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MESSAGE TO PARTIES AND OBSERVER STATES

Regional online workshops on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their governments for implementing the ETF, and in providing guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects

The secretariat has been requested by paragraph 14 of decision 18/CMA.5, to organize regional online workshops to be held prior to the sixtieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementations (SBI 60), to be held in June 2024, with relevant stakeholders, such as the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies, as appropriate, on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their governments for implementing the enhanced transparency framework, and in providing guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects.

I would like to inform Parties and observer States that these workshops will be organized in a virtual manner and will be held from 15 to 18 April 2024.

Details on the workshops, including information on the [registration](#), are contained in the annex. Further information will be posted on this [UNFCCC website](#) as they become available.

Questions pertaining to these workshops should be addressed to ETFSupport@unfccc.int.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed by)

Donald Cooper
Director, Transparency division

Distribution: To Parties and observer States through their national focal points for climate change and diplomatic missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Germany



Annex

Concept Note

Regional online workshops on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their governments for implementing the ETF, and in providing guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects

Background and mandate

The enhanced transparency framework (ETF) for action and support is established by Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Decision 18/CMA.1 and its annex, as well as decision 5/CMA.3 and its annexes constitute the basis for the modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) for the ETF.

In accordance with the MPGs, Parties shall submit their first biennial transparency reports (BTRs) and national inventory reports, if submitted as a stand-alone report, at the latest by 31 December 2024¹, and no less frequently than on an biennial basis.² Least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit the information referred to in Article 13, paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10, of the Paris Agreement at their discretion.^{3, 4}

Decision 18/CMA.5⁵ recalled that support shall be provided to developing country Parties for the implementation of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, as well as that support shall also be provided for building for the building of transparency-related capacity of developing country Parties on a continuous basis.

Among other provisions, decision 18/CMA.5 acknowledged the existing financial, technical and capacity-building support for developing country Parties to address challenges in implementing the ETF; recognized the challenges that developing country Parties, in particular the LDCs and SIDS, face in implementing ETF in a sustainable manner, including establishment and enhancement of their national reporting systems within their respective national governments; underscored the importance of the adequacy, predictability and timeliness of the support provided to developing country Parties, recognizing the special circumstances of the LDCs and SIDS, for building and enhancing their institutional and technical capacity for implementing the ETF; also underscored the importance of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) continuing its efforts to provide adequate and timely support to developing country Parties for implementing the ETF, to further simplify the existing processes for approving projects under the GEF and its implementing agencies, and exploring alternative programming modalities, procedures and processes for facilitating and expediting access to financial resources for enabling activities for supporting developing country Parties in meeting their requirements under the ETF and for building and enhancing their institutional and technical capacity for reporting under the Paris Agreement on a continuous basis.

¹ Decision 18/CMA.1, para 3.

² Decision 1/CP.21, para 90.

³ Decision 18/CMA.1, para 4.

⁴ Decision 1/CP.21, para 90.

⁵ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma5_auv_cma_7.pdf



Furthermore, the CMA, at its fifth session, requested the secretariat to organize an in-person workshop, to be held at SBI 60 (June 2024), as well as regional online workshops to be held prior to that session, with the relevant stakeholders, such as the GEF and its implementing agencies, as appropriate, on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their BTRs and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their Governments for implementing the ETF, and in providing guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects. The CMA also requested the secretariat to organize an in-session facilitative dialogue, to be held at SBI 60, to facilitate the sharing of experience in gathering, analysing and managing data, in particular by developed country Parties, that may be helpful for developing country Parties in enhancing their institutional capacity and national reporting systems for implementing the ETF.

This note provides information on the organization of the regional online workshops to be held prior to the SBI 60 (June 2024). Information on the in-person workshop and the in-session facilitative dialogue will be communicated at a later date, well in advance of SBI 60.

Overall approach

Four online regional workshops will be conducted, each designed to last approximately half a day (around 3,5 hours). These workshops are scheduled in different timeslots to accommodate participants across different time zones, in an effort to enhance inclusivity. Participants can choose one of the workshops to participate remotely, based on their preference:

- Workshop 1: 15 April, Monday, 17:00 CEST (recommended for Latin America and the Caribbean and Northern America)
- Workshop 2: 16 April, Tuesday, 13:00 CEST (recommended for Africa and Europe)
- Workshop 3: 17 April, Wednesday, 08:00 CEST (recommended for Asia and Pacific)
- Workshop 4: 18 April, Thursday, 22:00 CEST (recommended for Pacific) *Please kindly note that for some countries in the Pacific, this will be from morning to noon on 19 April.*

Registration link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/18-CMA5_ws-registration

These online regional workshops are open to all interested participants from Parties and relevant stakeholders, especially national transparency experts and national focal points. The call for registration will be circulated to national focal points and announced on [UNFCCC webpage](#) and social media platforms prior to the events, ensuring broad outreach.

To further enhance accessibility, the workshop recordings will be made available on the event page for those who cannot attend in real time or wish to revisit the discussions.

The discussions from the online workshops will contribute to the in-person workshop, to be held at the SBI 60, on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their BTRs and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their governments for implementing the ETF, and in providing guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects.



Indicative Programme

Moderator: Jigme, Manager, UNFCCC secretariat

Time	Item
Opening	
5 min	Opening and housekeeping rules by the moderator
10 min	Welcome remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nabeel Munir, SBI Chair • Donald Cooper, Director, UNFCCC secretariat
10 min	Scene setting presentation (by the moderator) on the overview of the outcome from Dubai and efforts to enhance coordination and collaboration in delivering support for implementation of the ETF
Session 1 - Support available to developing country Parties for preparing their BTRs and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their governments for implementing the ETF	
40 min	Presentations by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEF and its implementing agencies • Consultative Group of Experts • Support providers
20 min	Moderated Q & A session
15 min	Health break
Session 2 - Moderated discussion on guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects	
80 min	<p><u>Moderated discussion guided by the following questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the best practices and lessons learnt from the application processes for transparency-related projects? • What are key suggestions for improving the application process for transparency-related projects? <p>➤ Part A: Perspective by the country representatives – scene setting interventions followed by Mentimeter exercise and plenary discussion</p> <p>➤ Part B: Perspective by the support providers as well as Mentimeter exercise and plenary discussion</p>
10 min	Key takeaways and closing by the moderator