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## Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Fifty-second to fifty-fifth session

Glasgow, 31 October to 6 November 2021

Agenda item 19

**Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings**

### **Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings**

#### **Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) expressed its appreciation to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the preparations to ensure the success of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, United Kingdom, from 31 October to 12 November 2021.
2. The SBI also expressed its appreciation to the Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth sessions and the presiding officers of the subsidiary bodies for their continued efforts over the past two years to maximize progress and minimize delays and to ensure an efficient, coordinated and coherent process for considering issues in the UNFCCC process in spite of the delays resulting from the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic.
3. The SBI further expressed its appreciation to the Government of Egypt for offering to host COP 27 (November 2022).
4. The SBI expressed its appreciation to the Government of the United Arab Emirates for offering to host COP 28 (November 2023).
5. The SBI noted that, in keeping with the principle of rotation among the regional groups, the President of COP 29 (November 2024) would come from the Eastern European States, and encouraged the Eastern European States to initiate their consultations with a view to presenting an offer to host COP 29 at the earliest opportunity and at the latest in the first sessional period of 2023 in order to facilitate timely planning.
6. The SBI acknowledged that early identification of a host country minimizes logistical and financial risks and enables the secretariat to conduct fact-finding missions in a timely manner.
7. The SBI encouraged the secretariat and hosts of future sessions of the governing bodies to take into consideration logistical arrangements that would facilitate the inclusive and effective participation of all Parties as well as observer organizations.
8. The SBI recalled that at SBI 50 it agreed to continue at SBI 52 discussions on approaches and initiatives for increasing the efficiency of the UNFCCC process towards enhancing ambition and strengthening implementation.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBI/2019/9, para. 134.



9. In the light of the limited time available at this session to adequately address this issue, the SBI invited Parties and observer organizations to submit via the submission portal<sup>2</sup> by 29 April 2022 views on approaches and initiatives for increasing the efficiency of the UNFCCC process towards enhancing ambition and strengthening implementation, which will inform consideration of the matter at SBI 56 (June 2022).

10. The SBI took note of the information provided by the secretariat on the process of admission of observer organizations to the UNFCCC.<sup>3</sup>

11. In the light of the limited time available at this session to adequately address this issue, SBI 56 will continue the discussions on the matter.

12. The SBI reaffirmed the value of the contribution of observer organizations to the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, while acknowledging that this engagement will be conducted in accordance with established UNFCCC rules, procedures and practices.

13. The SBI also acknowledged the importance of ensuring an inclusive process while taking fully into consideration the health and safety concerns of participants attending sessions of the governing and subsidiary bodies, especially during the ongoing pandemic.

14. In this regard, the SBI noted that, while virtual engagement has its challenges, technology can be used to enhance engagement, including that of observer organizations from developing countries.

15. The SBI acknowledged the progress in relation to observer engagement and participation over the years, while reiterating the urgent need for solutions to improve the representation of observer organizations from developing countries in the UNFCCC process.

16. The SBI welcomed the continued efforts of the COP 25 and 26 Presidencies, the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies and the secretariat to enhance the engagement of observer organizations in the UNFCCC process.

17. The SBI welcomed the report prepared by the secretariat on the engagement of observer organizations and non-Party stakeholders in the intergovernmental process in 2018–2019.<sup>4</sup>

18. In the spirit of fostering openness, transparency, effectiveness and inclusiveness, while respecting the draft rules of procedure being applied, the SBI highlighted the following further enhancements to observer engagement that could be considered, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) Encouraging presiding officers and constituted bodies under the Convention, where appropriate, to:

(i) Increase intervention opportunities for observers at meetings and make the best use of their inputs, including submissions;

(ii) Continue dialogues with observers;

(b) Encouraging future COP Presidencies to:

(i) Consider convening intersessional open dialogues virtually in addition to in-person open dialogues during sessions of the COP;

(ii) Explore ways to increase the participation of observer organizations, including youth organizations and organizations from developing countries;

(c) Encouraging all Parties to:

(i) Continue the practice of meetings being open to observers, as appropriate;

(ii) Further engage non-Party stakeholders at the national level, including through consultations and information dissemination;

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<sup>2</sup> [https://unfccc.int/submissions\\_and\\_statements](https://unfccc.int/submissions_and_statements).

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBI/2020/INF.8.

<sup>4</sup> FCCC/SBI/2020/10.

(iii) Make capacity-building initiatives and programmes available to non-Party stakeholders that are implementing climate action on the ground, particularly in developing countries;

(d) Requesting the secretariat to:

(i) Continue preparing the biennial report on the implementation of SBI conclusions on ways to engage observer organizations in the intergovernmental process;

(ii) Explore ways to encourage broad participation of observer organizations, in particular of those from developing countries referred to in paragraph 15 above and of youth organizations, including through remote participation.

19. The SBI took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraph 18(d) above.

20. It requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

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