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MESSAGE TO PARTIES

Facilitative sharing of views workshop and multilateral assessment working group session at the fifty-ninth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

I am writing to inform Parties to the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement that the **fifteenth facilitative sharing of views (FSV) workshop** under the international consultation and analysis (ICA) process and the **first multilateral assessment working group session** under the fifth cycle of the international assessment and review process (IAR) will take place on 3 and 4 and 5 and 6 December 2023 respectively at SBI 59 in Dubai.

The FSV and the multilateral assessment are integral parts of the ICA and IAR processes, which were established by decision 1/CP.16 and fleshed out in decision 2/CP.17. These processes lay a solid foundation for operationalizing the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement and are important for building trust and confidence among countries and showing that countries are progressing towards more ambitious climate action.

In accordance with the modalities and guidelines for ICA, contained in decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, the SBI shall convene, at regular intervals, an FSV workshop, open to all Parties, for all Parties for which there is a biennial update report and a final summary report. FSV workshops provide a unique opportunity for developing country Parties to inform the international community of their needs and transparently showcase their climate action.

In accordance with the modalities and procedures for IAR, contained in decision 2/CP.17, annex II, a multilateral assessment of developed countries' progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to their quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets will be carried out for each developed country Party, during an SBI session, on the basis of the technical review report referred to in paragraph 7 of annex II to decision 2/CP.17 and any other relevant review reports of the annual greenhouse gas inventory and national communication; the biennial report, the national greenhouse gas inventory, including the national inventory report, and the national communication; and supplementary information on the achievement of the Party's quantified economy-wide emission reduction target, including on the role of land use, land-use change and forestry, and carbon credits from market-based mechanisms.

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



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The Parties that will form the focus of the FSV workshop and multilateral assessment working group session at SBI 59 can be found at <https://unfccc.int/fifteenth-workshop-of-the-facilitative-sharing-of-views-fsv> and https://unfccc.int/First_MA_fifth_IAR_cycle respectively.

Information on the process and timeline for submitting written questions pertaining to the session and the workshop, as well as details on other organizational matters, can be found in annexes I–II.

Questions pertaining to substantive issues regarding the FSV workshop can be directed to Sohail Pasha (spasha@unfccc.int), and logistical questions about the FSV workshop to Edith Ondieki (eondieki@unfccc.int), while all questions pertaining to the multilateral assessment should be sent to ma-portal@unfccc.int.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed by)

Simon Stiell



Annex I

Fifteenth facilitative sharing of views workshop

1. The fifteenth facilitative sharing of views (FSV) workshop will be convened on 3 and 4 December 2023 at SBI 59 in Dubai.
2. Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention that submitted a biennial update report and for which a summary report was finalized and published by 15 September 2023 will be the focus of the fifteenth FSV workshop. The list of such Parties is available at <https://unfccc.int/fifteenth-workshop-of-the-facilitative-sharing-of-views-fsv>.
3. Consistently with decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, paragraph 6, Parties may submit written questions in advance of the workshop; to do so, they are invited to use the [FSV portal](#).
4. The timeline for submitting questions is outlined in the table below. Consistently with decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, paragraph 3(a), any questions submitted should be within the scope of the information considered during the technical analysis of the biennial update report. The working language for the question and answer process will be English.

Timeline for written questions

Timeline	Action	Note
1 to 31 October 2023	All Parties may submit questions to Parties taking part in the fifteenth FSV workshop	Further information on the procedure for submitting questions will be shared in advance with all Parties via email
1 to 30 November 2023	The Parties concerned may provide written responses to questions	Information on the FSV process is available at http://unfccc.int/fsv

5. Consistently with previous FSV practices, the fifteenth FSV workshop will be conducted in person. English will be the working language; interpretation into the other official United Nations languages will not be provided. The time allocated to each session of the workshop and the sequence of Party presentations will be announced by 30 September 2023 at <https://unfccc.int/fifteenth-workshop-of-the-facilitative-sharing-of-views-fsv>.



6. During the workshop, each Party involved will be allocated 30 minutes:
 - a. Two minutes to deliver an introduction to the pre-recorded presentation;
 - b. Ten minutes to show a pre-recorded presentation on the Party's biennial update report;
 - c. Eighteen minutes for questions and answers.

7. To facilitate better time management, Parties are asked to pre-record their presentations, which will be made available at <https://unfccc.int/fifteenth-workshop-of-the-facilitative-sharing-of-views-fsv> prior to the workshop. In the pre-recorded presentations, Parties are invited to showcase their climate action and share their success stories, innovative approaches, experience and lessons learned in relation to participating in the ICA process. Parties are also invited to share, to the extent possible, their ongoing initiatives and preparations for implementing the enhanced transparency framework and submitting their first biennial transparency report. The secretariat will assist Parties in recording their presentations if requested.

8. Prior to the pre-recorded presentation being shown, a senior representative of the Party presenting at the FSV workshop will be invited to deliver a two-minute introduction. After the presentation, a question and answer session will take place. The Party presenting is welcome to nominate representatives with a technical background and competencies in policy issues to take part in the session virtually and respond to questions on its behalf. If needed, the secretariat can provide technical support in this regard.

9. The SBI Chair will preside over the proceedings of the workshop. In the event that the SBI Chair is not available, the Vice-Chair or the Rapporteur of the SBI will preside over the proceedings on behalf of the Chair.

10. Following SBI practice for similar events, the workshop will be open to Parties, observer States and observer organizations. In line with decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, paragraph 7, the question and answer session will take place among Parties only.

11. A record of the FSV workshop will be prepared under the guidance of the SBI Chair for each Party participating in the FSV. The record will include a summary of proceedings, as well as a summary of the Party's presentation.

12. The secretariat will liaise with those Parties participating in the FSV workshop to provide further detailed guidance on the organization of the workshop.

13. Questions regarding the FSV under the ICA process can be communicated to the secretariat at ica@unfccc.int. Questions regarding the FSV portal can be communicated to the secretariat at FSVPortal@unfccc.int.



Annex II

Multilateral assessment working group session

1. The first multilateral assessment working group session under the fifth cycle of the international assessment and review (IAR) process will be convened on 5 and 6 December 2023 at SBI 59 in Dubai.
2. A list of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention for which the technical review process has been completed, with the technical review report published, and that will undergo multilateral assessment at SBI 59 is available at https://unfccc.int/First_MA_fifth_IAR_cycle.
3. In preparation for the upcoming multilateral assessment working group session, the following Party-specific documents and information will be made available on each Party's individual multilateral assessment web page:¹
 - a. Fifth biennial report, latest national greenhouse gas inventory, including national inventory review report, and latest national communication;
 - b. Technical review report on the fifth biennial report and any other relevant review reports of the GHG inventory and national communication;
 - c. Supplementary information on the achievement of the 2020 quantified economy-wide emission reduction target, including on the role of land use, land-use change and forestry and on the use of units from market-based mechanisms.
4. In accordance with the modalities and procedures for IAR², there will be a three-month written question and answer period prior to the working group session; in the first month, any Party may submit questions to the Parties that will be multilaterally assessed at the upcoming session, and those Parties should provide their answers within the following two months.
5. To facilitate the exchange of questions and answers, Parties are invited to use the multilateral assessment portal,³ which can be accessed by means of login credentials, which will be provided by the secretariat to representatives nominated by the Parties' national focal points.
6. The timeline for the question and answer period for the upcoming working group session is outlined in the table below. The working language for the questions and answer process is English.

¹ The individual web pages can be accessed via https://unfccc.int/First_MA_fifth_IAR_cycle.

² As per decision 2/CP.17, annex II, para. 10.

³ <https://process.unfccc.int/sites/ma>.



Timeline for the multilateral assessment question and answer period

Timeline	Action	Note
1 to 30 September 2023	<p>Any Party may submit written questions to the Parties being multilaterally assessed. Questions should address the following elements:⁴</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emissions and removals related to the Party's quantified economy-wide emission reduction target• Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of the Party's quantified economy-wide emission reduction target• Progress towards the achievement of the Party's quantified economy-wide emission reduction target	Questions may be submitted by nominated users via the multilateral assessment portal and should be based on the documents and information provided on each Party's individual multilateral assessment web page
1 October to 30 November 2023	The Parties being assessed are required to answer all questions that were submitted by 30 September 2023. They may answer questions submitted after that date if they wish but they are not obligated to do so	Responses will be made available on the multilateral assessment portal
By 2 December 2023	The secretariat will compile the questions and answers for each Party.	The compiled questions and answers will be made available on the Party's individual web page

7. The multilateral assessment will be conducted in person for each of the Parties concerned. In line with the procedures applied at the previous multilateral assessment working group session, a flexible approach will be taken in terms of the time allocated to each Party. In this regard, the number of questions submitted in advance of the session to a particular Party will provide an indication of the time needed for the assessment. Details regarding the scheduling of the session, including the order in which Parties will undergo the assessment and the total time allocated to each part of the session, will be available at https://unfccc.int/First_MA_fifth_IAR_cycle.

8. Owing to expected time and space constraints, the Parties undergoing the multilateral assessment are asked to record their presentations in advance; the secretariat will provide assistance if requested. These recordings will be made publicly available by the secretariat on each Party's individual multilateral assessment web page before the working group session. Parties are encouraged to watch the recorded presentations in advance of the session. In the pre-recorded presentations, Parties are invited to focus on the highlights of their climate change policy development and implementation and share their success stories, innovative approaches, experience and lessons learned in relation to participating in the IAR process and achieving their 2020 quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

⁴ As per decision 2/CP.17, annex II, para. 5.



9. To maximize time available during the working group session, Parties undergoing the multilateral assessment will be invited to make a short statement, which will be followed by a question and answer session. In previous sessions, representatives with competencies in policy issues have spoken on behalf of the Party being assessed during the question and answer session, with support provided by representatives with competencies in technical issues, as needed. If needed, national technical experts will have the possibility to participate virtually and respond to questions.

10. Parties will have the chance to briefly summarize their main conclusions and positions relating to the multilateral assessment process at the end of the working group session. Parties wishing to provide a brief summary should inform the secretariat beforehand.

11. The secretariat will liaise with the Parties undergoing the multilateral assessment to provide detailed guidance on the organization of the working group session.

12. The session will be chaired by the SBI Chair or a designated member of the SBI Bureau.

13. The multilateral assessment working group session will be conducted in English and open to Parties, observers and the media. However, as per paragraph 10 of annex II to decision 2/CP.17, the oral questions and answers will be among Parties only. The working group session will be broadcast live⁵ and the recording will be made available on the respective Party's multilateral assessment web page after the session.

⁵ The link to the broadcast will be available at <https://unfccc.int/MA>.