



**Report on the technical expert review under Article 6,
paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement of the initial report
referred to in chapter IV.A (Initial report) of the annex to
decision 2/CMA.3 of Guyana**

Addendum

Summary

This addendum to the report on the technical expert review under Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement of the initial report referred to in chapter IV.A (Initial report) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 of Guyana, conducted by an Article 6 technical expert review team in accordance with chapter V (Review) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 and the guidelines for the Article 6 technical expert review contained in annex II to decision 6/CMA.4, contains the results of the review of the consistency of the information submitted by the Party with the reporting requirements in paragraph 18 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3. It presents the recommendations of the Article 6 technical expert review team relating to the areas it has identified for improvement of consistency with the reporting requirements as well as any capacity-building needs identified by the Article 6 technical expert review team in consultation with Guyana during the review, which took place from 21 to 25 October 2024 in Bonn.



Abbreviations and acronyms

ART	Architecture for REDD+ Transactions
CO ₂ eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
FREL	forest reference emission level
GHG	greenhouse gas
ITMO	internationally transferred mitigation outcome
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
NDC	nationally determined contribution
REDD+	reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (decision 1/CP.16, para. 70)
TERT	technical expert review team
TREES	The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard

I. Recommendations¹ relating to the areas for improvement identified during the technical expert review of the Party's initial report

1. Tables 1–2 present the recommendations of the Article² 6 TERT relating to the areas for improvement,³ identified during the technical expert review under Article 6, paragraph 2, of the initial report⁴ of Guyana, of the consistency of the information submitted by the Party with the requirements in paragraph 18 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3.
2. The recommendations are to be implemented for the Party's next relevant submission of information as per chapter IV (Reporting) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, unless otherwise specified. Recommendations for future reporting assume the submission of relevant and up-to-date information at the time of that reporting.
3. The recommendations may also be considered by the Party in the context of reporting the information referred to in paragraph 18(g–i) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 for any further Article 6, paragraph 2, cooperative approaches in which it is a participating Party as per paragraph 19 of the annex to the same decision, as relevant.

Table 1

Recommendations relating to identified areas for improvement of the consistency of the general information included in Guyana's initial report with the requirements in paragraph 18(a–f) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3

<i>ID#</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
18.A/4.C	The Party has arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 3 (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 4(c))	<p>Guyana reported that the Office of the President is the designated authority within the country, tasked with authorizing the use of ITMOs. Guyana also indicated that its UNFCCC national focal point (Ministry of Natural Resources) serves as the designated authority responsible for overseeing the issuance of correspondingly adjusted carbon credits.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to the processes for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 3, including the description of the roles and responsibilities of the actors involved.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information on the legal framework that defines the different roles and responsibilities of the actors involved, describing its national arrangements, the eligibility requirements for authorizations, and how other government agencies and international bodies are involved. The Party also clarified the arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 3.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT also recommends that Guyana report further information on the roles and responsibilities of the various national agencies, including the Office of the President and the Ministry of Natural Resources (serving as the UNFCCC national focal point) and on their cooperation with other government agencies and international bodies in this area.</p>
18.A/4.D	The Party has arrangements in place that are consistent with the guidance in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 and relevant decisions of the Conference of the	Guyana reported that it will generate carbon credits to be traded on the carbon market, with independent verification to ensure that they meet market rules and UNFCCC guidance on REDD+. The Party also explained that all credits and ITMOs are listed in the ART Registry, and that it is developing a national carbon registry, which will be integrated with international markets and future REDD+ mechanisms, in accordance with rules of relevant international agreements on carbon trading.

¹ As referred to in decision 6/CMA.4, annex II, para. 5(a).

² "Article" in this report refers to an Article of the Paris Agreement.

³ Referenced in document FCCC/A6/IRTERR.1/2024/GUY, tables 1–2.

⁴ Referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chap. IV.A (Initial report).

ID#	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
	Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement for tracking ITMOs (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 4(d))	<p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to the consistency of the arrangements in place for tracking ITMOs with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement. Specifically, the Party did not define the roles of the ART Registry and the planned national carbon registry, nor did it explain how information exchange between the two registries may work, how traceability in tracking will be ensured and how double counting will be avoided. Additionally, Guyana did not explain how the ART Registry fulfils the requirement for producing, maintaining and compiling records, information and data consistently with the annual information submitted in the agreed electronic format in accordance with paragraph 1(e) of annex I to decision 6/CMA.4.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the tracking of ITMOs. The Party clarified that all credits available for authorization will be issued under the ART Registry. The national carbon registry will track these issued credits as reported under TREES, but will not conduct transfers. The Party also explained that the ART Registry contains provisions for transparent, immutable and publicly accessible transactions of carbon credits and that all credits issued under it are uniquely serialized by year and participating entity (jurisdiction), and full traceability functions are provided. Guyana confirmed that all issuances for corresponding adjustments are duly labelled in the Registry, and letters of authorization are recorded under the Registry. The Article 6 TERT noted that Guyana has submitted annual information using the draft version of the agreed electronic format.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT also recommends that Guyana report further information demonstrating how its arrangements in place for tracking ITMOs are consistent with chapter I.A–B of annex I to decision 6/CMA.4, including in relation to unique identifiers, the processes for ensuring traceability between the credits in the ART Registry and the ITMOs in Guyana's national carbon registry, and the processes for mitigating the risk of inconsistencies between the data in the ART Registry and the national carbon registry.</p>
18.A/4.F	The Party's participation in any cooperative approach contributes to the implementation of its NDC and long-term low-emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 4(f))	<p>Guyana reported on the unconditional and conditional commitments under its NDC and explained that it intends to expand the focus of its NDC and align it with the national Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030. Guyana will move towards the inclusion of other sectors in the NDC.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to how its participation in the cooperative approach contributes to the implementation of the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>During the review, the Party provided additional information regarding the specific methodology used to substantiate its claim that its low deforestation rate ensures a low risk of non-permanence of mitigation over the NDC period. Guyana also provided details of the policies, laws and regulations in place for the delivery of NDC targets; information on the institutions that are involved in delivering on those policies, laws and regulations; and information on reporting on the Cancun safeguards.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana, but recommends that the Party include information in its future reporting on how its participation in any cooperative approach contributes to the implementation of the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.</p>
18.B/64.A	Target(s) and description, including target type(s) (e.g. economy-wide absolute emission reduction, emission	Guyana reported that the target for enabling ITMOs is an emission reduction target set against maintaining forest cover and indicated that the target type is described in its NDC under the conditional commitments within the forest sector.

ID#	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
	intensity reduction, emission reduction below a projected baseline, mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions or economic diversification plans, policies and measures, and other) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(a))	<p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to this reporting requirement, which calls for specific details, including the target type and a description.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the description of the target. The Party clarified that it included a detailed explanation of the target in the information previously reported in the NDC.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p>
18.B/64.B	Target year(s) or period(s), and whether they are single-year or multi-year target(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(b))	<p>Guyana reported that it has adopted an absolute single-year target approach, with 2016–2020 being the base period and 2030 the target year.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana is not consistent with the information in its NDC, which refers to 2025 as the target year.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the target year. The Party clarified that the current NDC, which runs until 2025, will be followed by a revised NDC in early 2025. The updated NDC will be aligned with the Party's Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p>
18.B.4	Time frame(s) and/or periods for implementation (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(d))	<p>Guyana reported that the time frame for implementation of its NDC is 2021–2030.</p> <p>However, the information reported is not consistent with the information included in the annex to the biennial transparency report, on information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving Guyana's NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, which gives 2016–2025 as the time frame for implementation.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional details in relation to time frames. The Party clarified that the current NDC covers the period up to 2025 and an updated NDC will be submitted in 2025 as part of its Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, aligning its targets with the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p>
18.B.7	Any updates or clarifications of previously reported information (e.g. recalculation of previously reported inventory data, or greater detail on methodologies or use of cooperative approaches) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(g))	<p>Guyana reported that there are no updates or clarifications of previously reported information.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to its reference level, for which the Party reported different values in the initial report (46.3 Mt CO₂ eq) and in the NDC and first biennial transparency report (48.7 Mt CO₂ eq).</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to this inconsistency. The Party clarified that the initial proposed reference level of 48.7 Mt CO₂ eq was revised to 46.3 Mt CO₂ eq following the publication of the report on the technical assessment of its proposed FREL submitted in 2014 (FCCC/TAR/2015/GUY).</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p>
18.C.2	Method for applying corresponding adjustments as per chapter III.B (Application of corresponding adjustments) of the	<p>Guyana reported that it will apply corresponding adjustments based on a single-year target throughout the period for NDC implementation and that corresponding adjustments will be issued only for credits approved under TREES (post-verification and -validation by independent process as per TREES version 2.0) as issued in the ART Registry, capped at a maximum of 21 Mt CO₂ eq annually, as per the TREES methodology.</p>

ID#	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
	annex to decision 2/CMA.3 (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(c))	<p>However, Guyana did not provide sufficiently transparent or complete information regarding the methodological consistency between its FREL (FCCC/TAR/2015/GUY; 46.3 Mt CO₂ eq) and the corresponding adjustments for credits validated, verified and issued under TREES, including the scenarios where the buffer may be used to address reversals, nor a detailed method for applying corresponding adjustments as a participating Party with a single-year NDC as per paragraph 7(a) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the method for applying corresponding adjustments. The Party clarified that its FREL includes reductions from deforestation, forest degradation, and conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, as well as removals from standing forests. Guyana seeks market standards that align with this approach. The country's REDD+ strategy, part of its Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, reflects the scope of its FREL in its national development priorities. TREES version 2.0 establishes a crediting baseline that addresses both historical emission reductions and forest carbon conservation.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT notes, however, that the activities related to conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks were not included in Guyana's FREL, which only covers activities related to reductions from deforestation and forest degradation. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT also recommends that Guyana ensure consistency in its reporting, particularly with regard to the activities included in the FREL.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT further recommends that Guyana include additional information in its future reporting in relation to a methodology in order to clarify how the emission reductions considered for the buffer are treated in its NDC accounting, as well as a detailed method for applying corresponding adjustments as a participating Party with a single-year NDC as per paragraph 7(a) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3.</p>
18.D	Quantification of the Party's mitigation information in its NDC in t CO ₂ eq, including the sectors, sources, GHGs and time periods covered by the NDC, the reference level of emissions and removals for the relevant year or period, and the target level for its NDC; or, where this is not possible, provision of the methodology for the quantification of the NDC in t CO ₂ eq (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(d))	<p>The Party reported that its mitigation sources are from the forest and land use sectors, covering 2021–2030. Guyana's reference level is 46.3 Mt CO₂ eq annually, to which corresponding adjustments will only be applied for credits certified by TREES (currently the cap equates to 21 Mt CO₂ eq annually).</p> <p>However, Guyana did not report sufficiently transparent and complete information on removals for the relevant year or period, the methodology for the quantification of the NDC in t CO₂ eq or the rationale for the cap.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the methodology and the reference level of removals for the relevant period, clarifying that it submitted a REDD+ technical annex that provides background information on the reporting of reference levels and the methodology used, as well as additional information on the forest and land use sectors and the GHGs included in the reporting.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT also recommends that Guyana report information on whether other sectors and gases are excluded from the NDC.</p>

Table 2

Recommendations relating to identified areas for improvement of the consistency of the information included in Guyana's initial report with the requirements in paragraph 18(g–i) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 for cooperative approach CA0005, “Emissions Reductions from Sustainable Management of Forests”

<i>ID#</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
18.G.4	Expected mitigation for each year of the duration of the cooperative approach (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(g))	<p>Guyana reported a net emission reduction level of 46.3 Mt CO₂ eq for the entire time frame of the cooperative approach.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to the mitigation for each year of the duration of the cooperative approach.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the volume of credits disaggregated by year based on the amount of ART Registry credits issued: 7,861,253 for 2016; 7,483,329 for 2017; 7,063,946 for 2018; 4,091,682 for 2019; 5,950,353 for 2020; 7,144,362 for 2021; and 8,732,929 for 2022 (soon to be issued, as of the submission date of the initial report: 22 February 2024).</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. However, the Article 6 TERT notes that the breakdown by year adds up to a total of 48.3 Mt CO₂ eq. Therefore, noting ID# 18.B.7 in table 1, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting, ensuring consistency between the expected mitigation for each year and the total expected emission reduction level for the duration of the cooperative approach.</p>
18.H.1	Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity by ensuring that there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(h)(i))	<p>Guyana reported that its NDC acknowledges its robust MRV system as one that can ensure the integrity of emission reduction efforts, and it will continue to be strengthened and improved as new international guidance and technologies become available. Additionally, the Party reported that it will conduct annual MRV reporting, and the results will be independently verified using TREES version 2.0. Guyana also highlighted the country's low deforestation rate (not exceeding 0.079 per cent between 2005 and 2014), with a 15 per cent variation from the mean rate, indicating that the risk of reversal is not high, and a variation over a five-year period of 16 per cent, indicating a low risk of non-permanence of mitigation across the NDC period.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to how the cooperative approach ensures that there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods, or how, in the case of continued deforestation and if the sequestration rate of the remaining forests does not change, the cooperative approach will ensure a mitigation effect.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the MRV system and deforestation rates during the reference period (2016–2020), thereby clarifying the low risk of non-permanence of mitigation over the NDC period. Guyana specified that the measures presented and explained in its national REDD+ strategy as part of its Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030 are oriented towards ensuring that there will be no net increase in its national emissions, including by maintaining low deforestation and forest degradation rates, with the potential for further emission reductions. Furthermore, Guyana's MRV system is aligned with the Voluntary Partnership Agreement under the European Union Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade regulations. Guyana also provided additional information on the effectiveness of its institutional and legal framework supporting REDD+ implementation and the national mitigation actions aimed at addressing the risks of reversals developed in accordance with the Cancun safeguards.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to assessing the net increase in national emissions. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting, including by outlining relevant elements of its national REDD+ strategy.</p>

ID#	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
18.H.2	Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity through robust, transparent governance and the quality of mitigation outcomes, including through conservative reference levels, baselines set in a conservative way and below ‘business as usual’ emission projections (including by taking into account all existing policies and addressing uncertainties in quantification and potential leakage) (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(h)(ii))	<p>The Article 6 TERT also recommends that Guyana include in its future reporting further information on how this cooperative approach ensures that there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods.</p> <p>Guyana reported that TREES establishes a set of requirements for the quantification, monitoring and reporting of GHG emissions and removals, the implementation of the Cancun safeguards, and the verification, registration and issuance of TREES credits. Guyana reported that TREES offers an incentive for jurisdictions to reduce deforestation, restore forests and ultimately qualify as a high forest, low deforestation jurisdiction. Additionally, Guyana reported that owing to more conservative market standards, it will cap available ITMOs at the level allowed by the TREES methodology until at least 2025, when greater alignment between TREES and Guyana’s FREL is expected.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to how the application of TREES, in particular the high forest, low deforestation provisions, resulted in conservative reference levels and baselines set in a conservative way and below ‘business as usual’ emission projections. The Article 6 TERT noted that the high forest, low deforestation crediting approach adopted by Guyana under TREES allows for an increase in the Party’s baseline, based on historical reference data, by a value equal to its high forest, low deforestation score (ranging from 0.5 to 1) multiplied by 0.05 per cent of its standing forest carbon stock. Such upward adjustments do not constitute a conservative baseline or a level below ‘business as usual’.</p> <p>Furthermore, Guyana did not explain why a cap does not need to be considered when the alignment between Guyana’s FREL and TREES is achieved.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the conservative reference levels and baselines set and below ‘business as usual’ emission projections. The Party clarified that less than 0.05 per cent of its forest would be under threat in the absence of any REDD+ actions. Guyana also reported that TREES does not allow participants to suggest an estimation of emission reductions based on their own assumptions, which could be challenging to verify independently; uses an average carbon stock, which does not allow ‘cherry picking’ of high carbon intensity areas; remains constant for the entire crediting period; and creates an incentive for jurisdictions to reduce their deforestation rates and increase their forest cover.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana, but recommends that the Party include further information in its future reporting on how baselines are set in a conservative way and below ‘business as usual’ emission projections.</p>
18.H.3	Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity by minimizing the risk of non-permanence of mitigation across several NDC periods and how, when reversals of emission reductions or removals occur, the cooperative approach will ensure that these are addressed in full (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(h)(iii))	<p>Guyana reported a low deforestation rate and stated that in the unlikely instance of reversal, TREES version 2.0 provides for reversals at a level of 5 per cent, resulting for 2021 in an amount of 446,714 t CO₂ eq being provided for in the reversal buffer account.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to how the 5 per cent buffer effectively mitigates the risk of reversal.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information in relation to the cancellation of buffer pool credits, clarifying that in the event of a reversal, of the credits contributed by the Party an amount equivalent to the reversal will be cancelled. If the buffer pool credits contributed by Guyana are insufficient to cover the reversal, TREES will cancel issued credits from Guyana until the reversal is fully compensated.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT also recommends that Guyana include further information in its future reporting on the buffer pool in the context of applying corresponding adjustments and on how credits contributed to the buffer pool by the Party may be affected by reversals.</p>

ID#	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
18.I.1	Description of how the cooperative approach will minimize and, where possible, avoid negative environmental, economic and social impacts (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(i)(i))	<p>Guyana reported that annual MRV assessments based on the Cancun safeguards are conducted to monitor and measure the impacts of the activities under the cooperative approach.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to how the application of the Cancun safeguards and use of TREES results in the minimization and, where possible, avoidance of negative environmental, economic and social impacts.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana clarified that the TREES safeguard requirements are based on the Cancun safeguards. Moreover, TREES credits will not be issued if the Party cannot demonstrate conformity with the TREES safeguards.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting, providing details of approaches as per the TREES safeguard requirements and demonstrating how the Party ensures that negative environmental, economic and social impacts are minimized and, where possible, avoided.</p>
18.I.2	Description of how the cooperative approach will reflect the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement, which acknowledges that climate change is a common concern of humankind and notes that Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(i)(ii))	<p>Guyana reported that its institutional and legal framework, policies and plans support the implementation of its cooperative approach and its linkage with the elements listed in the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to how the mechanisms of its institutional and legal framework will be applied at the level of the cooperative approach to reflect the elements of the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>During the review, Guyana provided additional information, clarifying that the Office of the President leads its engagement in voluntary cooperation under Article 6 and coordinates work with the UNFCCC secretariat and the national institutions responsible for implementing the cooperative approach. Guyana's participation in the cooperative approach, based on the sustainable forest management principles outlined in its Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, is supported by a comprehensive legal and institutional framework, including the National Forest Policy Statement 2018 and the National Forest Plan 2018. Guyana also outlined specific measures for incorporating the cooperative approach within the broader legal or policy framework for the forest sector, including (1) a continuous multi-stakeholder consultation process; (2) an operational governance framework for the continued development of a transparent, rules-based, inclusive forest governance, accountability and enforcement system in accordance with relevant legislation and independent assessments of forest governance and logging practices; and (3) the process of engaging the Ministry of Natural Resources in providing strategic direction and assisting with resolving matters of conflict.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana and considers it relevant to the reporting requirement. Therefore, the Article 6 TERT recommends that Guyana include the information in its future reporting, including details of policies and measures within its broader legal or policy framework, a description of how they link to the elements of this requirement, and information on processes for resolving conflict.</p>
18.I.6	Description of how the cooperative approach will deliver overall mitigation in global emissions pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, if applicable	<p>Guyana reported information on how the cooperative approach delivers overall mitigation in global emissions in relation to the implementation of the Party's Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030. Guyana is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and implementing its multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements within the thematic areas of each programme. The aim is to simultaneously advance national and global solutions related to development, climate change and ecosystem services.</p> <p>However, the information reported by Guyana was not found to be sufficiently transparent or complete in relation to how the cooperative approach will deliver overall mitigation in global emissions, especially given that the Party did not</p>

<i>ID#</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Description of area for improvement with recommendation</i>
	(decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18(i)(vi))	<p>provide information on whether, and how, any portion of ITMOs will be cancelled to ensure the delivery of overall mitigation in global emissions.</p> <p>During the review, the Party provided details of its national institutional arrangements for the “issuance of correspondingly adjusted carbon credits”, clarifying that these arrangements are designed to align with UNFCCC standards and ensure transparency, accountability and effectiveness.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT acknowledges the additional information provided by Guyana, but recommends that the Party include further information in its future reporting on the process for the cancellation of ITMOs under the institutional arrangements in place, confirming that such ITMOs will not be counted towards any Party’s NDC or for other international mitigation purposes for delivering on overall mitigation in global emissions, and to include information on how the delivery of overall mitigation in global emissions under the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, is taken into account, pursuant to paragraph 39 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, if applicable.</p> <p>The Article 6 TERT also recommends that the Party clarify what it means by “issuance of correspondingly adjusted carbon credits”, as corresponding adjustments are an accounting measure applied by the host Party and reflected in the structured summary, rather than a characteristic of the credits at the point of issuance.</p>

II. Capacity-building needs⁵ identified by the Article 6 technical expert review team in consultation with the Party during the review of its initial report

4. Table 3 presents capacity-building needs identified by the Article 6 TERT in consultation with Guyana during the Article 6 technical expert review of its initial report.

Table 3

Capacity-building needs identified in consultation with the Party

<i>ID#</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>Area in which capacity-building is needed</i>
1	The Party has arrangements in place that are consistent with the guidance in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 and relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement for tracking ITMOs (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 4(d))	Reporting on arrangements for tracking ITMOs, particularly with respect to ITMO unique identifiers and approaches to ensuring data consistency between an independent carbon registry and a national registry
2	Cross-cutting	Improving the understanding of reporting and review processes under Article 6, paragraph 2, including of linkages with other reporting and review processes under the Convention, with a view to streamlining the Party’s reporting and ensuring consistency between the elements of reported information

⁵ As referred to in decision 6/CMA.4, annex II, para. 7.

Annex

Documents and information used during the review

I. Reference documents

“Guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement”. Annex to decision 2/CMA.3. FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/460950>.

“Guidelines for the Article 6 technical expert review referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter V (Review)”. Annex II to decision 6/CMA.4. FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/10/Add.2. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/626570>.

Initial report of Guyana. Available at https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/202402221554---Guyana_Initial%20Report_Feb%202024%20Final.pdf?_gl=1*1k5cao0*_gcl_aw*R0NMLjE3NDQ3MTYzODQURUFJYUJRb2JDae1JcnF6VHI2WEhpZ01WUGRFV0JSM3VqUkNoRUFBUFTQUFFZ0szd2ZEX0J3RQ..*_ga*MTQxODEzODk3MS4xNjk4OTQzNTc2*_ga_7ZZWT14N79*MTc0NTU2MDM2Ni40OTUuMS4xNzQ1NTYwMzc1LjAuMC4w.

“Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement”. Annex to decision 18/CMA.1. FCCC/PA/CMA/2018/3/Add.2. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/193408>.

“Report on the technical assessment of the proposed forest reference emission level of Guyana submitted in 2014.” FCCC/TAR/2015/GUY. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/8884>.

II. Additional information provided by the Party

Responses to questions during the review were received from Pradeepa Bholanath (Ministry of Natural Resources of Guyana), including additional material. The following references were provided by Guyana and may not conform to UNFCCC editorial style as some have been reproduced as received:

“Guyana’s Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030”. Available at <https://lcds.gov.gy/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Guianas-Low-Carbon-Development-Strategy-2030.pdf>.

“Institutional Arrangements for the Issuance of Correspondingly Adjusted Carbon Credits”.

Environmental Defence Fund “High Forest, Low Deforestation”. Available at <https://www.edf.org/high-forest-low-deforestation>.

“The Tropical Forest Credit Integrity (TFCI) Guide”. Available at <https://tfciguide.org/>.

“The Case for Preservation in High Forest, Low Deforestation Jurisdictions”. Available at <https://www.preserveforests.org/>.

“How Can the Voluntary Carbon Market Make a Meaningful Contribution to Protecting Tropical Forests?”. Available at <https://yff.yale.edu/news/how-can-voluntary-carbon-market-make-meaningful-contribution-protecting-tropical-forests>.

“ART Board Statement Regarding the Integrity of High Forests, Low Deforestation (HFLD) Credits”. Available at <https://www.artredd.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ART-Board-Statement-Regarding-the-Integrity-of-High-Forests-Low-Deforestation-HFLD-Credits.pdf>.

“Statement on the Credibility of HFLD Credits in Global Carbon Markets”. Available at <https://www.artredd.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Statement-on-the-Credibility-of-HFLD-Cr...n-Global-Carbon-Markets--Newsroom.pdf>.

“WCS Statement on the Importance of High Forest, Low Deforestation Countries, and the Need to Increase Finance for Protection of Their Forests”. Available at

<https://newsroom.wcs.org/News-Releases/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/16528/WCS-Statement-on-the-Importance-of-High-Forest-Low-Deforestation-Countries-and-the-Need-to-Increase-Finance-for-Protection-of-Their-Forests.aspx>.
