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# **Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

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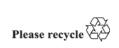
# 2022 secretariat activities, programme delivery highlights and financial performance

Annual report by the secretariat\*

Summary

The secretariat's 2022 annual report has been prepared in response to the mandate contained in decision 21/CP.23, paragraph 18. It provides an overview to a broad range of stakeholders of the secretariat's activities, key achievements in the UNFCCC process and financial data for 2022. The full publication will be available at <a href="https://unfccc.int/annualreport">https://unfccc.int/annualreport</a>.

<sup>\*</sup> This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.





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# Abbreviations and acronyms

CMA Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris

Agreement

COP Conference of the Parties

ETF enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement

GHG greenhouse gas

IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

LDC least developed country

LT-LEDS long-term low-emission development strategy(ies)

NAP national adaptation plan

NDC nationally determined contribution

REDD+ reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from

forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks

(decision 1/CP.16, para. 70)

SBI Subsidiary Body for Implementation

# I. Introduction

#### A. Mandate

1. COP 23 requested the secretariat to prepare and make available an annual report, to be considered at each session of the SBI following the closure of the preceding financial year, providing information on the secretariat's activities in the preceding year, programme delivery highlights and financial performance. The annual reports should facilitate the understanding of a broad range of stakeholders and interested observers with regard to what the secretariat is delivering and the challenges it is facing, and thus contribute to improved outreach and provide the public, the media and non-governmental organizations with information on the UNFCCC process. SBI 49 considered the enhancements to future annual reports proposed by the secretariat.

# B. Scope of the document

2. This document provides a summary of the 2022 annual report, including the key achievements in the UNFCCC process and the activities of the secretariat, particularly their impact in relation to the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. It also provides an outlook for 2023.

# II. Secretariat activities and key achievements in 2022

#### A. Overview

- 3. 2022 marked 30 years since the adoption of the Convention. Throughout this time, the secretariat has been working with Parties and other stakeholders to address climate change and facilitate the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.
- 4. The critical need for all countries to take rapid and large-scale climate action towards a transformation of all systems, sectors and industries is reinforced by the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report<sup>5</sup> in the context of the Paris Agreement goal to limit the global average temperature increase to well below 2 °C and pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.
- 5. 2022 was the first year when the Paris Agreement was operationalized thanks to the negotiation of the Paris Agreement rule book concluding at COP 26. The secretariat has supported Parties and stakeholders in transitioning from the negotiation to the implementation of the Paris Agreement by increasing climate ambition, strengthening resilience and ensuring accountability.
- 6. The secretariat facilitated work undertaken formally, in person and virtually, by the COP 26 and 27 Presidencies, the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies, constituted bodies, and delegates and Party representatives in the lead-up to and during COP 27. Specifically, the secretariat:
- (a) Facilitated intergovernmental engagement in responding to climate change by providing effective organizational, process, technical, legal and substantive support for work related to enhancing ambition, strengthening resilience, building trust and implementing commitments:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Decision 21/CP.23, para. 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As per document FCCC/SBI/2016/INF.14, para. 37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See document FCCC/SBI/2018/INF.19, chap. IV.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> FCCC/SBI/2018/22, para. 114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/downloads/report/IPCC\_AR6\_SYR\_SPM.pdf.

- (b) Enabled the constituted bodies to fulfil their mandates;
- (c) Managed data and information repositories in support of the intergovernmental process;
- (d) Facilitated stakeholder engagement in the UNFCCC process and climate action;
  - (e) Oversaw and managed its resources effectively.

# B. Delivery of the secretariat work programme

- 7. While the secretariat fully delivered on critical activities, the current geopolitical situation and unpredictable supplementary funding impacted the scope and timing of implementation. This affected activities across the secretariat and highlighted the dependence on an unsustainable and unpredictable funding model.
- 8. Activities that could not be delivered as planned include creating the secretariat-level infrastructure for registry systems and reporting tools under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, developing and deploying ETF reporting tools and related expert trainings, managing the increasing scope and complexity of sessions of the subsidiary and governing bodies, upgrading the global climate action portal (NAZCA) to enable adequate tracking of non-Party climate action commitments, processing in timely fashion the admission of observer organizations, implementing innovations in and upgrades to key conferencing systems, implementing capacity-building for national gender and climate change focal points in timely fashion, addressing the workplans of the Technology Executive Committee and the Paris Committee on Capacity-building and addressing external audit recommendations on time. Efforts are under way to address these shortcomings by reprioritizing resources (despite endeavours to identify supplementary funding), which will again and increasingly so affect the secretariat's ability to deliver on certain mandated activities, including in 2023. These are the secretariat's main activities implemented and key achievements attained in 2022 in spite of these challenges.

#### 1. Reducing emissions and enhancing ambition

- 9. As part of efforts to urgently scale up mitigation ambition and implementation in this critical decade in a manner that complements the global stocktake, CMA 46 agreed on the elements for the operationalization of the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme following two informal consultations at SB 56 and SB 57 and a workshop held before SB 57. The work programme will be operationalized through global dialogues and investment-focused events.
- 10. Furthermore, the first high-level ministerial round table on pre-2030 ambition, held at COP 27, provided a unique opportunity to help set the global direction for pre-2030 mitigation ambition and implementation and served as a platform for discussing ways to put the global community firmly on the way to achieving the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.
- 11. As requested in the Glasgow Climate Pact,<sup>8</sup> the secretariat published in 2022 the first annual update to the NDC synthesis report.<sup>9</sup> The report revealed, despite the progress since 2021, a significant gap between the current level of ambition in the latest available NDCs and the level of emissions required for 1.5 °C pathways. The report synthesized information from the 166 latest available NDCs, representing 193 Parties to the Paris Agreement, including the 142 new or updated NDCs communicated by 169 Parties, covering 94.9 per cent of total global emissions in 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Decision 4/CMA.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/workstreams/mitigation-work-programme.">https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/workstreams/mitigation-work-programme.</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Decision 1/CMA.3, para. 30.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See document FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/4.

- 12. Furthermore, as requested at CMA 3,<sup>10</sup> the secretariat prepared the first synthesis report on LT-LEDS.<sup>11</sup> The report synthesized information from the 53 latest available LT-LEDS, representing 62 Parties to the Paris Agreement, including 4 updated LT-LEDS communicated by Parties. With the assessment of emission trajectories based on LT-LEDS and NDCs, the report included an assumption that most of the emission reductions foreseen by 2050 will occur after 2030. In contrast, IPCC-assessed scenarios project that half of the reductions foreseen by 2050 must occur by 2030 to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 °C.
- 13. CMA 3 marked the beginning of operationalizing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and outlined specific focus areas for capacity-building under Article 6, paragraphs 2 and 4. Further to this, the Supervisory Body for the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement launched its work in July 2022. The secretariat supported three meetings of the Supervisory Body, focusing on the arrangements for operationalizing the mechanism and planning its future work.
- 14. The six UNFCCC regional collaboration centres<sup>12</sup> facilitated stakeholder engagement worldwide to reduce GHG emissions and enhance ambition. These centres organized and coorganized over 100 trainings, workshops and webinars to advance collaboration on NDCs, LT-LEDS, climate finance, carbon markets and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, youth engagement in climate action, transparency and adaptation. In addition, regional climate weeks<sup>13</sup> were hosted in the Dominican Republic, Gabon and the United Arab Emirates, which provided a space for about 8,000 Party and non-Party stakeholders to engage in open and solution-oriented dialogues. The regional climate weeks acted as a collaborative platform for promoting the enhancement of NDCs, raising confidence and building momentum towards COP 27.
- 15. The secretariat continued its role in ensuring the accurate accounting of the issuance, holding and acquisition of certified emission reductions under the clean development mechanism. There was a 49 per cent increase in the issuance of certified emission reductions for 2022 compared with 2021 (150 million versus 101 million), the highest amount issued since 2013. There was also an 11 per cent increase in the number of certified emission reductions voluntarily cancelled (41.7 million in 2022 versus 37.1 million in 2021).
- 16. The secretariat supported the work of the Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures and the response measures forum in the areas of just transition, economic diversification and impacts of mitigation actions. In order to facilitate the enhancement of understanding and the capacity of Parties in these areas, the Katowice Committee on Impacts prepared two technical papers on the assessment and analysis of impacts of the implementation of response measures, including the tools and methodologies for assessing the undertaking of economic diversification and transformation. The secretariat also organized two regional workshops, in Antigua and Barbuda and in Senegal, that provided hands-on training to experts from the regions on tools for assessments, in addition to events and workshops held during the fifty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, COP 27 and regional climate weeks.

#### 2. Strengthening resilience

17. The aim of the global goal on adaptation under the Paris Agreement is to enhance Parties' adaptative capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change. In 2022, the secretariat supported the first year of operationalization of the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation<sup>16</sup> with four workshops, multiple

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Decision 1/CMA.3, para 34.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/about-us/regional-collaboration-centres.">https://unfccc.int/about-us/regional-collaboration-centres.</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/climate-action/regional-climate-weeks#RCW2022">https://unfccc.int/climate-action/regional-climate-weeks#RCW2022</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Available at <a href="https://unfccc.int/documents/614632">https://unfccc.int/documents/614632</a> and <a href="https://unfccc.int/documents/614633">https://unfccc.int/documents/614633</a>.

<sup>15</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/event/forum\_WPactivity\_3">https://unfccc.int/event/forum\_WPactivity\_3</a> and <a href="https://unfccc.int/event/RM\_regional\_workshop\_Senegal\_2022.</a>

See <a href="https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/glasgow-sharm-el-sheikh-WP-GGGA">https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/glasgow-sharm-el-sheikh-WP-GGGA</a>.

reports and negotiations. CMA 4 agreed to initiate the development of a framework for the global goal on adaptation over the course of 2023, to be proposed for adoption at CMA 5.

- 18. The secretariat assisted the Adaptation Committee in drafting supplementary guidance for adaptation communications<sup>17</sup> for voluntary use by Parties, which provided a solid basis for enhancing the quality and reducing duplication of adaptation information. The secretariat also supported the Adaptation Committee in issuing two technical papers: one on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs<sup>18</sup> and the other on adaptation technologies.<sup>19</sup>
- 19. Through the operationalization of the UN4NAPs<sup>20</sup> initiative, the secretariat ensured the provision of technical support to developing countries in the process of formulating or implementing NAPs. The initiative received 70 requests, which were channelled to relevant UN4NAPs partner organizations. The support offered included providing input to and a review of NAPs, delivering relevant data assessment tools and providing guidance on the project proposal design.
- 20. The Least Developed Countries Expert Group, with the support of the secretariat, helped the 46 LDCs to identify project ideas based on their priorities and develop them into funding proposals to the Green Climate Fund and other sources of financial support for implementing their NAPs. As at the end of 2022, 38 LDCs had produced 51 project ideas and submitted 2 funding proposals to the Green Climate Fund. Additionally, a newly established LDC roster of experts on NAPs<sup>21</sup> pooled more than 30 experts from 19 countries to contribute to formulating and implementing NAPs.
- 21. The secretariat supported the work under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change by co-publishing a supplement<sup>22</sup> to the NAP technical guidelines focusing on biodiversity and climate change adaptation; co-developing a policy brief<sup>23</sup> with recommendations for scaling up innovative approaches related to oceans; and collecting inputs on critical knowledge gaps and best practices that hinder the scaling up of adaptation action in agriculture and food security.
- 22. The work of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform is crucial to strengthening resilience. With the secretariat's assistance, the group's first-ever regional gathering took place in Chad, bringing together representatives from indigenous sociocultural regions of Asia and Africa, as well as representatives from Parties and United Nations agencies.
- 23. COP 27 and CMA 4<sup>24</sup> established new funding arrangements and a dedicated fund to assist developing countries in responding to loss and damage. The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, with the secretariat's assistance, developed a rolling workplan for 2023–2027<sup>25</sup> as well as plans of action for its task force on displacement and technical expert group on comprehensive risk management. These plans set out how the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism will gather expertise and resources and identify the kind of technical products needed to support Parties' efforts on loss and damage. In addition, COP 27 and CMA 4 adopted the terms of reference for the Santiago network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change,<sup>26</sup> which aims to accelerate technical assistance, and established an Advisory Board.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/adaptation-communications">https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/adaptation-communications</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Available at <a href="https://unfccc.int/documents/620616">https://unfccc.int/documents/620616</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The advance version is available at <a href="https://unfccc.int/documents/620950">https://unfccc.int/documents/620950</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/UN4NAPs">https://unfccc.int/UN4NAPs</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See <a href="https://napcentral.org/roster-of-experts">https://napcentral.org/roster-of-experts</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/619807.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Available at <a href="https://unfccc.int/documents/510426">https://unfccc.int/documents/510426</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Decisions 2/CP.27, para. 2, and 2/CMA.4, para. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2022/2/Add.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Decisions 11/CP.27, para. 1, and 12/CMA.4, para. 8.

#### 3. Enhancing transparency

- 24. The process of the reporting, preparation, submission, technical review and analysis of information from Parties is at the core of transparency and accountability, and plays a fundamental role in building trust in the efforts to limit the global temperature increase to  $1.5\,^{\circ}$ C.
- 25. In 2022, the secretariat supported the review of 68 national reports, including 38 national GHG inventory reports, 24 biennial update reports (4 of which contained technical annexes with REDD+ results) and 6 REDD+ forest reference emission level submissions. A total of 289 experts participated in both and virtual reviews and analyses. Also, the review process under the Kyoto Protocol of annual GHG inventory submissions for the second commitment period concluded in 2022.
- 26. In addition to implementing the reporting and review process, the secretariat supported Parties in communicating and understanding NDCs. In total, 32 new or updated NDCs were submitted to the secretariat and made publicly available via the NDC registry<sup>27</sup> during 2022.
- 27. Following the adoption by Parties of the common reporting tables and common tabular formats under the ETF, the secretariat initiated the development of reporting tools for the electronic reporting of GHG emissions, NDC progress and information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support. A test version is expected to be made available to Parties by June 2023, subject to the availability of financial resources.<sup>28</sup>
- 28. The secretariat provided technical advice and support to developing countries with the aim of enhancing their institutional and technical capacities to prepare and submit their national reports, including biennial transparency reports, in a timely manner. The secretariat supported the Consultative Group of Experts in undertaking three regional training workshops and three webinars, conducted in English, French and Spanish, for more than 500 experts worldwide.
- 29. Furthermore, the secretariat continued the implementation of four training programmes for review experts, resulting in more experts being eligible to participate in reviews or technical analyses: 151 national communications and 79 biennial update reports from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, and 38 summary reports on the technical analysis of biennial update reports that had been published as at 30 June 2022. The secretariat also launched the development of the training programme for technical experts participating in the technical expert review of biennial transparency reports.<sup>29</sup>
- 30. Capacity-building for transparency was high on the secretariat's agenda through the UNFCCC Climate Action and Support Transparency Training, a professional training programme that includes a module on national GHG inventories, reporting adaptation and the ETF. The secretariat facilitated training for 31 experts on national GHG inventories, 25 experts on reporting adaptation and 17 experts on the ETF.
- 31. At COP 27, the secretariat launched its first initiative under the banner Together4Transparency, a two-week series of 30 events covering a range of transparency achievements from the past 30 years and showcasing successes and best practices. The initiative targeted a wide range of stakeholders and high-level representatives and drew in a variety of perspectives on what transparency means and the benefits of tracking progress and support.
- 32. CMA 4 saw the full operationalization of Article 15 of the Paris Agreement and the establishment of a committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance with the provisions of the Paris Agreement through a transparent, non-adversarial and non-punitive

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> https://unfccc.int/NDCREG.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Decision 5/CMA.3, para. 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Decision 5/CMA.3, para. 30.

approach. The rules of procedure adopted at CMA  $4^{30}$  ensure the committee's proper functioning, fairness and transparency in its engagement with Parties.

#### 4. Mobilizing climate finance and technology and building capacities

- 33. In response to a mandate from CMA 3,<sup>31</sup> the secretariat facilitated the initiation of the ad hoc work programme on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance, established for 2022–2024, with the organization of four technical expert dialogues to inform the political deliberations at the first high-level ministerial dialogue convened at CMA 4. Furthermore, the secretariat supported Parties in identifying their climate finance needs and the strategies for meeting them. The secretariat also organized three hands-on regional climate finance access and mobilization trainings targeting island States in the Indian Ocean, the LDCs in Asia and the Arab States.<sup>32</sup>
- 34. The secretariat facilitated the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building<sup>33</sup> and provided support for the implementation of the Committee's workplan,<sup>34</sup> including activities aimed at addressing capacity gaps and needs assessments, better coordinating capacity-building efforts and enhancing developing country ownership of building and retaining capacity. The 11<sup>th</sup> Durban Forum,<sup>35</sup> the 4<sup>th</sup> Capacity-building Hub<sup>36</sup> and the virtual Capacity-building Talks<sup>37</sup> were attended by over 3,700 participants, who discussed a wide range of urgent issues in thematic areas such as adaptation and resilience, just transition, aligning climate and development agendas, and finance and technology.
- 35. The secretariat also directly supported the enhancement of capacities in a variety of areas, such as adaptation, Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, youth and climate change, and implementing national commitments, and of a wide range of stakeholders, including Parties, observers, presiding officers, young negotiators, legislators and young professionals from small island developing States and LDCs.
- 36. In 2022, the secretariat facilitated the development and launch of the joint work programme of the Technology Mechanism, which aims to strengthen synergies and complementarities in the work of the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network and define areas of focus for the Technology Mechanism as a whole for the next five years (2023–2027). This is a significant milestone for the Mechanism, as it signals a new era of work for climate technology that is guided by science, aligned with the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement and focused on high-potential sectors and high-impact actions.

#### 5. Stakeholder engagement

- 37. As a means of promoting increased ambition, the global climate action portal (NAZCA)<sup>38</sup> recognizes more than 30,000 actors worldwide engaged in climate action through pledges, plans and actions. The portal also recognizes cooperative climate initiatives seeking to catalyse climate actions across various sectors and in different areas. These include initiatives facilitated by the secretariat and partners such as the Fashion Industry Charter for Climate Action and the Sports for Climate Action initiative.
- 38. The engagement of children and youth in climate action and their critical role as agents of change continued to grow. In January 2022, the secretariat launched the Action for Climate Empowerment Hub,<sup>39</sup> a three-year collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Industry, Climate Action and Energy of the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia involving a series of annual activities to support the implementation of the Glasgow work

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Decision 24/CMA.4, para. 1.

Decision 9/CMA.3, para. 3.

<sup>32</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/NBF\_Project">https://unfccc.int/NBF\_Project</a>.

<sup>33</sup> The report on the meeting is available at <a href="https://unfccc.int/documents/550223">https://unfccc.int/documents/550223</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Available at <a href="https://unfccc.int/documents/267207">https://unfccc.int/documents/267207</a>.

<sup>35</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/11th-meeting-of-the-durban-forum-on-capacity-building-durban-forum-on-cap

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/pccb/4CBHub">https://unfccc.int/pccb/4CBHub</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> See <a href="https://unfccc.int/Capacity-building%20Talks">https://unfccc.int/Capacity-building%20Talks</a>.

<sup>38 &</sup>lt;u>https://climateaction.unfccc.int/.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> See https://unfccc.int/ace-hub.

programme on Action for Climate Empowerment and its action plan, with focus areas including enhancing the meaningful engagement of children and youth and support to national Action for Climate Empowerment focal points in climate action. The four-year action plan, adopted at COP 27 and CMA 4,<sup>40</sup> mandated the secretariat to lead activities implementing the Glasgow work programme.

- 39. In 2022, the secretariat facilitated a series of mandated events on the gender action plan and prepared several reports, including a synthesis report highlighting challenges and further work required to advance effective implementation of activities under the gender action plan. <sup>41</sup> The secretariat supported the organization of an event on gender-related aspects of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report at COP 27.
- 40. The UNFCCC intergovernmental process includes a total of 3,178 admitted observer organizations. To collectively find solutions to the challenges faced by Parties and observers in strengthening observer engagement in the UNFCCC process, the secretariat launched the observer review process in 2022, which generated more than 300 proposals. The secretariat also published the observer handbook a capacity-building document for observers engaging in sessions of the COP in five United Nations languages.<sup>42</sup>

#### 6. Operations and logistics

- 41. Despite extraordinary logistical challenges, the organization of the hybrid fifty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies in June 2022 and COP 27 in November 2022, stands out among the secretariat's 2022 efforts to convene Parties, observers and other stakeholders during a very full climate event calendar.
- 42. For the organization of a safe, inclusive and productive COP 27, the secretariat worked closely with the host country, the United Nations Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, the United Nations Department of Safety and Security and the World Health Organization to overcome pandemic-related challenges.
- 43. Owing to its size and scope, COP 27 was held in the largest venue (50 per cent larger than the COP 26 venue) and saw the highest number of meetings (2,717-7) per cent higher than the last two sessions of the COP), an unprecedented number of in-session documents (6 and 36 per cent higher than at COP 26 and COP 25 respectively) and a record number of badged participants (almost 50,000-32 per cent more than at COP 26), of which more than 10,000 represented civil society.

# C. Financial performance

44. The annual report provides key financial results for 2022, including total financial resources made available to the secretariat and expenses, funding from different sources and comparisons of budgeted and actual expenditure for the core budget and the international transaction log, as well as recognition of Party and non-Party contributors to the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities. These results are also captured in the documents on the status of contributions and fees as at 21 October 2022<sup>43</sup> and the programme budget for the biennium 2020–2021.<sup>44</sup>

# D. Secretariat staff

45. The secretariat maintains a diverse and balanced workforce that is representative of the Parties it supports. Following the finalization of the implementation of the new structure, at the end of 2022 the secretariat workforce comprised 396 fixed-term and temporary staff.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Decisions 23/CP.27, para. 1, and 22/CMA.4, para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> FCCC/SBI/2022/8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/619169.

<sup>43</sup> FCCC/SBI/2022/INF.16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> FCCC/SBI/2019/4 and Add.1-2.

The annual report outlines the staff composition by gender, geography, grade and funding source.

# E. Looking ahead

- 46. 2023 will be a crucial year for climate action, with the conclusion of the global stocktake at COP 28 being a major milestone. It is the first time Parties will come together to determine whether the goals of the Paris Agreement are being met, representing an opportunity to chart the way forward in this critical decade of action and course correction. The secretariat is supporting the conclusion of the global stocktake by facilitating the effective participation of all stakeholders and contributing to a common understanding of global efforts and priority actions in relation to climate change with a view to enhancing national ambition and international cooperation.
- 47. 2023 is also critical for operationalizing the fund for responding to loss and damage, accelerating the accountability of Parties through ETF reporting and of all stakeholders through the global climate action portal (NAZCA), and implementing the second year of the ad hoc work programme on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance.
- 48. With the topic of just transition gaining more prominence, the secretariat will be supporting work towards the operationalization of the work programme on just transition for discussion of pathways to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement and organizing the first annual high-level ministerial round table on just transition at CMA 5. The first-ever global dialogues and investment-focused events under the Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme will be convened in 2023, which will allow Parties to discuss and exchange experiences on accelerating the just energy transition.
- 49. The secretariat is continually implementing actions to enhance efficiency in the UNFCCC process and undertake efforts to ensure that it remains responsive to its mandate and that each conference builds on the previous one so that the cumulative outcomes move the global community closer to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. Developing a longer-term vision of how the secretariat will support Parties and other stakeholders in meeting their commitments will be critical to ensuring overall credibility and integrity. Actions and decisions taken in 2023 and beyond will determine whether the world has a chance to reach the goals and objectives of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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