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**Subsidiary Body for Scientific and  
Technological Advice**

**Fifty-eighth session**

Bonn, 5–15 June 2023

Item 11 of the provisional agenda

**Matters relating to the forum on the impact of the  
implementation of response measures serving the  
Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris  
Agreement**

**Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

**Fifty-eighth session**

Bonn, 5–15 June 2023

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

**Matters relating to the forum on the impact of the  
implementation of response measures serving the  
Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris  
Agreement**

**Review of the functions, work programme and modalities of  
the forum on the impact of the implementation of response  
measures**

**Summary report by the secretariat**

*Summary*

This report summarizes views on and proposed guiding questions for the review of the functions, work programme and modalities of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures submitted by Parties and one observer organization to the secretariat. The subsidiary bodies may wish to use the information in this report in preparing the guiding questions to define the scope of the review.



## Abbreviations and acronyms

CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
CMP	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
COP	Conference of the Parties
GHG	greenhouse gas
KCI	Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures
LT-LEDS	long-term low-emission development strategy(ies)
NDC	nationally determined contribution

## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. CMA 1 requested the subsidiary bodies to review, at their fifty-ninth sessions, the functions, work programme and modalities of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures<sup>1</sup> with a view to providing recommendations for consideration at COP 28, CMP 18 and CMA 5.<sup>2</sup>
2. As per the workplan of the forum and its KCI,<sup>3</sup> the forum, at the fifty-eighth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, is to prepare guiding questions for the review.
3. COP 27, CMP 17 and CMA 4 invited Parties and observers to submit views on and guiding questions for the review of the functions, work programme and modalities of the forum and requested the secretariat to prepare a summary of the submissions as the basis for discussion of the review.<sup>4</sup>

### B. Scope

4. This report summarizes the views on and proposed guiding questions for the review of the functions, work programme and modalities of the forum contained in the submissions received by 23 May 2023.<sup>5</sup>
5. In total, nine submissions were received representing 132 Parties<sup>6</sup> (including from the European Union representing 27 Parties, the Alliance of Small Island States representing 39 Parties, the African Group representing 54 Parties, and the Arab Group representing 22 Parties) and one submission was received from an observer organization.
6. The key views from the 10 submissions have been summarized here without making judgment on them. Where views are not substantively different, they have been consolidated to prevent duplication; the views expressed in full can be found in the original submissions.

### C. Possible action by the subsidiary bodies

7. The subsidiary bodies may wish to use the information in this report in preparing the guiding questions to define the scope of the review.

## II. Background

8. COP 24, CMP 14 and CMA 1:<sup>7</sup>
  - (a) Acknowledged that there is one single forum that covers the work of the COP, the CMP and the CMA on all matters relating to the impact of the implementation of response measures;
  - (b) Established the KCI to support the work of the forum;
  - (c) Adopted the modalities, work programme and functions of the forum.

<sup>1</sup> Contained in the annex to decision 7/CMA.1.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 7/CMA.1, para. 6.

<sup>3</sup> Activity e of the workplan as contained in annex II to decisions 4/CP.25, 4/CMP.15 and 4/CMA.2.

<sup>4</sup> Decisions 20/CP.27, para. 12; 7/CMP.17, para. 12; and 23/CMA.4, para. 13.

<sup>5</sup> Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx> (in the search field type "response measures").

<sup>6</sup> Some Parties made their own submission in addition to the submission from the group of Parties that represents them, and some Parties are represented by two groups of Parties.

<sup>7</sup> Decisions 7/CP.24, para. 2; 3/CMP.14, para. 2; and 7/CMA.1, paras. 2, 3 and 5.

### **III. Views and proposed guiding questions**

#### **A. Purpose and modalities of the review**

9. Most<sup>8</sup> Parties are of the view that the review is an opportunity to reflect on the purpose and performance of the forum and its KCI with respect to the agreed functions and to identify areas for improvement with a view to making the forum's work more focused, efficient and substantive.

10. Some Parties noted that the review should be conducted in a structured, focused, inclusive and transparent manner.

#### **B. Overall assessment of the forum**

11. Most Parties suggested that an overall assessment of the performance of the forum and its KCI under the existing functions, work programme and modalities be undertaken. The main aspects that were proposed for review in this regard are described in paragraphs 12–16 below.

##### **1. Performance**

12. Most of the views expressed on reviewing the performance of the forum and its KCI to date relate to, inter alia:

(a) The accomplishments and successes of the forum and its KCI and how the dissemination of work could be improved;

(b) The lessons learned from the work of the forum and its KCI and how they could be used to improve the functions, work programme and modalities of the forum in an efficient manner;

(c) How the KCI could better support the work of the forum;

(d) How the activities undertaken so far by the forum and its KCI could be built upon in order to enhance and strengthen the functions of the forum in an efficient manner.

##### **2. Relevance of the existing functions, work programme and modalities**

13. Some Parties suggested reviewing how the forum and its KCI could better use and be guided by the best available science, including the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in their work, including in relation to sustainable development trade-offs resulting from mitigation actions, analysis of co-benefits of climate actions and consideration of reference scenarios that include the impacts of climate change in the assessment of the impacts of response measures, gender equality, respect for human rights, and local communities and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge.

14. Many Parties proposed reviewing how the forum and its KCI can better engage non-Party stakeholders in order to enrich the work of the forum and its KCI.

15. Some Parties proposed reviewing whether the functions, work programme and modalities of the forum have sufficiently addressed the urgency and magnitude of what developing countries increasingly face. Similarly, one Party proposed reviewing whether the functions, work programme and modalities are responsive to the urgent need to reduce emissions in this critical decade and to achieve net zero GHG emission economies by 2050.

16. Some Parties suggested reviewing how the functions, work programme and modalities of the forum take into account relevant policy issues of concern to Parties in order to support their transition to net zero GHG emission economies, while some other Parties suggested broadening the current assessment, analysis, addressing and reporting of impacts of the

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<sup>8</sup> The following terms are used in this report according to the percentage of Parties represented in the submissions that mention particular information: "a few" for less than 5 per cent; "some" for 5–50 per cent; "many" for 51–80 per cent; and "most" for more than 80 per cent.

implementation of response measures in accordance with the specific needs, concerns and national circumstances of Parties, particularly developing country Parties.

### C. Functions of the forum

17. The views expressed by some Parties and the observer organization on the functions of the forum relate to areas for improvement and the expansion of the functions in the future. Some Parties mentioned reviewing and tracking the progress of the performance of its existing functions.

18. One Party proposed that the forum should maintain its existing functions as well as provide a clear understanding to Parties of the impacts of the implementation of response measures by facilitating assessment and analysis of the impacts of inaction on mitigation.

19. Some Parties and the observer organization proposed that the functions of the forum be expanded to include:

(a) Covering means of implementation as part of enhancing the capacity of Parties to deal with the impact of the implementation of response measures, including cross-border impacts;

(b) Measuring how the impacts of the implementation of the workplan of the forum and its KCI will be sustained after its completion. A strategy for ensuring such continuation of its effects may need to be established;

(c) Moving to more operational functions such as those of an ombudsman or policy auditor;

(d) Contributing its expertise and knowledge to the work programme on just transition pathways referred to in paragraphs 50–52 of decision 1/CMA.4.

20. Some Parties and the observer organization considered the need to track the progress of the forum in performing its functions, which could also help towards sustaining the impacts of the work of the forum and its KCI.

21. The observer organization proposed that the forum and its KCI establish stronger linkages with the NDC and LT-LEDS processes and demonstrate the value of using tools and methods for assessing the impacts of implementing measures identified in NDCs and LT-LEDS and for guiding just transition.

22. One Party and the observer organization proposed that there should be coordination between the forum and other institutional arrangements within and outside the UNFCCC process to avoid duplication of work.

23. The following were proposed as guiding questions for the review of the functions of the forum:

(a) To what extent has the forum performed each of its functions? Has it contributed to building the knowledge and capacity of Parties? What actions has it promoted to minimize the adverse impacts and maximize the positive impacts of the implementation of response measures? Has it responded to and taken into consideration relevant outcomes of processes under the Paris Agreement? What challenges have been faced by the forum in performing its functions?

(b) To what extent are the functions and work of the forum relevant in responding to the urgent need for Parties to achieve net zero emissions, and to the magnitude of impacts faced by Parties? What functions could be added to make it more relevant?

(c) Which indicators can be used to track the performance of the functions of the forum and how can they be monitored?

## **D. Modalities of the forum**

24. One Party supported the continuation of the existing modalities of the forum. Some other Parties and the observer organization suggested other modalities that could be used by the forum and its KCI, such as:

(a) Organizing webinars and virtual meetings and capacity-building activities in order to enhance the accessibility of the training and disseminate knowledge more broadly;

(b) Strengthening collaboration with organizations and exploring opportunities to organize joint events and capacity-building initiatives in order to enhance coordination and integration of the provision of support to countries. Some Parties emphasized the need for more focused and concrete capacity-building programmes such as regional workshops and hands-on training on modelling tools for developing countries;

(c) Ensuring the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth and people with disabilities in multi-stakeholder meetings and activities;

(d) Circulating an agenda with specific topics that Parties will discuss and setting aside adequate time for the forum to conduct activities relating to its functions, for example for the examination of biennial update reports;

(e) Performing functions intersessionally, including holding more meetings of the forum and the KCI, similar to how meetings of the Standing Committee on Finance are conducted.

25. Other views pertaining to the modalities were expressed on the frequency and timing of KCI meetings; the composition of the membership of the KCI; the need for synergies between the modalities of the forum and its KCI in order to avoid duplication of work; and the need to reflect the perspective of developing countries in technical work, such as impact assessments. In this context, it was proposed that the composition of the KCI should include three members from small island developing States representing its three different regions.

26. The following were proposed as guiding questions for the review of the modalities of the forum and its KCI:

(a) How effective and efficient have the modalities been, including the format of forum meetings and the timing and duration of KCI meetings?

(b) What other modalities can be used for disseminating the work of the forum and its KCI, addressing new mitigation measures and enhancing support to developing countries to assess and address the negative impacts of the response measures? How can different modalities be used effectively by the KCI to better support the forum?

(c) How can the impacts of the work of the forum and its KCI be sustained after the implementation of the workplan?

(d) What role can the forum play in assisting Parties to operationalize the recommendations adopted by the COP, the CMP and the CMA?

(e) How can the forum and its KCI better engage non-Party stakeholders in their work and, at the same time, how can non-Party stakeholders actively participate in the discussions of the forum and its KCI?

## **E. Work programme of the forum**

27. Some Parties considered that, while the existing areas of the work programme are relevant, they require more focus of implementation; for example, sector-based instruments, policies and initiatives under the area of economic diversification and transformation.

28. Some Parties stated that the activities in the workplan of the forum and its KCI are not adequately balanced over the four areas of the work programme: for example, the assessment and analysis of the impacts of the implementation of response measures have not taken into consideration cross-border and transnational impacts, for example from the carbon border adjustment mechanism.

29. One Party and the observer organization made proposals for expanding some existing workplan activities, including:

(a) Going beyond facilitating the development and use of tools and methodologies by promoting comparable methodological tools and indicators for assessing and reporting on the impacts of response measures (workplan activity 3);

(b) Taking into consideration the views of, lessons learned from and experience of local communities in relation to identifying and exchanging experience and best practices to facilitate the creation of decent work and quality jobs in low GHG emission sectors (workplan activity 8);

(c) Raising awareness of the importance of collecting disaggregated data in order to identify the impacts of climate change measures on local communities, Indigenous Peoples youth and other vulnerable populations (workplan activity 9);

(d) Providing guidelines on aligning just transition policies with existing national strategies and policies, such as national development plans, NDCs and LT-LEDS, for stronger policy integration (workplan activity 10);

(e) Sharing best practices associated with the accompanying institutional governance policy and political structures and processes required for policy uptake of modelling and other types of assessment and their results (workplan activity 11).

30. In addition, one Party proposed that a new workplan activity on facilitating the development of tools for assessing the co-benefits of climate action be established.

31. One Party made a proposal for there to be less focus under the work programme on facilitating the development, enhancement, customization and use of tools and methodologies for modelling and assessing impacts, as the forum and its KCI have established an online database of tools and methods, which the secretariat updates regularly.

32. Conversely, the same Party proposed that the areas of just transition and economic diversification be prioritized under the work programme, as they have emerged as key strategies for maximizing socioeconomic benefits and minimizing negative impacts.

33. Many Parties see a need to develop, use and maintain tools and methodologies that can be recognized by the UNFCCC and help Parties identify, assess and address the impacts of the implementation of response measures.

34. Some Parties are of the view that the workplan of the forum and its KCI should be expanded in order to address relevant decisions and outcomes from the COP, the CMP and the CMA.

35. The following were proposed as guiding questions for the review of the work programme:

(a) What have been the successes of the forum and its KCI in implementing the work programme?

(b) How could each area of the work programme be better elaborated to focus on implementation and to be implemented to support the forum in performing its functions?

(c) How could the forum and its KCI better respond to and make use of the best available science?

36. Emphasizing the potential overlap of the forum's work with the work programme on just transition referred to in paragraph 19(d) above, some Parties proposed consideration of linkages between the work of the forum and its KCI and that work programme in order to provide support and avoid duplication of work.

## **F. Linkages with other work, workstreams and processes**

37. Many Parties and the observer organization proposed that linkages and synergies should be established and enhanced between the work of the forum and its KCI and other work, workstreams and processes, such as in relation to NDCs and LT-LEDS, the work

programme on just transition, the Technology Mechanism, the Financial Mechanism, capacity-building, the Glasgow Climate Pact, Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme under the UNFCCC.

38. The following guiding questions relating to linkages were proposed for the review:

(a) How could linkages and synergies be established between the functions, work programme and/or modalities of the forum and other work, workstreams and/or processes within and outside the UNFCCC without duplication of work?

(b) In the case of the work programme on just transition, what linkages can be established between the forum and its KCI and the work programme, and how can the forum and its KCI best support it in order to avoid duplication of work?

(c) How could the outcome of the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement be taken into consideration when conducting the review?

#### **IV. Concluding remarks**

39. Many views were put forward in the submissions on areas for future development and improvement of the functions, work programme, modalities and workplan of the forum and its KCI, which can be considered as part of the review.

40. Most of the views expressed in the submissions complemented each other; however, it should be noted that Parties have not yet had the opportunity to comment on each other's views.

41. The submissions indicate the view that, going forward, the functions, work programme and modalities and workplan of the forum and its KCI should be informed by the best available science, include better engagement with non-Party stakeholders, be responsive to the urgent need to reduce GHG emissions and take into account relevant policy issues of concern to Parties in order to support the transition to net zero GHG emission economies.

42. It was proposed to expand the functions of the forum, to take steps to ensure that the impacts of the implementation of the workplan are sustained after its completion, to find ways to track the progress of the forum in performing its functions and improve linkages with other processes, including in relation to NDCs, LT-LEDS and the work programme on just transition.

43. In terms of modalities, proposals include conducting capacity-building activities virtually in order to enhance the accessibility of the training and disseminate knowledge more broadly, collaborating with organizations on joint events in order to enhance coordination and integration of the provision of support to countries, and conducting the functions intersessionally.

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