



**Standing Committee on Finance**  
**Thirtieth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance**  
**6–7 March 2023**  
**Vienna, Austria**

17 July 2023

## **Report of the thirtieth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance**

### **Attendance**

#### In-person

Mr. Zaheer Fakir (Co-Chair)  
Ms. Gertraud Wollansky (Co-Chair)  
Mr. Kevin Adams  
Ms. Diann Black-Layne  
Ms. Gabriela Blatter  
Ms. Hyekyoung Jung  
Mr. Ivan Zambrana Flores  
Mr. Mattias Frumerie  
Ms. Fiona Gilbert  
Mr. Javier Antonio Gutiérrez Ramírez  
Ms. Apollonia Miola  
Mr. Zerihun Getu Mekuria  
Mr. Richard Muyungi  
Mr. Liucui Zhu  
Mr. Mohamed Nasr  
Ms. Katarzyna Kowalska  
Ms. Saiko Saito

#### Virtual

Mr. Konstantin Kulikov  
Ms. Chandni Raina

#### Absent with apologies

Ms. Vicky Noens

### **1. Opening of the meeting**

1. The thirtieth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), was opened at 9 a.m. UTC+1, on Monday, 6 March 2023 in Vienna International Center, Vienna, Austria. The SCF expressed its gratitude to the Government of Austria for hosting the meeting in Vienna.
2. Chandni Raina (India), Hyekyoung Jung (Republic of Korea) were welcomed as new non-Annex I members and Saiko Saito (Japan) and Katarzyna Kowalska (Romania) were welcomed as new Annex I members.
3. The SCF held a retreat prior to the meeting on 5 March 2023.

### **2. Election of officers**

4. The SCF re-elected Zaheer Fakir (South Africa) and Gertraud Wollansky (Austria) as Co-Chairs of the SCF until the first meeting of the Committee in 2024.

**3. Organizational matters**

**(a) Adoption of the agenda**

5. The SCF adopted the agenda contained in document SCF/2023/30/1 as proposed.<sup>1</sup>

**(b) Organization of the work of the meeting**

6. The meeting was organized as an in-person meeting with possibility of virtual participation of members and observers.

7. The SCF took note of the tentative meeting schedule contained in document SCF/2023/30/2. One member stated all of the proposed schedule was in plenary setting and suggested to use the breakout group discussions for the remaining duration of the meeting to encourage open discussions amongst all participants. No objection was raised and a revised schedule was circulated to the Committee to hold breakout group discussions during the afternoon of the first day. All work of the SCF was finalized and agreed in the plenary setting on the second day of the meeting.

**4. 2023 Forum on Financing Just Transitions**

Proceedings

8. The SCF took note of the document SCF/2023/30/3, which contained options for the venue and dates for the Forum and initial elements of sub-themes that the SCF started to discuss at its twenty-ninth meeting. Katarzyna Kowalska and Mohamed Nasr were appointed as co-facilitators for this workstream.

Outcomes

9. Members agreed that the objective of the Forum is to facilitate discussions on financing transition pathways that aim to catalyze the achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement, in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the sub-themes of the Forum will be:

- (a) Identifying opportunities and challenges associated with transitions and just transitions;
- (b) Financing just transitions towards the goals of the Paris Agreement, and more broadly, the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (c) Enablers of just transitions;
- (d) Roles of non-Party stakeholders, including the private sector, in financing just transitions and possible ways to support them;
- (e) Facilitating transitions that will be just and inclusive for the workforce and other impacted communities and stakeholders.

10. The SCF agreed that the Forum will:

- (a) Draw upon best practices and lessons learned in financing just transitions, including examples and case studies from all levels and sectors;
- (b) Build upon existing work on financing just transitions within and outside of the UNFCCC to enhance complementarity of discussions and added value of the Forum;
- (c) Facilitate a balanced discussion, taking into account the different environmental, social and economic circumstances faced at all levels;
- (d) Ensure a balanced discussion, in the context of both mitigation and adaptation.

Next steps

11. The SCF requested the co-facilitators to undertake the inter-sessional activities as contained in paragraph 4 of the the background note.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, the SCF requested the

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<sup>1</sup> All documents are available at: <https://unfccc.int/scf/scf-meetings-and-documents>.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Forum%20outcomes.pdf?download>.

co-facilitators, in preparing for the draft programme and selecting the speakers, to take into account the views expressed by the members during SCF 30.

12. The SCF agreed to decide the dates and venue for the Forum inter-sessionally, based on the expression of interest received from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and Zambia.

## **5. Mandates from the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties and the 4th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement**

### **(a) Work on definitions of climate finance**

#### Proceedings

13. The SCF took note of the document SCF/2023/30/4 which contained options for the scope and outline of the work as well as a draft workplan and timeline. Diann Black-Layne and Apollonia Miola were appointed as co-facilitators for the workstream.

14. The SCF considered the purpose and objectives of the work, taking into account the new mandate to focus on clustering types of climate finance definitions, as well as the invitation to update the Committee's operational definition. Members noted the need to clarify with Parties on their expectations related to this work and how the work could be helpful to add value to efforts by Parties to report climate finance flows, including in the context of nationally determined nature of climate action.

15. Members discussed the outline of the report on clustering types of climate finance definitions and considered options to cluster, for example, by elements of definitions or by use cases where definitions are applied. Members considered that both options could be reflected in a guide or handbook style document that would guide readers through step-by-step decision points to develop or review a definition of climate finance and the various options within each decision point.

16. Members also discussed the format of reporting to the COP the Committee's considerations on updating its operational definition of climate finance in response to the mandate from COP 27. Some members suggested to include the outcome of the discussion as part of the annual report of the SCF to the COP, while other members suggested to include it in the report on clustering types of climate finance referred to in paragraph 15, as an example to applying the guidebook-style step-by-step decision points. The SCF agreed to consider the possible update to the Committee's operational definition on climate finance in the outline of the zero-order draft and to consider the format of reporting the outcome at a later SCF meeting.

17. Members also considered whether to issue an extension to the invitation to submissions beyond the mandated deadline of 30 April 2023 and decided not to do so given the several previous rounds of submissions on the topic.

#### Outcomes

18. The SCF agreed on the general outline<sup>3</sup> of the report on clustering types of climate finance definitions, a workplan and timeline to prepare the work.

#### Next steps

19. Co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will develop a zero-order draft of the report on clustering types of climate finance definitions, including a mapping of elements for consideration in updating the Committee's operational definition of climate finance to be shared with the SCF intersessionally.

<sup>3</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Outline\\_definitions.pdf?download](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Outline_definitions.pdf?download).

**(b) Work relating to Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement**Proceedings

20. The SCF took note of the document SCF/2023/30/5 which contained options for the scope and outline of the work as well as the draft workplan and timeline. Kevin Adams and Chandni Raina were appointed as co-facilitators for the workstream.

21. Members discussed the nature of the ongoing work and came to a broad agreement that it should include an update to the synthesis of submissions received to reflect different views of Parties and non-Parties. Members also discussed whether to include technical work, such as a gap analysis, or information on challenges, gaps and opportunities. Relevant issues mentioned in this regard include importance of combatting greenwashing, the overall objectives of Article 2.1(c) and the context of Article 2 and sustainable development, and inefficient subsidies.

22. Members also identified the importance of ensuring coherence of the work with discussions held under the Sharm el-Sheikh dialogue on Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement and its complementarity with Article 9 of the Paris Agreement, as well as the ad-hoc work programme on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance (NCQG) and the global stocktake. In particular, the submissions received under the global stocktake that may relate to the work were mentioned as potential inputs.

Outcomes

23. The SCF agreed on the workplan and timeline to prepare the work and to issue a call for inputs with a deadline of 31 May 2023.<sup>4</sup> The SCF also agreed on the general outline for the work.<sup>5</sup>

Next steps

24. Co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will develop a zero-order draft of the report to be shared with the SCF intersessionally, and a call for inputs will be issued with a deadline of 31 May 2023.

**(c) Report on the doubling of adaptation finance**Proceedings

25. The SCF took note of the document SCF/2023/30/6 which contained options for the scope and outline of the work as well as the draft workplan and timeline. Mattias Frumerie and Richard Muyungi were appointed as co-facilitators for the workstream.

26. Members discussed the methodological scope and approach to the report, including whether the report should include forward-looking information as well as the latest data since 2019, and how to identify the baseline of the provision of adaptation finance in 2019 to ensure there is a common view on how to track progress. Ex-ante information on the basis of biennial communications of developed countries in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 5, of the Paris Agreement and/or announcements made since COP 26 on adaptation finance were discussed as information to include in the latest data and trends.

27. Members also discussed the approach to assessing the latest data and trends on adaptation finance, including greater granularity by regions and sub-regions, and the effectiveness of adaptation finance in terms of access, ownership, timely delivery of finance and impacts, following similar approaches in the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows reports. An important added value of the report could be in identifying challenges and opportunities to overcome constraints to doubling adaptation finance and increasing impact on the ground.

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<sup>4</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Call%20for%20inputs\\_Art2.1.c\\_SCF\\_v2.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Call%20for%20inputs_Art2.1.c_SCF_v2.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/SCF30\\_2.1c\\_outline.pdf?download](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/SCF30_2.1c_outline.pdf?download).

Outcomes

28. The SCF agreed on the scope and outline<sup>6</sup> of the report, the workplan and timeline including to issue a call for inputs with a deadline of 31 July 2023.<sup>7</sup>

Next steps

29. Co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will develop a zero-order draft of the report to be shared with the SCF intersessionally and will issue a call for inputs from Parties and non-Party stakeholders with a deadline of 31 July 2023.

**6. Second review of the Standing Committee on Finance**Proceedings

30. The SCF took note of the background document SCF/2023/30/7, which contained options for the scope of the self-assessment report of the SCF. Gabriela Blatter and Mohamed Nasr were appointed as co-facilitators for this workstream.

Outcomes

31. The SCF provided comments on how the self-assessment should be conducted, based on the possible areas of assessment and associated activities, as contained in the background document.

32. The SCF agreed to seek inputs from all SCF members, incumbent and previous members during the review period, Parties and observers, based on their engagement with the SCF. The inputs will be gathered by an electronic survey, instead of an open call for submissions on the self-assessment, with a view to consider the findings of the survey at SCF 31. In the survey on possible reorientation or reprioritization of the existing functions of the SCF, members suggested to include the following elements:

(a) Share their reflections on the dual role of the SCF of being a technical and political body;

(b) Provide views on the need for reorientation or reprioritization of SCF functions and possible mechanisms that could be used;

(c) Reflect whether the mandates provided to the SCF were in line with its core functions.

33. Furthermore, in the survey on relations with external stakeholders, members suggested to include the following queries:

(a) How the SCF engages with Parties and non-Party stakeholders on its products;

(b) The extent that external stakeholders engaged with the SCF and how they found the SCF products to be useful.

34. The SCF also agreed on the timeline of intersessional work for the preparation of the self-assessment report of the SCF.<sup>8</sup>

Next steps

35. The secretariat will prepare a set of questions for the survey based on the seven areas to assess progress made for the SCF to agree on the questions intersessionally.

36. The secretariat will initiate the technical and analytical work as illustrated in the areas of self-assessment and initiate drafting of the first-order draft.

<sup>6</sup> Available at

[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Doubling%20of%20AF\\_outline.pdf?download](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Doubling%20of%20AF_outline.pdf?download).

<sup>7</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Call%20for%20inputs\\_x2AF\\_clean.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Call%20for%20inputs_x2AF_clean.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> Available at

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Second%20review%20of%20the%20SCF%20functions.pdf?download>.

## 7. Linkages with constituted bodies of the Convention and the Paris Agreement

### Proceedings

37. The SCF took note of the document SCF/2023/30/8. The Co-Chairs presented the background document including existing and proposed activities by the SCF to enhance linkages and cooperation with other constituted bodies and appointment and reaffirmation of focal points when engaging in thematic areas and with constituted bodies.

### Outcomes

38. The SCF took note of the update from Kevin Adams and Diann Black-Layne on their participation at the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage which took place on 28 February to 3 March. They updated the Committee on the areas of work of the SCF, including its procedure to submitting draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism under the UNFCCC and mandates stemming from COP 27 and CMA 5 under the discussions on enhancing facilitation and cooperation in relation to action and support. They also confirmed the SCF's willingness to continue to cooperate with the Executive Committee to identify possible areas for engagement, including through submissions.

39. The SCF also noted the update from Ivan Zambrana Flores on his participation at the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform. He highlighted the Working Group's interest on discussing and integrating issues related to enhancing indigenous peoples' access to climate finance into their work programme and reiterated the SCF's willingness to continue to engage in their meetings to support such discussions.

40. Finally, the SCF took note of the update from Mattias Frumerie on his engagement with the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building and, in particular, the informal coordination group of other constituted bodies, which presents a useful opportunity to share information on the SCF's work and to enhance coherence and coordination.

41. The SCF appointed the following focal points to represent the Committee in various work of the constituted bodies:

(a) Kevin Adams, Gabriela Blatter, Zaheer Fakir, Richard Muyungi and Mohamed Nasr: Adaptation-related matters, including the work of the Adaptation Committee; the joint working group between the Adaptation Committee, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and the SCF on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support; and the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group;

(b) Diann Black-Layne and Katarzyna Kowalska: Technology-related matters, including the Advisory Board of the Climate Technology Centre and Network and Technology Executive Committee;

(c) Mattias Frumerie and Apollonia Miola: Capacity-building related matters, including the work of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building;

(d) Kevin Adams, Diann Black-Layne, Hyekyoung Jung and Javier Antonio Gutierrez Ramirez: Loss and damage-related matters, including the work of the Executive Committee;

(e) Katarzyna Kowalska: Response measures-related matters, including the work of the Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures;

(f) Ivan Zambrana Flores and Apollonia Miola: Matters related to indigenous peoples, including the work of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform.

42. The SCF also appointed focal points to represent the Committee in events and workstreams related to the following thematic areas:

(a) Ivan Zambrana Flores and Richard Muyungi: Matters related to financing for forests;

- (b) Gertraud Wollansky: Gender-related matters.

## **8. Report of the thirtieth meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance**

43. The SCF agreed to consider and adopt the report of the thirtieth meeting of the SCF intersessionally on a non-objection basis.

## **9. Dates and venues of future meetings**

44. The SCF agreed to hold three meetings in 2023. The SCF also agreed that the Co-Chairs will recommend to the Committee intersessionally the proposed dates, venue and format for the meetings.

## **10. Other matters**

45. The SCF appointed co-facilitators for the following workstreams:

(a) Diann Black-Layne and Vicky Noens for the sixth Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows;

(b) Zaheer Fakir and Mattias Frumerie for the second report on the determination of the needs of developing countries related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement;

(c) Gabriela Blatter and Richard Muyungi for the second report on progress towards achieving the goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion per year;

(d) Ivan Zambrana Flores as the co-facilitator for the draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism. The co-facilitator representing the developed country constituency will be appointed intersessionally.

46. The SCF interacted with Zaheer Fakir and Fiona Gilbert, Co-Chairs of the ad hoc work programme on the NCQG for 2023. The Co-Chairs acknowledged the interlinkages between their work and the work of the SCF and reiterated their intention to maintain an open communication with the SCF and the linkage is maintained between the SCF and the NCQG process.

## **11. Closure of the meeting**

47. In closing the meeting, the CoChairs thanked the SCF members for their constructive engagement.

48. Fiona Gilbert announced her departure from the Committee. The SCF thanked Ms. Gilbert for her commitment and dedication during her tenure in the Committee and wished her the best for future endeavours.

49. The Co-Chairs closed the thirtieth meeting of the SCF at 6 p.m. UTC+1, on Tuesday, 7 March 2023.