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Matters related to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement

Work programme under the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement and in decision 4/CMA.3

Key elements of the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement

Synthesis report by the secretariat*

Summary

This report synthesizes the views and information on the key elements of the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement contained in submissions received from Parties and observers between 17 and 28 September 2023. It has been prepared for consideration by the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches at its 4th meeting, which will focus on the non-market approaches identified by Parties that support implementation of their nationally determined contributions.

* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the dates of the submission of views.

Abbreviations and acronyms

CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
GCNMA	Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches
NDC	nationally determined contribution
NMA	non-market approach
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. SBSTA 58 requested the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the basis of the views and information submitted by Parties and observers on the key elements of the framework for NMAs referred to in Article 6, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement, including:¹

(a) Work programme activities as referred to in chapter V of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3;

(b) The process for submitting and recording NMAs on the UNFCCC web-based platform referred to in paragraph 8(b)(i) of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3 and section II of decision 8/CMA.4, taking into account provisions in paragraphs 2–3 of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3 and acknowledging that Parties participating in NMAs may define arrangements based on the determination by their national focal points;

(c) Possible topics for the next in-session workshop, including round-table discussions and presentations on NMAs, as referred to in paragraph 10(a) of decision 8/CMA.4, which is to be held in conjunction with the 4th meeting of the GCNMA.

2. This synthesis report has been prepared for consideration by the GCNMA at its 4th meeting, to be held in conjunction with SBSTA 59.

B. Scope

3. This report synthesizes the views and information on each of the matters referred to in paragraph 1 above contained in submissions received from four Parties or groups of Parties and two observers between 17 and 28 September 2023.²

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

4. The SBSTA may wish to consider the information contained in this report in implementing the activities of the work programme under the framework for NMAs, developing the process for submitting and recording NMAs on the UNFCCC web-based platform and selecting possible topics for the next in-session workshop on NMAs.

II. Synthesis of submitted views and information

A. Work programme activities as referred to in chapter V of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3

5. The work programme under the framework for NMAs was mandated to be initiated in 2022 and to include, but not be limited to, the following activities:³

(a) Identifying measures for enhancing existing linkages, creating synergies and facilitating coordination and implementation of NMAs, including:

(i) Identification of NMAs;

(ii) Identification of measures;

(b) Implementing measures, including:

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, paras. 129–130(a).

² Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.

³ Decision 4/CMA.3, annex, chap. V.

- (i) Developing and implementing tools, including a UNFCCC web-based platform for recording and exchanging information on NMAs;
- (ii) Identifying and sharing information, best practices, lessons learned and case studies in relation to developing and implementing NMAs;
- (iii) Identifying initiatives, programmes and projects for facilitating NMAs that support implementation of NDCs to allow for higher mitigation and adaptation ambition therein.

1. Identifying measures for enhancing existing linkages, creating synergies and facilitating coordination and implementation of non-market approaches

6. Three Parties or groups of Parties and two observers submitted views on the work programme activities as referred to in chapter V of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3.

7. On identifying measures for enhancing existing linkages, creating synergies and facilitating coordination and implementation of NMAs, three Parties or groups of Parties provided views:

(a) One group of Parties stated the need to encourage the identification of opportunities for participating Parties to identify, develop and implement NMAs, in the context of paragraphs 2–3 of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3, while ensuring that considerations are in place that are key to making sure that all the principles and objectives of NMAs stated in the work programme are met. It also stated that there is a need to establish a set of comprehensive and coordinated actions to create linkages and articulations among NMAs at all levels (local, subnational, national and global), thus scaling up their potential to contribute to combating climate change in this critical decade as, to date, this has not been done;

(b) One Party noted the significant progress in identifying existing and potential NMAs through discussion of current and potential additional future focus areas for NMAs, workshops and submissions from Parties and observers. It stated that progress has also been made in identifying measures for sharing experience with current linkages among and implementation measures for NMAs and identifying potential enhancements of such measures.

2. Implementing measures

8. Two groups of Parties and two observers provided views on implementing measures under the work programme activities.

9. One group of Parties noted, with regard to implementing tools, that the full operationalization of the UNFCCC web-based platform should be prioritized under the work programme so that Parties can record existing NMAs as soon as possible and move forward with implementing Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement.

10. Regarding identifying and sharing under the work programme information, best practices, lessons learned and case studies in relation to developing and implementing NMAs, one group of Parties was of the view that it is important to establish an NMA readiness mechanism to assist Parties in:

(a) Fully working in the identification, design, development and implementation of NMA proposals;

(b) Exploring cooperation opportunities between interested Parties;

(c) Preparing under the GCNMA for their mobilization of and communication with relevant stakeholders, including in particular the participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

11. One observer noted the importance, with a view to NMAs being defined, developed and implemented, of providing opportunities for sharing information on NMAs, including best practices and lessons learned in defining, developing and implementing them, through workshops, which should include plenary presentations and round tables.

12. In relation to initiatives, programmes and projects for facilitating NMAs that support higher mitigation and adaptation ambition in NDCs, one group of Parties noted that the work programme should prioritize:

- (a) Tracking the finance, capacity-building and technology transfer support available for developing countries to implement NMAs;
- (b) Promoting strategies and measures to enhance available support for implementing NMAs;
- (c) Enhancing engagement with public and private sector stakeholders at meetings of the GCNMA.

13. One observer that provided views and information on initiatives, programmes and projects for facilitating NMAs mentioned joint mitigation and adaptation, agroecology and community-led conservation approaches.

3. Other views and information on work programme activities as referred to in chapter V of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3

14. One group of Parties stated that capacity-building should be prioritized under the work programme and should include:

- (a) Activities for developing countries to enable their identification, submission and recording of existing and potential NMAs on the UNFCCC web-based platform;
- (b) Activities for developing countries to ensure that existing and potential NMAs fulfil the provisions in paragraphs 2–3 of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3;
- (c) Activities to enable Parties to implement their national frameworks and institutional arrangements for the implementation of NMAs.

15. One Party stated that it does not recommend adding additional elements to the schedule for implementing the work programme activities, emphasizing that any further additions to the schedule would be detrimental to progress towards the timely completion and assessment of its first phase.

B. Process for submitting and recording non-market approaches on the UNFCCC web-based platform

16. The three Parties or groups of Parties that provided views on this matter recalled CMA decisions regarding the information to be provided in submitting and recording NMAs on the UNFCCC web-based platform:

- (a) All three referred to paragraph 7(a) of decision 8/CMA.4 and paragraphs 2–3 of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3, either in part or in their entirety;
- (b) Two Parties or groups of Parties referred to paragraph 1(b) of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3, either in part or in its entirety;
- (c) One Party referred to paragraph 9 of decision 8/CMA.4.

17. One of the two observers that provided views on this matter proposed additional criteria for NMAs to be registered on the UNFCCC web-based platform, regarding in particular the inclusion of local stakeholders, and proposed a grievance mechanism for use in case of conflict.

18. In proposing elements of a procedure for submitting and recording NMAs on the UNFCCC web-based platform:

- (a) Two Parties or groups of Parties proposed that NMAs be communicated to the secretariat by national focal points, and one considered the need for a nominated UNFCCC focal point for Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement;
- (b) One observer called for a process that ensures that non-Party stakeholders can submit NMAs, with a system of ‘no objection’ by Parties;

(c) One Party proposed specific mandatory and optional fields to be included in an NMA application form;

(d) One Party proposed a system whereby Parties participating in NMAs would approve the NMAs submitted by other participating Parties.

19. Two Parties or groups of Parties considered the need to ensure completeness of the information submitted on NMAs, but their views on the approach to this differed:

(a) One recommended a procedure for assessing the submitted information and addressing issues of transparency and consistency in addition to completeness, and proposed that checks be conducted by the secretariat and/or a technical expert team;

(b) The other did not see the need for assessment of the submitted information.

20. In addition, one observer highlighted the need to register on the UNFCCC web-based platform Parties and entities that submit information on available support for NMAs.

C. Possible topics for the next in-session workshop

21. All of the submissions mentioned possible topics for the next in-session workshop, including round-table discussions and presentations on NMAs, which are presented in the table below.

Possible topics for the next in-session workshop on non-market approaches

<i>Grouping</i>	<i>Possible topics</i>
Specific areas of existing and potential NMAs	Agroecology and silvopasture Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use ^a Innovative finance and funding mechanisms Joint Climate Ambition Alliance and Partnership Joint mitigation and adaptation approaches for the integral and sustainable management of forests with a focus, inter alia, on the Amazon region and other forest ecosystems New NMA proposals Restoration and sustainable management of biodiversity resources Sustainable and productive management of key ecosystems Sustainable lifestyles
Identification and implementation of measures	Capacity-building needs of developing countries for implementing NMAs Exchanging experience and best practices in implementing NMAs International cooperation across instruments such as the Adaptation Fund and the Convention on Biological Diversity Possibilities for enhancing engagement with public and private sector stakeholders Process for submitting and recording NMAs on the UNFCCC web-based platform Sharing NMAs that are being implemented Support available for developing countries for implementing NMAs and how to enhance that support
Focus areas for NMAs	Adaptation, resilience and sustainability Additional focus areas Development of clean energy sources Mitigation measures for addressing climate change and contributing to sustainable development
Other	A positive vision for Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement

<i>Grouping</i>	<i>Possible topics</i>
	How existing NMAs are addressing the provisions in paragraph 8 of decision 8/CMA.4 and paragraphs 1(b), 2 and 3 of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3
	Work programme activities as referred to in chapter V of the annex to decision 4/CMA.3

^a Available at <https://ukcop26.org/glasgow-leaders-declaration-on-forests-and-land-use>.

22. The most commonly mentioned topic was the process for submitting and recording NMAs on the UNFCCC web-based platform. Another frequently mentioned topic was sharing NMAs that are being implemented.

23. In that regard, one Party proposed using the in-session workshop to share two specific examples of NMAs under development or being implemented: sustainable lifestyles, and joint mitigation and adaptation approaches for the integral and sustainable management of forests with a focus, inter alia, on the Amazon region and other forest ecosystems. Other proposed NMA concepts that Parties, groups of Parties and/or observers would like to share include agroecology and silvopasture, the Joint Climate Ambition Alliance and Partnership, restoration and sustainable management of biodiversity resources, sustainable and productive management of key ecosystems, the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use,⁴ and innovative finance and funding mechanisms. In terms of scope, among the existing and potential NMAs proposed as topics for the workshop, six pertain specifically to forestry and/or nature-based solutions.

24. One Party and two observers proposed nine examples of NMAs as topics for the workshop. While two Parties suggested presenting NMAs that are being implemented, one Party proposed presenting new NMA proposals.

25. One Party suggested exchanging experience and best practices in implementing NMAs. Another suggested as a topic the support available to developing countries for implementing NMAs and how to enhance that support, as well as the capacity-building needs of developing countries for implementing NMAs.

26. Two Parties suggested focus areas for NMAs as topics for the in-session workshop:

- (a) Adaptation, resilience and sustainability;
- (b) Development of clean energy sources;
- (c) Mitigation measures for addressing climate change and contributing to sustainable development;
- (d) Additional focus areas.

27. Two Parties or groups of Parties and one observer commented on how the in-session workshop should be conducted. Two of them called for sufficient time to be allocated for the workshop and round-table discussions. One Party proposed making use of spin-off groups to address the topics proposed by Parties during the in-session round-table discussions, while one group of Parties proposed using spin-off groups at the next meeting of the GCNMA. One group of Parties proposed a detailed agenda for the next in-session workshop and related events on NMAs.

⁴ Available at <https://ukcop26.org/glasgow-leaders-declaration-on-forests-and-land-use>.