alia, from biennial reports and biennial update reports. Further guidance is contained in decisions 1/CP.18, paragraph 71, 5/CP.18, paragraph 11, 3/CP.19, paragraph 11, and 9/CP.21, paragraph 13; paragraph 37(f) in the annex to decision 8/CP.22; decision 4/CP.24, paragraphs 4, 5 and 10; and decision 11/CP.25, paragraphs 9 and 10 and decision 5/CMA.2, paragraphs 9 and 10.

11. During the intersessional period, progress was made in the technical work on drafting the Fourth BA. The secretariat and the technical team, under the guidance of co-facilitators, incorporated comments and suggestions of SCF members that were received before 15 January. A co-facilitators note on emerging key findings and elements for draft summary and recommendations is being developed.

12. A technical stakeholders dialogue on the preparation of the Fourth BA will take place on 18 May 2021.

SCF/2021/24/3 Background paper on the Fourth (2020) Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows

SCF/2021/24/3, Third-order draft of the technical report (work in progress) annex

5. First report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement

13. **Action:** *The SCF will be invited to provide guidance on the third-order draft of the first report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement.*

14. **Background:** COP 24 requested the SCF to prepare, every four years, a report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement, for consideration by the COP and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), starting at COP 26 and CMA 3 respectively (November 2021).¹ The COP also requested the SCF to collaborate, as appropriate, with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the subsidiary and constituted bodies, multilateral and bilateral channels, and observer organizations.² Additional guidance was received from the COP and the CMA, as contained in decisions 11/CP.25 and 5/CMA.2, respectively.

15. During the intersessional period, progress was made related to drafting the technical report of the first report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, organized a SCF informal call on data collection and analysis that took place on 22 March 2021. A co-facilitators note on emerging key findings and draft summary elements is being developed.

16. A technical stakeholders dialogue on the preparation of the first report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement will take place on 18 May 2021.

SCF/2021/24/4 Background paper on the first report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement

SCF/2021/24/4, Third-order draft of the technical report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the first report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement (work in progress) annex

6. Forum on Finance for Nature-based Solutions

17. **Action:** *The SCF will be invited to take note of the status of preparations of the SCF Forum.*

18. **Background:** At SCF 21, the Committee agreed that the theme of its next Forum will be “Finance for Nature-based Solutions,” including on the sub-themes.³ The COP and the CMA

¹ Decision 4/CP.24, paragraph 13.

² Decision 4/CP.24, para. 14.

³ SCF/2019/21/11, paragraph 24.

welcomed the decision of the SCF on this topic.⁴ At SCF 22, the Committee considered a draft programme of the Forum and subsequently at SCF 23, provided views on the possible timing and potential hosts for the Forum.

19. During the intersessional period, under the guidance of the co-facilitators, the secretariat continued to explore possible venues and potential hosts for the Forum in 2021. Preparations are underway for a synthesis paper based on the findings from the call for submissions by Parties and observers.

SCF/2021/24/5 *Background paper on the Forum on Finance for Nature-based Solutions*

7. Draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism

20. **Action:** *The SCF will be invited to:*

(a) *Agree on the approach and the timeline to prepare the draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism;*

(b) *Exchange views on the possible elements of the draft guidance, based on the submissions received from Parties and other constituted bodies on their views and recommendations on the elements to be taken into account in developing the draft guidance.*

21. *Background:* At SCF 23, the Committee agreed to continue discussions on the format of and process for developing the draft guidance at SCF 24 and requested the co-facilitators to prepare a workplan with options for advancing the preparations of the draft guidance to be submitted to the COP.

22. During the intersessional period, the SCF co-chairs sent a message⁵ on 16 April 2021 to Parties and the Adaptation Committee, the Technology Executive Committee and the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, inviting them to provide submissions on their views and recommendations on the elements to be considered in developing the draft guidance. The message highlighted that Parties and constituted bodies can provide their submissions by 15 May 2021 *and/or* by 15 September 2021, based on the 2020 and 2021 annual reports of the operating entities.

SCF/2021/24/6 *Background paper on the draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism*

8. Linkages with the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the constituted bodies of the Convention

23. **Action:** *The SCF will be invited to:*

(a) *Take note of activities undertaken by the SCF to enhance linkages and cooperation with the subsidiary bodies and other constituted bodies;*

(b) *Appoint and reconfirm focal points in relation to various thematic areas of work.*

24. COP 23 welcomed the appointment of focal points of the SCF to liaise with constituted bodies under the Convention. In the context of the review of the functions of the SCF, COP 23 requested the SCF to further refine its approach to maintaining linkages with the subsidiary and constituted bodies according to resources available and in the context of its existing working modalities^{6,7,8}.

25. At SCF 22, the Committee appointed and reconfirmed focal points in relation to various thematic areas of work.

⁴ Decisions 11/CP.25, paragraph 7, and 5/CMA.2, paragraph 7.

⁵ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/letter_to_parties_scf_guidance_fm.pdf.

⁶ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 121(b).

⁷ Decision 7/CP.19, paragraph 10.

⁸ Decision 8/CP.23, paragraph 11.

9. Report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance

26. The SCF may wish to consider and adopt the report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance intersessionally on a no-objection basis.

<i>SCF/2021/24/7 Report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance</i>

10. Dates and venues of future meetings

27. The SCF may wish to consider possible dates, formats and venues for SCF 25 and SCF 26.

11. Other matters

28. The SCF may wish to consider any other matters it deems necessary.

12. Closure of the meeting

29. SCF 24 is scheduled to close on Thursday, 20 May 2021, at 15:00 (CEST).

Annex

Provisional Schedule for the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance

Wednesday, 19 May 2021

12:00 – 15:00 CEST

12:00 – 12:20	Opening of the Meeting Organizational Matters Tribute to Paul Herbert Oquist Kelley
12:20 – 12:45	Election of Officers
12:45 – 13:45	Fourth (2020) Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows, including, information relevant to Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the Paris Agreement
13:45 – 15:00	First report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement

Thursday, 20 May 2021

12:00 – 15:00 CEST

12:00 – 13:00	Draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism
13:00 – 14:00	Forum on Finance for Nature-based Solutions
14:00 – 14:15	Linkages with the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the constituted bodies of the Convention
14:15 – 14:30	Dates and venues of future meetings
14:30 – 14:50	Consideration of the outcomes of the meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourth (2020) Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows, including, information relevant to Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the Paris Agreement; • First report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement; • Forum on Finance for Nature-based Solutions; • Draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism.
14:50 – 14:55	Report of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and other matters
14:55 – 15:00	Closure
