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Report of the Consultative Group of Experts

Regional hands-on training workshops of the Consultative Group of Experts

Report by the secretariat

Summary

As part of its workplan for 2026, the Consultative Group of Experts conducted three regional hands-on training workshops, in collaboration with partners, for facilitating implementation by developing country Parties of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement by enhancing the technical capacity of experts from those Parties in relation to preparing improved biennial transparency reports. This report provides a summary of the proceedings of the workshops, including the key issues discussed.

Abbreviations and acronyms

BTR	biennial transparency report
CBIT–GSP	joint programme of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency and the Global Support Programme
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTF	common tabular format
ETF	enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement
FMCP	facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress
GHG	greenhouse gas
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MEL	monitoring, evaluation and learning
MPGs	modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
NAP	national adaptation plan
NDC	nationally determined contribution
QA/QC	quality assurance/quality control
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
TER	technical expert review

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. At its 14th meeting, held from 3 to 5 March 2026,¹ the CGE agreed to conduct, as part of its workplan for 2026,² which was developed at that meeting, regional hands-on training workshops, in collaboration with partners, on selected topics based on priority capacity-building needs identified in the Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific and Eastern Europe regions, including, but not limited to, facilitating implementation of the MPGs; sharing experience of participating in TERs and FMCP; applying flexibility provisions; developing improvement plans; establishing institutional arrangements for implementing the ETF; reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation, including loss and damage; reporting on support needed and received; and using the ETF reporting tools.

2. In addition, CMA 7 requested the secretariat to develop and implement, in collaboration with the CGE and other UNFCCC constituted bodies and relevant partners, as appropriate, a list of activities, including organizing regional workshops, to be held in person and virtually, on experience, best practices, lessons learned and challenges related to implementing Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.³ Several sessions of the workshops covered in the report respond to this mandate.

B. Background

3. The ETF is now fully operational. As at 31 July 2026, 134 BTRs had been submitted by Parties, 86 TERs of BTRs had been conducted and 49 Parties had undergone FMCP. As implementation of the ETF accelerates, promoting experience-sharing and peer learning among developing country Parties has become increasingly important.

4. In 2025, the CGE assessed the existing and emerging challenges and constraints encountered by developing country Parties in implementing the ETF by analysing the information reported in the BTR1s and conducting a biennial stocktake survey of transparency gaps and needs. Findings from the analysis and survey⁴ highlighted a consistent demand for technical guidance on the practical application of the MPGs, particularly in view of the need for Parties to prepare for the BTR2 cycle. Parties that have submitted BTR1s indicated the value of continued experience-sharing and peer-learning platforms. Parties that have not yet submitted BTR1s indicated that they continue to face challenges in understanding the practical application of the MPGs, including in relation to the common reporting tables, the CTF tables and the application of flexibility provisions.

5. In addition, feedback from participants at previously held CGE workshops and webinars included the need for continued technical support, in particular on developing metrics against which to evaluate and report on adaptation actions in the BTR, defining indicators for tracking progress in NDC implementation, understanding the TER and FMCP processes, and strengthening institutional arrangements for ETF implementation.

6. The feedback from Parties was reinforced by the request of SBI 63 for the CGE to consider continuing to focus its work on facilitating the preparation and submission of BTRs; providing advice and support to Parties including guidance on understanding the MPGs, including the flexibility provisions; and providing technical advice and support to developing country Parties for undergoing the TER and FMCP processes.⁵ In response to the request, and as mentioned in paragraph 1 above, the CGE agreed to conduct, as part of its workplan

¹ See <https://unfccc.int/event/14th-meeting-of-the-consultative-group-of-experts> for a summary of the meeting outcomes.

² Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/645990>.

³ Decision 15/CMA.7, para. 9(g). A report on the workshops held in 2026 will be contained in document FCCC/SBI/2026/22.

⁴ See document FCCC/TP/2025/2.

⁵ FCCC/SBI/2025/19, para. 45(b–d).

for 2026, regional hands-on training workshops on selected topics based on priority capacity-building needs identified in the regions.

7. The secretariat conducted scoping surveys to solicit information from the countries in the Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific and Eastern Europe regions, on priority capacity-building needs and thus the topics that would be most useful to focus on during the respective regional workshops. The findings from the surveys informed the development of the agenda for each regional workshop.

C. Scope

8. This report provides a summary of the regional hands-on training workshops delivered by the CGE in collaboration with partners in 2026 as well as feedback provided by workshop participants.

D. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

9. The SBI is invited to consider this report and provide guidance, as appropriate, to the CGE.

II. Proceedings of the workshops

A. Overview

10. Three regional hands-on training workshops⁶ for facilitating implementation of the ETF by developing country Parties were delivered in 2026 (see the table below).

11. The target participants were national experts from developing country Parties who are actively involved in transparency-related processes and support the preparation of BTRs. In the letters inviting national focal points to nominate national experts to participate in the workshops, the CGE and collaborating partners strongly encouraged the participation of women.

12. A total of 114 participants, comprising 47 women and 67 men, from 85 developing country Parties attended the workshops.

Regional hands-on training workshops delivered by the Consultative Group of Experts in 2026

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Location and region</i>	<i>Language(s)</i>	<i>Collaborating partner(s)</i>	<i>Number of developing country Parties represented</i>	<i>Number of participants (female/male)</i>	<i>Number of CGE resource persons</i>
27–29 April	Maputo, Mozambique Africa	English, French	African Development Bank, CBIT–GSP, Government of Belgium, Government of Mozambique, Francophonie Institute for Sustainable Development, Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement, United Nations Development Programme, secretariat	35	50 (17/33)	3
6–8 July	Antigua, Guatemala Latin America and the Caribbean	English, Spanish	CBIT–GSP, Government of Guatemala, United Nations Environment Programme, secretariat	26	37 (19/18)	4

⁶ For information on the workshops, see <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/consultative-group-of-experts/calendar-of-meetings/archive-of-meetings>.

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Location and region</i>	<i>Language(s)</i>	<i>Collaborating partner(s)</i>	<i>Number of developing country Parties represented</i>	<i>Number of participants (female/male)</i>	<i>Number of CGE resource persons</i>
20–23 July	Wuhu, China Asia and the Pacific and Eastern Europe	English	CBIT–GSP, Government of China, United Nations Development Programme, secretariat	24	27 (11/16)	5

B. Objective

13. The objective of the workshops was to enhance the technical capacity of experts from developing country Parties in relation to preparing and submitting BTR2s in a timely manner, and to facilitating progress towards submitting BTR1s for those who had not yet submitted them, with the aim of facilitating, through peer-to-peer exchange of experience, good practices and lessons learned, improved reporting and effective participation in the TER and FMCP processes. The workshops provided support relevant to developing country Parties at different stages of BTR preparation – both those preparing BTR2s and those yet to submit BTR1s – with the aim of achieving the following learning outcomes:

- (a) Strengthened knowledge and skills in order to improve the reporting of required information in BTRs;
- (b) Enhanced technical understanding of how to apply the MPGs, including applying the flexibility provisions and developing improvement plans over time;
- (c) Enhanced readiness and skills for effective participation in FMCP.

C. Structure

14. The workshops were designed to provide an immersive and dynamic learning experience. The CGE resource persons in attendance had a critical role in terms of delivering technical presentations, facilitating panel discussions, moderating group exercises and addressing any questions or comments. Language interpretation services were provided in some instances, and technical materials such as presentations and exercises were made available to participants before the workshops. The training comprised three phases – preparation, workshop and follow-up – over a three-week period.

15. The preparatory phase commenced a week ahead of each workshop. Participants were provided with the introductory materials and exercises for the workshop, which they could study and use to define their expectations. Pre-workshop webinars were held⁷ to familiarize participants with the background to the workshop and its agenda. In addition, a survey was circulated to participants prior to each workshop to solicit information on their areas of work and expertise, as well as any preliminary questions they may have, to help the CGE to tailor workshop delivery to them.

16. Each regional workshop was conducted over three days. Participants were introduced to various chapters of the BTR, in accordance with the selected topics for each workshop, and to the key provisions of the MPGs, including the flexibility provisions. The thematic sessions were designed to foster a hands-on learning experience and an interactive exchange of ideas, lessons learned and best practices in implementing the ETF and preparing BTRs, including through presentation of case studies, panel discussions and action planning for the BTR2s. At the end of each workshop, an online survey was conducted to solicit feedback from participants on the training delivered, including its approach and content, as well as on whether the specified learning outcomes and participants' individual expectations had been met.

17. Participants were encouraged to continue engaging with their peers, the CGE resource persons and the secretariat after the workshops, both to raise any remaining technical

⁷ For two workshops: Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific and Eastern Europe.

questions and to share new experience, lessons learned and technical resources that could benefit others.

III. Summary of the workshops

A. Regional workshop for Africa

18. The agenda for the workshop was developed on the basis of the scoping survey results and focused on (1) participating in FMCP; (2) reporting on support needed and received; (3) applying the flexibility provisions of the MPGs and developing plans for improvement over time; and (4) reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation, including information related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts. During the workshop, the MPG provisions relevant to those areas were unpacked, hands-on exercises were conducted and the sharing of experience, lessons learned and best practices was encouraged.

1. Introduction

19. Representatives of the CGE, collaborating partners and Mozambique as the host country delivered opening remarks. The representative of the CGE highlighted that the ETF is fully operational and reaffirmed its commitment to providing technical support to developing country Parties for implementing the ETF. A representative of the African Development Bank emphasized its continued financial support for strengthening national transparency systems and improving the transparency of reporting, while a representative of Belgium reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the provision of climate finance and practical solutions to transparency-related issues. A representative of the United Nations Development Programme underscored the importance of transparency arrangements and reporting to informed decision-making, accountability and achievement of measurable climate actions. The representative of Mozambique highlighted its increasing vulnerability to climate change, citing recent floods and their impacts, and encouraged Parties to strengthen implementation of the ETF to support effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

20. The subsequent introduction to the workshop agenda highlighted aspects such as the practical exercises aimed at deepening participants' understanding of BTR preparation and enhancing their readiness for the TER and FMCP processes.

2. Outlook for transparency

21. Workshop participants were provided with an overview of the ETF, including status of ETF implementation, and the latest transparency-related outcomes of COP 30 and CMA 7.

3. Thematic session: experience, best practices, lessons learned and challenges in implementing the enhanced transparency framework

22. During the panel discussion, panellists representing Malawi and Mozambique shared experience of BTR1 preparation and BTR2 planning, including in relation to institutional coordination, data management and application of flexibility provisions. Participants identified common challenges in ETF implementation, including limited availability of sectoral data, insufficient technical capacity to use the IPCC inventory software and ETF reporting tools, reliance on default emission factors, reliance on international consultants owing to limited human resources, fragmented institutional coordination, the project-based nature of financing and difficulties in reporting on support received. The good practices mentioned include establishing units for coordination of ETF implementation, strengthening relevant legal and institutional arrangements, making use of existing technical working groups and national statistical systems in BTR preparation, promoting South–South cooperation and providing continuous capacity-building. The practical solutions recommended include developing centralized climate data systems, strengthening data-sharing arrangements among institutions, appointing sectoral focal points for data collection, transferring knowledge from consultants to national experts and enhancing stakeholder engagement.

23. A breakout group exercise was then conducted, with discussions guided by questions related to status of BTR2 preparation, ETF implementation and ongoing transparency-related capacity-building. During the report-back, the groups indicated that some countries are in the process of preparing BTR1s or awaiting funding to begin preparation of BTR2s, although some of the groups indicated that some countries had initiated BTR2 preparation before the TER had been completed for their BTR1. The common challenges identified in implementing the ETF include delayed financing, limited expertise on GHG inventories and weak institutional coordination. Timely initiation of BTR preparation, clear institutional arrangements, strong national ownership of reporting and continuous capacity-building were emphasized as being essential for improving reporting quality and sustaining national transparency systems.

4. Thematic session: unpacking flexibility provisions and provisions related to areas of improvement

24. A CGE representative made a scene-setting presentation, highlighting that the flexibility provisions of the MPGs are particularly important for countries facing technical challenges related to data availability, QA/QC processes, uncertainty assessment and methodologies for inventory preparation.

25. In its country presentation, Guinea-Bissau shared its experience of applying flexibility provisions, including its identification of national capacity constraints and establishment of self-determined time frames for improvements. Owing to data limitations, Guinea-Bissau applied simplified methodologies for estimating emissions and reported on only three GHGs. To address technical and institutional challenges during BTR preparation, Guinea-Bissau convened regular weekly meetings with stakeholders to strengthen coordination and promptly resolve data issues. The Party emphasized that its use of flexibility is intended to be a temporary measure and expressed its commitment to progressively improving data availability, technical capacity and reporting quality with the aim of reducing its need to apply flexibility for BTRs.

26. During the moderated discussion, participants shared experience of applying the flexibilities provided for in preparing their BTRs, including the capacity constraints that led to their application, the planned improvements in areas for which flexibility was applied, and the remaining challenges, including the technical, institutional and financial support needed to address them. The discussion highlighted that use of flexibility does not preclude transparent, credible reporting. The common challenges identified relate to limited data availability and weak institutional coordination and communication between sectoral institutions and reporting teams. Participants emphasized that applying flexibility should be accompanied by long-term capacity-building that supports a progressive reduction in the need to use it. Participants also highlighted the importance of aligning GHG inventories with GHG projections and estimates used for NDC tracking; strengthening the validation of sectoral data; and improving institutional coordination, recognizing that many reporting challenges arise from weak governance arrangements rather than a lack of commitment.

5. Thematic session: unpacking the technical expert review and facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

27. A CGE representative delivered a presentation on the TER and FMCP processes, outlining for both the objectives, steps, timelines and expectations for Parties. The representative highlighted that Parties may participate in FMCP even if they have not submitted a BTR. Participants were encouraged to begin preparing for TERs and FMCP well in advance, by strengthening coordination among technical teams, maintaining comprehensive documentation and establishing centralized data management systems. The representative emphasized that continuous institutional learning and coordination are critical for successful participation in TERs and FMCP and that the respective processes provide valuable opportunities for Parties to identify reporting gaps, communicate capacity needs and improve future BTRs.

28. During the panel discussion, panellists representing Côte d'Ivoire and South Africa shared experience of the practical aspects of participating in FMCP as well as insights into the process. Côte d'Ivoire has established a mechanism for national training on the MPGs, a

process for technical teams to coordinate their response to TERs and FMCP, and digital systems to support inventory preparation, adaptation information compilation, NDC tracking and climate finance tracking, all of which are critical for successful ETF implementation. Key lessons learned from the Party's participation in FMCP include the importance of validating climate data with sectoral institutions and strengthening institutional memory by engaging national experts and reducing dependence on consultants. For South Africa, FMCP provided an opportunity to improve transparency at the national level and the online question and answer phase enhanced institutional coordination and preparation for the in-person session. Both panellists stressed the importance to preparing for the FMCP of starting preparations early, involving technical experts and maintaining strong institutional coordination on the basis of establishing inventory teams and centralized information systems. For both Parties, participation in TER and FMCP helped in identifying reporting gaps, strengthening institutional capacity and enhancing understanding of areas of improvement for future BTRs.

6. Thematic session: reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation, including information related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts

29. A CGE representative introduced the provisions of the MPGs related to reporting on adaptation and the CMA 7 outcomes on the global goal on adaptation, including the Belém Adaptation Indicators.⁸

30. During the country interventions, a representative of Mozambique shared experience of developing adaptation indicators and institutional arrangements for tracking progress against them and for compiling and reporting adaptation information. The representative highlighted the country's increasing climate risks and emphasized that adaptation, focusing on resilient water, sanitation, health and social protection systems, is a national priority. Strengthening institutional arrangements, environmental information systems and long-term data management was noted as essential for improving adaptation reporting.

31. During the facilitated discussion on the Belém Adaptation Indicators, participants discussed how application of the Indicators could strengthen adaptation tracking and support preparation of BTRs. The key challenges identified in this regard relate to data availability, technical capacity and alignment of the Indicators with NAPs and the adaptation component of BTRs. Participants emphasized the importance of nationally relevant indicators, strong institutional coordination, designated focal points and standardized data management systems.

32. During the hands-on exercise, participants explored how the Belém Adaptation Indicators could be integrated into national adaptation monitoring systems. They highlighted the importance of aligning the Indicators with NAPs, the adaptation components of BTRs and national development strategies, supported by effective coordination mechanisms. Weak data systems, limited baseline information and insufficient technical capacity were identified as common challenges, while an integrated climate, socioeconomic and sectoral data system was recognized as essential for robust adaptation reporting.

33. Regarding reporting information on loss and damage in BTRs, participants identified the challenges as limited data, weak institutional arrangements and insufficient technical capacity. They recommended strengthening institutional coordination, integrating disaster risk management and climate reporting systems, clarifying methodologies and responsibilities, and ensuring sustained resources for long-term reporting.

7. Thematic session: experience and lessons learned in reporting on support needed and received

34. A CGE representative introduced the provisions of the MPGs related to reporting on support needed and received and shared lessons learned from the information reported in BTR1s. The representative emphasized that such reporting is helpful for communicating national climate priorities, identifying capacity and resource gaps and accessing international

⁸ Decision [12/CMA.7](#).

support. Participants were encouraged to begin with tracking major climate finance flows and support received from key funding partners before progressively expanding their reporting as national systems mature.

35. During the breakout group exercise, participants identified the common challenges in reporting on support needed and received as including fragmented climate finance data, weak institutional coordination, limited legal mandates, insufficient technical capacity, inconsistent methodologies, difficulties tracking non-financial support and limited understanding of the MPGs. The solutions recommended include strengthening institutional and legal frameworks, data-sharing arrangements, centralized climate finance databases, standardized reporting systems, QA/QC procedures and climate finance taxonomies, as well as continuous capacity-building.

36. During the country interventions, a representative of the United Republic of Tanzania presented information on its institutional arrangements and integrated information system (e-Mazingira) for supporting reporting on climate finance, NDC progress, adaptation and mitigation. The good practices mentioned include ensuring strong institutional coordination and governance, while the remaining challenges were noted as relating to sectoral data availability, data-sharing, emission factors and technical capacity.

37. Participants worked in groups for the hands-on exercise on using CTF tables for reporting on support needed and received and then discussed national systems and processes that facilitate sustainable reporting. During the report-back, the groups reflected on the importance of collecting accurate, harmonized data before preparing the CTF tables and noted that capacity-building is essential for improving the quality of reporting.

8. Action planning

38. At the action planning session, which included a plenary discussion, participants reflected on key lessons learned from the workshop and identified practical actions to undertake with the aim of strengthening national transparency processes. The priorities were considered to include establishing sectoral working groups, BTR coordination units and BTR focal points in line ministries; improving data-collection practices by using standardized templates; enhancing technical capacity to apply methodologies and QA/QC procedures for inventory preparation; strengthening MRV systems for tracking support received and introducing climate budget tagging; organizing training for stakeholders on BTR preparation and use of the IPCC inventory software; developing action plans and BTR project proposals; developing adaptation indicators and progressing in NAP formulation.

9. Closing and workshop evaluation

39. During the closing session, participants were invited to provide feedback, via an interactive survey, on the workshop's content, organization and facilitation, as well as to share how they intend to apply the knowledge gained in their future transparency-related work.

40. The feedback was positive overall and indicated that the workshop strengthened participants' technical capacity to prepare BTRs. Most survey respondents rated the workshop positively, with 97 per cent rating it as either excellent or good. All respondents expressed a high level of satisfaction with the facilitation of the workshop and confirmed that the information sessions and hands-on group exercises successfully addressed the workshop's learning objectives. Respondents highlighted the value of the workshop, particularly its combination of technical sessions, practical exercises, country experience-sharing and peer learning, in strengthening their understanding of adaptation reporting under the ETF. The suggested improvements include extending the duration of the workshop.

41. A representative of the CGE provided closing remarks, which included recognizing the participation of all attendees; expressing appreciation to the Government of Mozambique, speakers, facilitators and partners for their contributions to the workshop; and encouraging continued regional collaboration.

B. Regional workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean

42. The agenda for the workshop focused on (1) reporting information on adaptation, including loss and damage; (2) applying flexibility provisions of the MPGs and developing improvement plans; (3) understanding and applying the MPGs; and (4) participating in FMCP, through unpacking the MPG provisions relevant to those areas, hands-on exercises and the sharing of experience, lessons learned and best practices.

43. Two pre-workshop webinars were held, one in Spanish and one in English, to introduce the workshop agenda, advise participants on how best to prepare for the workshop and provide logistical information. An overview of the ETF and the MPGs, including the flexibility provisions and the provisions for reporting information on adaptation, was also provided.

1. Introduction

44. Representatives of the CGE and Guatemala as the host country provided welcoming remarks. The representative of the CGE highlighted that the ETF is fully operational, noting the number of submitted BTRs and Parties having undergone TER and FMCP. The ETF was presented as a strategic tool for strengthening national policies, mobilizing climate finance and informing the global stocktake, and she reaffirmed the commitment of the CGE to supporting developing country Parties in addressing challenges related to implementing the ETF.

45. The representative of Guatemala underscored that transparency arrangements help to strengthen public policies, climate-related decision-making, access to finance and adaptation planning and reaffirmed the country's commitment to enhancing its national transparency system through collaboration and effective implementation of the ETF.

46. The subsequent introduction to the workshop agenda and the workshop objectives highlighted aspects such as the practical exercises aimed at deepening participants' understanding of BTR preparation and enhancing their readiness for related processes.

2. Outlook for transparency

47. Participants were provided with an overview of the ETF, including its status of ETF implementation, and the key transparency-related outcomes of COP 30 and CMA 7. It was noted that regional trends demonstrate increasing participation by Latin American and Caribbean States in ETF implementation.

3. Thematic session: experience, best practices, lessons learned and challenges in implementing the enhanced transparency framework

48. During the panel discussion, panellists from Belize, Guyana and Mexico exchanged experience of preparing BTR2s, including applying lessons learned from BTR1s, and implementing the ETF. Common challenges identified include limited human resources, turnover of staff across government institutions and difficulties in maintaining the continuity of national teams for BTR preparation; weak institutional coordination; insufficient legal mandates; difficulties in collecting subnational data; problems with QA/QC; and limited technical capacity to meet ETF reporting requirements. The good practices mentioned include establishing clear institutional responsibilities and legal mandates, engaging with sectoral institutions on a regular basis, using standardized templates, strengthening MRV systems, retaining technical expertise, providing continuous capacity-building and improving documentation.

49. During the breakout group discussions, participants considered BTR preparation status, submission timelines and ongoing capacity-building. In their report-backs, the groups highlighted challenges related to institutional coordination, technical capacity and transparency information systems. They recommended strengthening institutional memory by applying systematic documentation practices in keeping technical decisions and developing integrated national transparency platforms linking GHG inventories with adaptation and support information to support sustainable ETF implementation.

4. Thematic session: unpacking the modalities, procedures and guidelines, with a focus on adaptation

50. A CGE representative delivered a presentation that included an overview of the MPGs and the provisions of the MPGs related to reporting on adaptation.

51. During the plenary discussion, participants identified common challenges in adaptation reporting, including limited experience in determining and monitoring adaptation indicators, weak cross-sectoral coordination, underdeveloped monitoring systems, constraints in technical capacity and difficulties in harmonizing multiple reporting processes. Participants also shared good practices, including integrating the adaptation reporting process with NAP and BTR preparation, strengthening institutional coordination and progressively improving existing monitoring systems. The discussion highlighted the importance of adapting international indicators to national circumstances.

5. Thematic session: unpacking flexibility provisions and provisions related to areas of improvement

52. A CGE representative introduced the concept of applying the flexibility provisions in preparing BTRs, emphasizing that the use of flexibility should be linked to specific capacity constraints and accompanied by the self-determination of time frames for improvement in relation to those constraints.

53. During the country interventions, representatives of Guatemala and Honduras, as well as the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub, shared experience of the practical aspects of applying flexibility, including identifying national capacity constraints and developing improvement plans. They highlighted the importance of understanding the MPGs, strengthening institutional coordination and integrating an improvement planning process into national transparency processes.

54. During the discussion, participants exchanged experience of applying flexibility, identifying capacity constraints and planning relevant improvements, as well as reflecting on remaining challenges and support needs. A key message that emerged from the discussion is that the flexibility provisions do not exempt Parties from their reporting obligations but provide a structured pathway for progressively enhancing reporting capacity. Participants noted that findings from the TER can inform improvement plans, which should clearly document cross-cutting capacity constraints and corresponding actions towards strengthening ETF implementation.

6. Thematic session: reporting information on climate change impacts and adaptation, including the Belém Adaptation Indicators

55. A CGE representative introduced the provisions of the MPGs related to adaptation reporting and the CMA 7 outcomes on the global goal on adaptation, including the Belém Adaptation Indicators.

56. During the country interventions, representatives of Nicaragua and Paraguay shared experience of developing national adaptation indicators and strengthening institutional arrangements for tracking and reporting on adaptation actions. The representative of Paraguay presented sector-specific indicators linked to the country's vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning across seven priority sectors, emphasizing its efforts to establish clearer reporting responsibilities and improving coordination among sectoral focal points to make adaptation actions more visible, ensuring that information generated by implementing agencies can be systematically collected and incorporated into national reporting processes. The representative of Nicaragua highlighted its development of 26 adaptation indicators and a centralized adaptation information platform, while noting that it faces challenges in adaptation reporting, such as data gaps, limited technical capacity and competing institutional priorities, and has a need for sustained inter-agency coordination.

57. During the facilitated discussion, participants considered how the Belém Adaptation Indicators could strengthen BTR reporting by enhancing national indicator frameworks aligned with national circumstances, NAPs, existing national systems for tracking adaptation progress and the Sustainable Development Goals. The key challenges noted in this regard

include fragmented data, limited baselines, insufficient institutional and technical capacity, and difficulties measuring long-term adaptation outcomes. The good practices mentioned include mapping the Belém Adaptation Indicators to existing indicator frameworks, strengthening institutional coordination, developing standardized indicator metadata and progressively developing more comprehensive indicator frameworks.

58. During the hands-on exercise, participants examined in groups how the Belém Adaptation Indicators could be applied for tracking and reporting on adaptation actions in BTRs in line with the MPGs, while at the same time mapping those Indicators to national systems to support the sustainability of reporting. During the report-back, the groups emphasized the importance of aligning indicators with existing national adaptation and development frameworks, integrating national and international indicators, clarifying institutional responsibilities and adopting a nationally driven, progressive approach to strengthening adaptation planning, monitoring and reporting.

7. Thematic session: monitoring, evaluation and learning systems

59. A CGE representative introduced MEL systems as a means to inform national adaptation policies and generate data and information for BTRs.

60. During the country interventions, a representative of the Dominican Republic emphasized that strong governance, clear institutional responsibilities and sectoral engagement, as well as the application of findings identified through MEL systems, have improved the country's adaptation planning and implementation. A representative of Paraguay presented information on its national adaptation monitoring system, highlighting that collaborating with the national statistical institution, formally assigning indicators, strengthening institutional coordination, implementing traceability mechanisms and providing continuous capacity-building are part of the system. Participants stressed that MEL systems should support evidence-based adaptation planning, coordinated reporting, the preservation of institutional memory and the continuous improvement of adaptation actions.

61. Participants examined in groups during the hands-on exercise how MEL systems could support adaptation reporting in BTRs. During the report-back, the groups emphasized that MEL systems should have clear objectives, monitor both implementation of adaptation actions and their outcomes, and generate information for adaptation-related decision-making. The common challenges pertaining to MEL systems identified include weak institutional coordination, fragmented governance, limited stakeholder engagement and turnover of staff across government institutions. Participants highlighted the importance of strong governance, clearly defined institutional roles, standardized indicators and reporting procedures, traceability of information in MEL systems, sustained capacity-building and continuous refinement of MEL systems to strengthen long-term adaptation reporting.

8. Thematic session: reporting information related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts

62. A CGE representative introduced the provisions of the MPGs related to reporting on averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, explaining their scope, purpose and relationship with adaptation reporting. It was emphasized that such reporting involves using national data, transparently acknowledging data limitations and strengthening institutional arrangements by improving existing information systems, clarifying responsibilities and identifying data gaps. Participants then discussed the distinction between reporting on observed climate impacts, loss and damage, and adaptation, as well as the robustness of available information.

63. Participants discussed in groups existing arrangements, data gaps, challenges and practical solutions related to reporting information on loss and damage in BTRs. During the report-back, the groups highlighted the need for stronger coordination among environment, disaster risk management, planning and sectoral institutions, supported by clear mandates, standardized reporting procedures, sustained capacity-building and adequate resources. They emphasized the need for improving methodologies for assessing economic and non-economic loss and damage, while strengthening data-sharing and institutional collaboration to support coherent national reporting.

9. Thematic session: unpacking the technical expert review and facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

64. A CGE representative introduced the TER process, including the voluntary review of the adaptation chapter of the BTR, and the FMCP process, outlining the objectives and the expectations for Parties under both. Participants then discussed how information submitted for review should be supported and that reported information should be supported by evidence, documented sources and appropriate references. They highlighted the importance of accommodating different national institutional arrangements, clarifying that, while national systems may differ, reported information should remain transparent, coherent and evidence-based. The distinction between the TER and FMCP was highlighted – the former being a technical assessment of reported information and the latter a platform for Parties to exchange views on progress in implementing the ETF.

65. During a hands-on exercise participants worked in groups, examining sample TER findings and preparing example responses. During the report-back, the groups emphasized that the review findings should be based on the MPGs, clearly identify information missing from the BTR and avoid assumptions unsupported by information in the BTR. Lessons learned from the exercise demonstrated that effective preparation for the TER requires Parties to have sufficient time set aside for this purpose, strong institutional coordination and communication, and a clear understanding of the MPGs.

66. During the panel discussion, which focused on sharing experience of participating in the TER and FMCP processes and key insights into both, the panellist representing Peru emphasized the importance of ensuring timely institutional coordination, maintaining supporting documentation, encouraging regular communication and facilitating collaboration among technical experts. Participants emphasized that the recommendations set out in the TER reports can be implemented to strengthen institutional capacity, preserve institutional knowledge and continuously improve BTRs.

10. Networking session: adaptation community

67. The networking session, which was moderated by a representative of CBIT–GSP, focused on establishing a regional adaptation community for subregional groups of the Latin America and the Caribbean region to promote continued collaboration beyond the workshop. Participants discussed how the community could facilitate peer learning, technical exchange and mutual support for implementing the ETF. They recognized that adaptation reporting is highly context-specific and involves the use of evolving methodologies, making regional cooperation valuable for addressing shared technical challenges and strengthening institutional capacity. Participants proposed maintaining the community through voluntary virtual technical exchanges aimed at facilitating the sharing of experience on adaptation reporting, capacity-building, national adaptation planning and institutional coordination broadly and BTR and TER preparation more specifically.

11. Closing and workshop evaluation

68. During the closing session, participants were invited to provide feedback, via an interactive survey, on the workshop’s content, organization and facilitation, as well as to share how they intended to apply the knowledge gained in their future transparency-related work.

69. The feedback was positive overall, indicating that the workshop successfully met its learning objectives and strengthened participants’ technical capacity to prepare BTRs. All respondents rated the workshop as either excellent or good and noted that the information sessions and hands-on group exercises effectively addressed the workshop’s learning objectives. Respondents highlighted the value of the workshop, particularly its combination of technical sessions, practical exercises, country experience-sharing and peer learning, in strengthening their understanding of adaptation reporting under the ETF. The suggested improvements include extending the duration of the workshop, expanding the opportunities for peer-to-peer exchange during the workshop and providing additional technical guidance on adaptation methodologies.

70. A representative of the CGE provided closing remarks, which included recognizing the participation of all attendees; expressing appreciation to the Government of Guatemala, speakers, facilitators and partners for their contributions to the workshop; and encouraging continued regional collaboration.

C. Regional workshop for Asia and the Pacific and Eastern Europe

71. The agenda for the workshop focused on (1) understanding and applying the MPGs, (2) participating in TERs, (3) establishing institutional arrangements to support implementation of the ETF and (4) applying the flexibility provisions of the MPGs and developing improvement plans. The agenda comprised technical presentations, country presentations, panel discussions, hands-on exercises, ETF clinics, peer-to-peer exchange and action planning, all of which enabled participants to share experience, good practices and lessons learned while strengthening their capacity to implement the ETF and, in turn, strengthening national transparency systems.

72. A pre-workshop webinar was held to introduce the workshop agenda, provide logistical arrangements and advise participants on how best to prepare for the workshop. The webinar emphasized the importance of active participation and the open exchange of country experience, challenges and good practices at the workshop to maximize its learning outcomes.

1. Introduction

73. Representatives of the secretariat and China as the host country provided welcoming remarks. The representative of the secretariat highlighted progress in implementing the ETF and emphasized the importance of continued peer learning and targeted capacity-building support for developing countries in implementing the ETF as Parties begin preparing BTR2s. It was stressed that transparency is not only a reporting requirement but also a strategic tool that enables countries to assess progress, strengthen policies, attract support and investment, and build trust.

74. Representatives of China highlighted the country's long-standing commitment to South-South cooperation on climate action. They reaffirmed China's commitment to practical cooperation on climate change and transparency and shared information on the country's progress in climate action from the national to the local level, demonstrating how coordinated policies, technological innovation and local implementation contribute to the country's green, low-carbon development.

75. Subsequently the CGE provided an introduction to the objectives, programme and methodology of the workshop.

2. Outlook for transparency

76. Participants were provided with an overview of the ETF, including status of ETF implementation, and the key transparency-related outcomes of COP 30 and CMA 7.

3. Thematic session: experience, best practices, lessons learned and challenges in implementing the enhanced transparency framework

77. During the panel discussion, panellists from the CGE, China, Georgia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and United Nations Development Programme reflected on lessons learned from preparing BTR1s and, where applicable, initiating work on BTR2s. The common challenges identified relate to establishing and sustaining institutional arrangements, strengthening coordination across ministries and stakeholders, collecting and managing data, tracking progress in implementing and achieving the NDC, reporting on support needed and received, and understanding and applying the flexibility provisions of the MPGs. Participants highlighted good practices such as formalizing coordination mechanisms, establishing thematic working groups, strengthening data management systems, improving stakeholder engagement and using TER recommendations and improvement plans to strengthen BTRs.

78. During the breakout group discussions, participants reflected on the status of preparation of their upcoming BTRs and identified the lessons learned and good practices in

BTR preparation most relevant to their national circumstances and ongoing transparency-related capacity-building. During the report-back, the groups emphasized the need to strengthen institutional coordination, systematically document methodologies and processes to preserve institutional memory, and develop integrated national transparency systems that link GHG inventories with information on progress in NDC implementation and achievement and in adaptation and with support-related information. They also highlighted the importance of embedding transparency-related functions in permanent government institutions, strengthening technical capacity through sustainable training opportunities and continuous peer learning, and building sustainable national arrangements.

4. Thematic session: unpacking the modalities, procedures and guidelines

79. A CGE representative delivered a scene-setting presentation on the MPGs, including the flexibility provisions, and the structure of the BTR.

80. The individual exercise, in which submitted or in-progress BTRs were assessed against checklists based on the MPGs, enabled participants to identify reporting gaps, reflect on incomplete elements and better understand how the MPGs can be applied in practice to improve the quality and completeness of BTRs. The interactive survey responses showed that the key challenges in applying the MPGs include understanding the provisions and assessing whether available information is sufficient to fulfil the reporting requirements. Regarding the availability of information, some participants indicated that information is available but needs to be improved, updated or reformatted, or that it is scattered across different institutions; a smaller number of participants indicated that some required information is not being collected or that the availability of information varies across reporting areas. Limited technical expertise, institutional coordination and human resources, as well as staff turnover, were identified as common constraints. Practical questions submitted via the interactive survey were addressed by the moderator and resource persons during the workshop.

5. Thematic session: unpacking flexibility provisions and provisions related to areas of improvement

81. A CGE representative delivered a presentation explaining the reporting flexibility available to developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities.

82. During the country presentations, representatives of India and Nepal shared experience of applying flexibility provisions of the MPGs in preparing BTR1s. Both presentations demonstrated approaches to identifying capacity constraints in different reporting areas, selecting the corresponding flexibility provisions and identifying improvements to be made over time. The examples provided include strengthening institutional arrangements, establishing inventory management and data-sharing systems, enhancing QA/QC procedures, developing country-specific emission factors, improving emission projections and uncertainty assessments and implementing targeted capacity-building activities.

83. During the breakout group exercise, groups identified priority capacity-building needs and areas of improvement across key BTR reporting areas and proposed corresponding improvement plans, responsible institutions and proposed time frames. In the report-back, the groups highlighted the importance of developing practical, prioritized improvement plans tailored to national circumstances and available capacities.

6. Thematic session: unpacking the technical expert review process

84. A CGE representative introduced the objectives, scope, key steps and timelines of the TER process. The question and answer discussion that followed suggested that Parties should coordinate closely with relevant experts to organize supporting information for the TER in advance.

85. During the country presentations, representatives of Bhutan and the Republic of Korea shared experience of participating in TERs from the perspectives of both reviewed Parties and review experts. They highlighted the importance of thorough preparation for the review, which includes organizing supporting documentation and coordinating national responses,

and emphasized that the TER process is facilitative and intended to support improvement in reporting.

86. In the mock TER exercise, participants assumed the roles of Party representatives, review experts and the secretariat to simulate different stages of the TER process. During the report-back, the groups presented their review findings and reflected on the exercise. Participants, particularly those who had not yet undergone a TER or had only participated as Party representatives, noted that the exercise provided valuable insight into the perspectives and expectations of review experts and the secretariat.

7. Thematic session: unpacking the facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

87. A CGE representative introduced the scope, key provisions, participation arrangements and timelines of the FMCP, as well as the types of question raised during the written question and answer phase.

88. During the panel discussion, panellists from Bhutan, China and Indonesia shared experience related to preparing for and participating in FMCP. They noted that the written question and answer phase tends to generate detailed questions on technical matters, whereas the in-session discussion tends to generate questions with a broader base, such as on a country's overall progress in implementing the ETF and national circumstances. One panellist explained that questions on carbon markets were difficult to address owing to limited expertise within the country's team, but preparation enabled the country to respond during the session. Panellists emphasized the importance of selecting clear key messages to share, explaining national constraints and capacity-building needs, and coordinating national experts effectively (noting that some experts participate in FMCP remotely across different time zones).

8. Thematic session: institutional arrangements for implementing the enhanced transparency framework

89. A CGE representative presented an introduction to the key elements of national transparency systems and institutional transparency arrangements, highlighting common challenges in and good practices for establishing sustainable institutional systems and arrangements.

90. During the country presentations, representatives of China, Mongolia, Nepal, Thailand and Türkiye shared experience of establishing and strengthening their national transparency systems. They presented different institutional approaches for the coordination of ETF implementation, including coordination by formal interministerial mechanisms, legal and policy frameworks, sectoral working groups and national data management systems. The speakers highlighted that institutional arrangements should evolve over time from project-based reporting procedures to national systems with clearly defined roles and responsibilities, sustained stakeholder engagement and formalized data-sharing arrangements that support regular reporting.

91. During the breakout group discussions, participants exchanged experience of strengthening organizational mandates, governance arrangements, legal frameworks, capacity-building and data management systems. In the report-back, the groups highlighted that sustainable institutional arrangements are the foundation for effective ETF implementation and in this regard, they emphasized the importance of formalizing institutional responsibilities, strengthening data management and sharing systems, preserving institutional memory to address staff turnover, and providing continuous capacity-building for practical functions, particularly GHG inventory preparation and NDC tracking. They recognized the need to move from project-based support towards long-term programmatic approaches to sustain national transparency systems.

9. Site visit

92. The Government of China organized site visits to Chery New Energy, Wuhu Shipyard and the Yangtze River Protection initiative. The visits provided participants with an opportunity to observe practical examples of low-carbon technologies, green industrial development and environmental protection.

10. Enhanced transparency framework clinics

93. Six ETF clinics were held on various aspects of reporting under the ETF.

94. During the report-back, the table leads shared the key messages for successful implementation of the ETF from each clinic, which are as follows:

(a) GHG inventory clinic: prioritizing inventory improvement plans, strengthening QA/QC procedures, applying flexibility strategically and improving consistency in inventory methodologies and tools;

(b) NDC implementation and achievement tracking clinic: maintaining consistency in indicators, policies and projections across successive BTRs; and strengthening coordination between NDC and BTR preparation teams;

(c) Climate change impacts and adaptation clinic: addressing data gaps, selecting practical adaptation indicators, improving institutional coordination and integrating adaptation information from different sectors;

(d) Support needed and received clinic: strengthening institutional arrangements and data management systems for collecting information from multiple sources;

(e) TER participation clinic: preparing for the TER process, including by maintaining clear supporting documentation; addressing review recommendations, including by developing prioritized improvement plans; strengthening key category analysis and uncertainty assessment; and improving consistency between narrative information and reporting tables;

(f) FMCP participation clinic: preparing for written questions and the multilateral session, emphasizing the importance of early coordination among national experts and senior representatives; preparing key messages; and using the process as an opportunity to openly communicate national circumstances, progress and planned improvements under the ETF.

11. Action planning

95. Through an interactive survey, participants reflected on the key lessons learned from the workshop and identified priority areas and practical actions for strengthening national transparency systems and BTR preparation. Priority areas were considered to include improving understanding and application of the MPGs and strengthening GHG inventory preparation, institutional transparency-related arrangements and readiness for TERs. The proposed actions focused on strengthening institutional arrangements by clarifying roles and responsibilities, enhancing coordination with relevant ministries and stakeholders, improving data-collection and archiving systems, improving QA/QC procedures, improving NDC tracking and climate finance reporting, organizing national training activities such as mock TER exercises and applying the knowledge gained in the workshop to future BTR preparation. Participants identified clear institutional mandates, active engagement of relevant ministries and agencies, and sustained management or political support as the key enabling conditions for implementing these actions.

12. Closing and workshop evaluation

96. Participants were invited to provide feedback via an interactive survey. The feedback was positive overall and indicated that the workshop successfully met its learning objectives and strengthened participants' technical capacity to prepare BTRs. Most respondents rated the workshop positively, with 91 per cent rating it as either excellent or good. All respondents expressed the view that the information sessions and group exercises addressed their learning objectives. The suggested improvements include providing more detailed coverage of the MPGs, with a focus on tracking progress in implementing NDCs and preparing GHG inventories, and additional examples of good practices and innovative approaches in implementing the ETF.

97. A representative of the CGE provided closing remarks, which included recognizing the participation of all attendees; expressing appreciation to the Government of China, speakers, facilitators and partners for their contributions to the workshop; and encouraging continued regional collaboration.

IV. Additional remarks

98. The CGE expressed sincere appreciation to the Governments of China, Guatemala and Mozambique for hosting the regional hands-on training workshops and gratitude to the resource persons and partner organizations.

99. The CGE acknowledged and thanked the host countries, partners and Parties that contributed financial resources that supported the organization of these workshops.
