



**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 Vanuatu**

Summary

This report presents the results of 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 Vanuatu, 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. The review took place from 21 to 25 October 2024 in Bonn.

This report will be forwarded for consideration in the technical expert review referred to in chapter VII of the annex to decision 18/CMA.1 in accordance with paragraph 28 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3.



Abbreviations and acronyms

Article 6 TER guidelines	“Guidelines for the Article 6 technical expert review referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter V (Review)”
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
CO ₂ eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
DoCC	Department of Climate Change of Vanuatu
GHG	greenhouse gas
ITMO	internationally transferred mitigation outcome
NA	not applicable
NDC	nationally determined contribution
TERT	technical expert review team

I. Introduction

A. General information¹

1. This report covers the technical expert review under Article² 6, paragraph 2, of the initial report³ of Vanuatu. The review was organized by the secretariat and conducted by an Article 6 TERT in accordance with chapter V (Review) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 and the Article 6 TER guidelines.⁴

2. This report is to be read in conjunction with its addendum,⁵ an integral part of the report, which contains assessment tables that present the findings and recommendations of the Article 6 TERT relating to the areas it has identified for improvement of the consistency of the information submitted by Vanuatu with the reporting requirements⁶ as well as the capacity-building needs identified by the Article 6 TERT in consultation with Vanuatu during the review.

3. A draft version of this report was transmitted to the Government of Vanuatu, which provided comments that were taken into account, as appropriate, in this final version of the report.⁷ This report has been made publicly available on the centralized accounting and reporting platform.⁸

4. The review was conducted as a centralized review from 21 to 25 October 2024 in Bonn by the following team of nominated experts from the UNFCCC roster of experts: Zhuolun Chen (United Nations Environment Programme), Géraud de Lassus St-Geniès (Canada), El Hadji Mbaye Diagne (Senegal), Leonardo Massai (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Ana Lucía Moya Mora (Colombia), Elizabeth Adobi Okwuosa (Kenya) and Mihaela Stefanescu (Romania). Géraud de Lassus St-Geniès and El Hadji Mbaye Diagne were the lead reviewers. The review was coordinated by Sana Lingorsky, Ayami Kabaya and Karla Alcantar Sanchez (secretariat).

5. Vanuatu considers itself a developing country Party and a small island developing State under the Paris Agreement.

B. Scope of the technical expert review

6. The Article 6 TERT conducted a technical expert review of the information reported in the initial report of Vanuatu, within the scope of the review as defined in chapter II of the Article 6 TER guidelines and applying the guiding principles set out in paragraph 1 of those guidelines, consisting of:

(a) Reviewing the consistency of the information, including on each cooperative approach under Article 6, paragraph 2, in which the Party is participating, submitted in the initial report with the requirements in paragraph 18 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 (see chap. II.A below);

(b) Specifying recommended actions to be taken by the Party, including recommendations on how to improve the consistency of the information reported with the requirements in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 and any future relevant decisions of the CMA (see the addendum to this report);

¹ This section incorporates the introduction, process overview and summary referred to in the report outline set out in annex III to decision 6/CMA.4.

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

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

⁴ Contained in decision 6/CMA.4, annex II.

⁵ FCCC/A6/IRTERR.1/2024/VUT/Add.1.

⁶ Set out in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 18.

⁷ As per para. 21(f) of the Article 6 TER guidelines.

⁸ As per para. 21(h) of the Article 6 TER guidelines; see <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement/cooperative-implementation/carp/submitted-reports>.

(c) Identifying capacity-building needs in consultation with the Party (see chap. II.B below).⁹

C. Information submitted by the Party pursuant to chapter IV.A (Initial report) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3

7. Vanuatu submitted its initial report on 6 October 2023, including information on cooperative approach CA0004, “Electrification of Vanuatu’s Inhabited Islands through Solar Power ITMO Programme”, in which Switzerland and Vanuatu are the participating Parties.

II. Results of the technical expert review¹⁰

A. Consistency of the submitted information with the reporting requirements

8. The Article 6 TERT reviewed the information submitted by Vanuatu in its initial report and identified areas for improvement of consistency with the reporting requirements, which are referenced in tables 1–2. Table 1 summarizes the results of the review of the general information included in Vanuatu’s initial report, and table 2 presents the results of the review of the information on cooperative approach CA0004.

Table 1
Review of the consistency of the general information included in Vanuatu’s initial report with the requirements in paragraph 18(a–f) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3

<i>Requirement in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>ID# for area for improvement identified^a</i>
Demonstrate that the Party fulfils the participation responsibilities referred to in paragraph 4 for participating in a cooperative approach (para. 18(a))	Information demonstrating that:	
	The Party is a Party to the Paris Agreement	No inconsistencies identified
	The Party has prepared, communicated and is maintaining an NDC in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2	No inconsistencies identified
	The Party has arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 3	18.A/4.C
	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 CMA for tracking ITMOs	18.A/4.D
	The Party has provided the most recent national inventory report required in accordance with decision 18/CMA.1	18.A/4.E
Provide a description of the NDC, as referred to in paragraph 64 of the annex to decision 18/CMA.1, where the participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b))	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	18.A/4.F
	Target(s) and description, including target type(s)	18.B/64.A
	Target year(s) or period(s), and whether they are single-year or multi-year target(s)	No inconsistencies identified
	Reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s) or starting point(s), and their respective value(s)	18.B/64.C
	Time frame(s) and/or periods for implementation	No inconsistencies identified

⁹ As per paras. 2(a), 5(a) and 7 of the Article 6 TER guidelines.

¹⁰ Included in this report as per para. 51 of the Article 6 TER guidelines.

<i>Requirement in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>ID# for area for improvement identified^a</i>
Provide the ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))	Scope and coverage, including, as relevant, sectors, categories, activities, sources and sinks, pools and gases	No inconsistencies identified
	Intention to use cooperative approaches that involve the use of ITMOs towards NDCs under Article 4	No inconsistencies identified
	Any updates or clarifications of previously reported information	NA
	ITMO metrics	No inconsistencies identified
	Method for applying corresponding adjustments as per chapter III.B (Application of corresponding adjustments) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3	18.C.2
	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 the NDC; or, where this is not possible, provide the methodology for the quantification of the NDC in t CO ₂ eq	18.D
	Quantification of the Party's NDC, or the portion in the relevant non-GHG indicator, in a non-GHG metric determined by each participating Party, if applicable	NA
	For a first or first updated NDC consisting of policies and measures that is not quantified, quantification of the Party's emission level resulting from the policies and measures that are relevant to the implementation of the cooperative approach and its mitigation activities for the categories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks as identified by the host Party pursuant to paragraph 10 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, and the time periods covered by the NDC	NA

^a For further information, see document FCCC/A6/IRTERR.1/2024/VUT/Add.1.

Table 2

Review of the consistency of the information included in Vanuatu's initial report with the requirements in paragraph 18(g–i) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 for cooperative approach CA0004, "Electrification of Vanuatu's Inhabited Islands through Solar Power ITMO Programme"

<i>Requirement in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>ID# for area for improvement identified^a</i>
Provide information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g))	Copy of the authorization by the participating Party	No inconsistencies identified
	Description of the cooperative approach	No inconsistencies identified
	Duration of the cooperative approach	No inconsistencies identified
	Expected mitigation for each year of the duration of the cooperative approach	No inconsistencies identified
	Participating Parties involved in the cooperative approach	No inconsistencies identified
	Authorized entities for the cooperative approach	No inconsistencies identified
	How the cooperative approach:	

<i>Requirement in the annex to decision 2/CMA.3</i>	<i>Element of information to be reported</i>	<i>ID# for area for improvement identified^a</i>
Describe how each cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity (para. 18(h))	Ensures environmental integrity, including that there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods	18.H.1
	Ensures environmental integrity through robust, transparent governance and the quality of mitigation outcomes, including through conservative reference levels and 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)	18.H.2
	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	No inconsistencies identified
Provide additional description of each cooperative approach (para. 18(i))	How the cooperative approach will:	
	Minimize and, where possible, avoid negative environmental, economic and social impacts	18.I.1
	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	18.I.2
	Be consistent with the sustainable development objectives of the Party, noting national prerogatives	18.I.3
	Apply any safeguards and limits set out in further guidance from the CMA pursuant to chapter III.D (Safeguards and limits to the transfer and use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3	NA ^b
	Contribute resources for adaptation pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3, if applicable	18.I.5
	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	18.I.6

^a For further information, see document FCCC/A6/IRTERR.1/2024/VUT/Add.1.

^b This reporting requirement was not applicable at the time of the review as the CMA has not provided further guidance setting out any safeguards and limits.

B. Capacity-building needs relating to areas for improvement

9. The Article 6 TERT, in consultation with Vanuatu, identified capacity-building needs (see table 3 in the addendum to this report) related to implementing the guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2.

10. In Vanuatu, government agencies, private sector actors and non-governmental organizations do not yet fully understand how the carbon market operates in practice; this understanding is limited to key government ministries such as the Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology and Geo-Hazards, Energy, Environment and National

Disaster Management. Therefore, in order for the Party to meet the requirements under the Paris Agreement and of relevant decisions of the CMA, there is a need to provide technical training in this area to actors in all relevant sectors.

11. The topic of institutionalizing the carbon market is also important. Vanuatu is developing a carbon market framework, which designates the DoCC, under the above-mentioned Ministry, as the secretariat of the carbon market in the country, but the Party requires financial support for establishing and institutionalizing a carbon market unit within the DoCC and for enabling it to carry out the functions and responsibilities associated with operating the carbon market.

III. Conclusions and recommendations

12. The Article 6 TERT conducted a technical expert review of the information submitted by Vanuatu in its initial report in accordance with chapter V (Review) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 and the Article 6 TER guidelines.

13. The Party reported information on one cooperative approach (see para. 7 above).

14. On the basis of the review of Vanuatu's initial report, the Article 6 TERT found that the Party reported information in relation to all of the requirements set out in paragraph 18 of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3. However, some of the information reported was found to be inconsistent with the requirements (see tables 1–2).

15. The areas for improvement of consistency and related recommendations identified by the Article 6 TERT, as well as the capacity-building needs identified during the review in consultation with Vanuatu, are presented in the assessment tables referred to in paragraph 2 above.

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 Vanuatu. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/632588>.

“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>.

II. Additional information provided by the Party

Responses to questions during the review were received from Ian Iercet (DoCC), including additional material. The following references were provided by Vanuatu and may not conform to UNFCCC editorial style as some have been reproduced as received:

“Guidance Manual for Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) Projects in Vanuatu”.

Slide-deck “Vanuatu’s Internationally Transferable Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) Registry (National Registry)”.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) “Climate Action Impact Tool (CAIT)”. Available at <https://unfccc.int/file/432098/download?token=4IdzdJg2>.
