

Secretariat responses to requests from Parties for information and clarification received at the budget contact group meetings on 7 and 10 June 2023¹

- 1. Request:** Is the proposed core increase in 42% equivalent to the 32% increase in the integrated budget?

➤ **Response:**

The core budget is proposed to increase from EUR 62.3 million to EUR 88.4 million, i.e. by 41.9 percent. The integrated budget increases from EUR 242.8 million to 322.2 million, i.e. by 32.7 percent.

- 2. Request:** There are 15 core budget positions in the Communications and Engagement Division. Are the posts budgeted under project 300-006 in addition to these core budget posts? Provide more clarity on project 300-006, and separate non-Party activities. Provide more information about what is going into Communications and Engagement. It seems to be a bit too much compared to other budgetary lines.

➤ **Response:**

The funding (human resource) requirements for all supplementary projects in Annex V and VI, including SB300-006, are separate from the funding (human resource) requirements estimated in the core budget. Project SB300-006 includes development of the information systems and operational processes to track and recognize non-Party climate action through upgrades to the NAZCA/Global Climate Action portal and through engagement with those stakeholders active in delivering transparency on these matters. The project also includes tracking and data management functions for participation in other related initiatives including the Marrakech Partnership, the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action and the Sports for Climate Action Framework. Current and expected future funding for these activities is mobilized from non-Party stakeholders.

¹ Responses to other requests received by the secretariat will be provided as soon as they become available.