



Standing Committee on Finance
Thirty-first meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance
22–23 July 2023
Bangkok, Thailand

19 September 2023

Report of the thirty-first meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance

Attendance

In-person

Mr. Kevin Adams
Ms. Diann Black-Layne
Ms. Gabriela Blatter
Mr. Zaheer Fakir (Co-Chair)
Mr. Ivan Zambrana Flores
Ms. Hyekyoung Jung
Ms. Katarzyna Kowalska
Ms. Emilie Frederikke Mariendal (replacement for Ms. Vicky Noens)
Mr. Zerihun Getu Mekuria
Ms. Apollonia Miola
Mr. Richard Muyungi
Mr. Mohamed Nasr
Mr. Ian Naumkin
Ms. Chandni Raina
Ms. Brittany Young
Mr. Liucui Zhu

Virtual

Ms. Gertraud Wollansky (Co-Chair)
Mr. Mattias Frumerie
Ms. Saiko Saito

Absent with apologies

Mr. Javier Antonio Gutiérrez Ramírez

1. Opening of the meeting

1. The thirty-first meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), was opened at 8:10 a.m. (UTC+7), on Saturday, 22 July 2023 at the Sheraton Hotel. SCF expressed its gratitude to the Government of Thailand for hosting the meeting in Bangkok.
2. Mr. Ian Naumkin (Russia) and Ms. Brittany Young (Australia) were welcomed as replacements for Mr. Konstantin Kulikov and Ms. Fiona Gilbert, respectively. Furthermore, SCF welcomed Emilie Frederikke Mariendal (Denmark) who is temporarily replacing Ms. Noens for this meeting.
3. The Co-Chairs thanked both Ms. Gilbert and Mr. Kulikov for their valuable contributions to the work of the SCF during their tenure and wished them all the best for their future endeavours.
4. Mr. Daniele Violetti, Senior Director at the UNFCCC secretariat welcomed the new members and commended the work of the Committee over the past 10 years, stressing the importance of its deliverables for COP 28 and beyond.

2. Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the agenda

5. The SCF adopted the agenda contained in document SCF/2023/31/1 as proposed.¹

(b) Organization of the work of the meeting

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

7. The SCF took note of several technical documents that require inputs and guidance by the co-facilitators to advance the work intersessionally and to finalize all products at SCF 32.

8. The SCF also took note of the provisional meeting schedule contained in document SCF/2023/31/2. All agenda items were proposed and agreed to be discussed in a plenary setting.

3. Mandates from COP 27 and CMA 4

(a) Work on definitions of climate finance

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9. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/3 and its annex. The co-facilitators for this agenda item Ms. Diann Black-Layne and Ms. Apollonia Miola presented the zero-order draft of the report on clustering types of climate finance definitions in use.

10. The members recalled the challenges in defining climate finance and how clustering types of climate finance definitions could be applied in the different workstreams under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (such as biennial transparency reports, Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement, the work programme on just transition).

11. Members also expressed the need to draw definitions from national examples or country driven approaches. Members discussed the need to enumerate what climate finance is not (an exclusion list) to guide Parties and non-Party stakeholders.

Outcomes

12. The SCF agreed to invite written comments on the zero-order draft of the report on clustering definitions of climate finance by 31 July 2023, in particular, the approach to chapter 4.

Next steps

13. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will prepare a pre-final draft of the report and an executive summary, taking into account the comments made at SCF 31 and any written comments received intersessionally, for consideration at SCF 32.

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

Proceedings

14. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/4. The co-facilitators Mr. Kevin Adams and Ms. Chandni Raina presented the zero-order draft of the synthesis of views on ways to achieve Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement, including options for approaches and guidelines for implementation.

15. Members noted the need for a consistent approach to capturing the views expressed in submissions by Parties and non-Party stakeholders, as well as to make reference to 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 conducted in 2023. Members also noted the need to include further information on views expressed in the submissions in relation to, inter alia, transparency and risks of greenwashing, enabling environments and

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

barriers to redirect capital, as well as interpretations related to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

16. Members discussed outreach and dissemination strategies to communicate the published findings related to Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the Paris Agreement, including at the national level to ministries of finance.

Outcomes

17. The SCF agreed to invite written comments on the zero-order draft of the synthesis by 31 July 2023.

18. The SCF also agreed to prepare a pre-final draft of the synthesis, taking into account the comments made at SCF 31, written comments by SCF members and the submissions received intersessionally, for consideration at SCF 32.

Next steps

19. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will circulate to the SCF a draft synthesis, including a summary, with a view to preparing a pre-final draft for consideration at SCF 32.

(c) Report on the doubling of adaptation finance

Proceedings

20. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/5 and its annex. Mr. Mattias Frumerie and Mr. Richard Muyungi presented progress in the preparation of the report on the doubling of adaptation finance. As at 30 June 2023, one submission had been received in response to the call for evidence.

21. The SCF members took note of the presentation on the zero-order draft by the co-facilitators. Members provided their views on the methodology, sources of data, visualisation of data and trends on adaptation finance, baseline and distribution of data and use of financial instruments. In particular, members noted the need to provide ranges for adaptation finance estimates and trends based on the different sources of information, rather than selecting a specific source of information for reporting on the doubling of adaptation finance. In addition, members noted the need to provide both nominal and relative data in absolute finance values and in percentages, the need for further information on effectiveness, as well as challenges and opportunities in the respective chapters of the report. The members also took note of the preference for references to geographical groupings to be consistent with groupings used by the United Nations.

Outcomes

22. The SCF agreed to invite written comments on the zero-order draft of the report by 31 July 2023.

23. The SCF also agreed to prepare a pre-final draft of the report taking into account the comments made at SCF 31 and written comments received intersessionally and to prepare a draft executive summary and potential recommendations for consideration at SCF 32.

Next steps

24. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will circulate to the SCF a draft executive summary and recommendations for comments, with a view to preparing a pre-final draft of the executive summary and the technical report for consideration at SCF 32.

4. Outcomes of the 2023 Forum on Financing Just Transitions

Proceedings

25. The SCF welcomed the successful organization of its Forum on Financing Just Transitions from 17 to 18 July 2023, Bangkok, Thailand.

26. The SCF expressed gratitude to the Government of Thailand for hosting the Forum and thanked the co-facilitators Ms. Katarzyna Kowalska and Mr. Mohammed Nasr for

leading this work and congratulated them and all participants for their active engagement. Furthermore, it was noted that SCF should agree on a topic for its 2024 Forum.

Outcomes

27. The SCF agreed that the co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will draft the summary report intersessionally.

Next steps

28. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will prepare the draft summary report for consideration at SCF 32. SCF members are invited to make submissions on the topic for the next SCF Forum by 31 August 2023, to be considered at SCF 32.

5. Views on the second review of the functions of the Standing Committee on Finance

Proceedings

29. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/6 and its annexes. Ms. Gabriela Blatter and Mr. Mohamed Nasr presented the draft survey questions and the draft outline of the SCF self-assessment report. Members provided views and suggestions on refining the survey.

Outcomes

30. The SCF agreed to conduct a survey with SCF members, Parties and SCF observers.

31. The SCF agreed on the draft outline of the self-assessment report with a view to preparing the pre-final draft of the report prior to SCF 32.

Next steps

32. The electronic survey will be disseminated to all SCF members who have served the Committee during the review period, as well as to Parties and observers, with a deadline for completion by 31 August 2023. The survey responses will be circulated to SCF members intersessionally.

33. Based on the outcomes of the survey, the co-facilitators, with support from the secretariat, will prepare a draft self-assessment report including draft recommendations on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the SCF, to be considered and finalized at SCF 32.

6. Preparatory work for the mandates to be delivered in 2024

(a) Sixth biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows

Proceedings

34. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/7 and its annexes. The co-facilitators Ms. Vicky Noens and Ms. Diann Black-Layne presented the draft workplan with its timeline, approach and the general outline for the report for comments and views by members.

Outcomes

35. The SCF agreed to follow the timeline and approach outlined in the draft workplan.

36. The SCF agreed to an updated general outline with a view to include it in the annual report of the SCF to COP 28 and CMA 5.

Next steps

37. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will guide the technical work intersessionally.

(b) Second report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement

Proceedings

38. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/8 and its annexes. The co-facilitators Mr. Zaheer Fakir and Mr. Mattias Frumerie presented the timeline, workplan and outreach

activities, and the general outline of the second report on the determination of the needs of developing country Parties related to implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement (NDR) for views and inputs from members.

Outcomes

39. The SCF agreed to follow the approach taken in preparing the first NDR when preparing the second NDR.

40. The SCF agreed to an updated general outline with a view to include it in the annual report of the SCF to COP 28 and CMA 5.

Next steps

41. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will guide the technical work intersessionally.

(c) Second report on progress towards achieving the goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion per year to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation

Proceedings

42. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/9 and its annexes. The co-facilitators, Mr. Richard Muyungi and Ms. Gabriela Blatter presented the timeline, workplan and outreach activities, and the general outline of the report.

Outcomes

43. The SCF agreed to follow the timeline and approach outlined in the draft workplan.

44. The SCF agreed to an updated general outline with a view to include it in the annual report of the SCF to COP 28 and CMA 5.

Next steps

45. The co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, will guide the technical work intersessionally.

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

Proceedings

46. The SCF took note of document SCF/2023/31/10.

Outcomes

47. The SCF took note of the update from Ms. Gabriela Blatter on her participation in the meetings of the joint working group between the Adaptation Committee, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and the Standing Committee on Finance. The working group is developing a technical paper on “Methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support” which will serve as an input to the first global stocktake.

48. The SCF took note of the update from Mr. Mattias Frumerie and Ms. Apollonia Miola on the work related to capacity building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The SCF focal points participated in meetings organized by the Paris Committee on Capacity-building and will continue their engagement, including by providing written inputs to a capacity-building booklet on climate finance and exploring collaboration between the two bodies in organizing a workshop on enhancing the effectiveness of the capacity-building activities of the UNFCCC funds, as well as bilateral donors and multinational development banks.

49. The SCF took note of the update from Ms. Katarzyna Kowalska and Ms. Diann Black-Layne on their engagement with the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN). At the 21st CTCN Advisory Board Meeting, the SCF focal points provided written input to the CTCN on the SCF activities and workplan for 2023. As in previous years, substantive collaboration between the SCF and technology workstreams will be expected.

50. The SCF took note of the update from Mr. Kevin Adams and Ms. Diann Black-Layne in relation to loss and damage. At the 18th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, which took place on 28 February to 3 March 2023, the focal points provided input on the relevant work of the SCF, in particular, the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows and the guidance to the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility on loss and damage.

51. The SCF took note of the update from Ms. Gertraud Wollansky on the Glasgow Committee on non-market approaches. During SB 58, the focal point represented the SCF at a meeting on enhancing collaboration between the Glasgow Committee and UNFCCC constituted bodies and institutional arrangements under or serving the Paris Agreement and/or the Convention. At the meeting, it was acknowledged that SCF has not undertaken any specific work related to non-market approaches under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement but there is potential for alignment between the activities of the two bodies. During the meeting, the focal point shared the key outcomes of the fifth biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, first NDR and the achievement of the SCF Forum, as well as the work related to Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the Paris Agreement.

52. The SCF took note of the update from Ms. Gertraud Wollansky on gender and actions for climate empowerment. During SB 58, the focal point participated in the dialogue between the chairs of all constituted bodies on strengthening the integration of gender perspectives into the work of the constituted bodies and informed on the achievements of integrating gender considerations into the work of the SCF and potential areas for improvement.

53. Overall, SCF members acknowledged the importance of SCF engagement with stakeholders in the context of its workplan, including UNFCCC constituted bodies, private entities and other entities outside UNFCCC.

8. Report of the thirty-first meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance

54. The SCF agreed to consider and adopt the report of the thirty-first meeting of the SCF intersessionally on a non-objection basis.

9. Dates and venues of future meetings

55. The SCF agreed to hold its thirty-first meeting in Geneva, Switzerland from 26 to 28 September 2023.

56. The SCF agreed to consider at its next meeting the dates and locations of its meetings in 2024.

10. Other matters and closure of the meeting

57. The Co-Chairs thanked the SCF members for their constructive engagement and the observers and virtual participants for their participation.

58. The Co-Chairs closed the thirty-first meeting of the SCF at 12:43 p.m. (UTC+7), Sunday, 23 July 2023.
