

## **Information on the fourth meeting of the structured expert dialogue on the 2013–2015 review**

### **Note by the co-facilitators**

*14 November 2014*

#### **I. Introduction**

1. As requested by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), we will organize the fourth meeting of the structured expert dialogue (SED 4) on 2 and 3 December 2014, in Lima, Peru, in conjunction with SBSTA 41 and SBI 41 to consider the Synthesis Report (SYR) of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), as well as other information from the sources referred to in decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 161(b–d).<sup>1</sup>

2. At their 40th meeting, SBSTA and SBI had invited Parties to provide their views on additional inputs to the SED.<sup>2</sup> As at 14 November, the secretariat had received one such submission, which we took into account while preparing for SED 4.

#### **II. Fourth meeting of the structured expert dialogue**

##### **A. Goal of and general approach to the meeting**

3. Looking to Lima, we would like to emphasize that, after three SED meetings and the consideration of the contributions of all IPCC working groups to the AR5 and of some non-IPCC information, our goal is to finish complementing, and start summarizing and conceptualizing the information already discussed with a view to completing our dialogue.

4. Building on the approach adopted at previous SED meetings, SED 4 will be organized as a fact-finding exchange of views between experts and Parties. To achieve our goal of synthesizing information, the IPCC experts will be invited not to repeat information already presented at previous SED meetings by the IPCC Working Groups, but rather focus on information resulting from the distillation and integration of the findings of the Working Groups and of the two Special Reports that were considered in the preparation of the AR5 SYR.

5. The experts from UN Agencies and other international organizations will be invited to focus on: findings complementing the information presented by IPCC; and work of their organizations contributing to the progress made towards achieving the long-term global goal.

6. Overall, emphasis will be placed on moderated discussions between experts and Parties on the policy significance of these findings, including on reflections from Parties on this matter, and on the outlining of policy options. We therefore encourage Parties and groups of Parties to: review the reports of SED 1-3; fully address issues relevant to SED 4 in their preparatory and coordinating meetings; come prepared with questions to experts and views they would like to express; and engage actively in the dialogue.

##### **B. Organization of the meeting**

7. SED 4 in Lima will consist of two parts. On the basis of the mandate for the 2013–2015 review, we foresee that the first part of SED 4 advance the work of the SED by considering the two themes of the review in a balanced manner, with a special focus on the AR5 SYR. The consideration of both themes will involve presentations by IPCC experts, and a discussion between Parties and IPCC experts. To focus the discussions, we suggest below some overarching areas where we may summarize and distil the information received from IPCC.

8. The second part of SED 4 will focus on other sources of information. Presentations made by experts from United Nations agencies and other international organizations on information from the sources referred to in decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 161(c), will be followed by discussions guided by questions.

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 193; and FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2 paragraph 74.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 197; and FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2 paragraph 78.

9. We invite Parties to keep their interventions succinct to allow for a fruitful discussion and to possibly provide us with additional guiding questions, as appropriate.

## 1. Part 1

10. Topics to be addressed, based on the AR5 SYR, include: the adequacy of the long-term global goal in terms of its scientific, political and practical relevance, and its feasibility in the context of a risk management approach to addressing climate change; the overall mitigation and adaptation progress made towards achieving this goal; and barriers, opportunities and limits to mitigation and adaptation actions.

11. In preparing SED 4 we took into consideration our experience with all previous meetings of the SED. In accordance with the mandate of the 2013-2015 review, we will seek to advance the work of the SED by obtaining scientific information pertaining to overarching issues, such as requirements to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C or 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, acceptable level of global warming, costs and benefits of limiting warming to a given level, and benefits from timely or consequences of delayed action.

12. **Part 1 will open with a scene-setting presentation** by the Chairman of the IPCC on the overarching findings of the AR5 SYR that distil and integrate the key elements of the contributions of the three Working Groups to the AR5, as well as the two IPCC Special Reports produced during this assessment cycle, and that are relevant to both themes of the 2013–2015 review. This presentation will be followed by a **discussion** guided by questions, such as:

(a) What are the salient messages from the AR5 SYR relevant to the 2013-2015 review? What are the strategies for risk reduction and for managing adaptation and mitigation? What is the relationship among risks of climate change, cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and annual GHG emissions over the next decades?

(b) How the AR5 does contribute to operationalizing the Article 2 of the Convention, including on anthropogenic interference with the climate system and associated risks or dangers to food production, sustainable economic development and ecosystem adaptation? How do these risks or dangers grow as we move from 1.5°C to 2°C level of global warming? What does the AR5 SYR tell us on limiting global warming below 2°C?

13. This scene-setting presentation will be followed by **presentations by IPCC experts** that will elaborate on specific synthesis elements of the AR5 SYR relevant to the two themes of the review, including:

- The adequacy of the long-term global goal in terms of preventing societally or otherwise unacceptable consequences, for example in the light of projected risks of climate change on ecosystem adaptation, food production and sustainable development;
- The adequacy of the long-term global goal in terms of its feasibility in the context of a risk management approach within planetary boundaries, including long-term perspectives;
- Overall aggregated progress in mitigation and adaptation, including the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by Parties in order to meet the ultimate objective of the Convention; and
- Response options for adaptation and mitigation, as well as limitations, trade-offs, synergies and integrated responses.

14. The presentations by IPCC experts will provide the foundation for the **discussion** among Parties and experts on the possible policy implications of the findings presented, with equal time allocated for discussions on the two themes of the review. We encourage Parties to come prepared with questions to experts on the above-mentioned topics for discussion.

## 2. Part 2

15. Based on the sources referred to in decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 161(c) and the submissions by Parties, part 2 of SED 4 will feature **presentations** relevant to both themes of the review by experts from UN organizations and intergovernmental organizations on: the mitigation and adaptation gaps; food production and security; the assessment of the health impacts of climate change and mitigation co-benefits; how to set the price of carbon; and the world energy outlook and technology perspectives.<sup>3</sup> Experts will also present on activities carried out by their organizations to support progress towards achieving the long-term global goal and best practices/lessons learned in streamlining support that can lead to effective mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

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<sup>3</sup> Additional topics will be addressed at the resumed meeting in February (see paragraph 21 below).

16. These presentations will be followed by a **discussion** among Parties and experts on the possible policy implications of the findings presented, with a balanced amount of time allocated to discussions on themes 1 and 2 of the review. The discussion will be guided by questions such as:

- (a) We heard from IPCC that increasing magnitudes of warming will increase severe, widespread and irreversible impacts of climate change. In this light, what are the risks assessed by your organization on human health, food production, and other ecosystem services at a 2/1.5 °C level of global mean warming compared to pre-industrial levels, and how does your organization contribute to reducing and managing these risks?
- (b) What is the gap between current mitigation and adaptation efforts and those required to achieve the long-term global goal as characterized by a 2/1.5°C level of warming relative to pre-industrial levels? How can this gap be bridged?
- (c) What policy options has your organization identified for the decarbonisation of the energy system called for by pathways consistent with limiting warming below 1.5 or 2 °C compared to pre-industrial levels? What are the economic and technological risks associated with this decarbonisation?
- (a) How effective have the steps taken by your organization been in terms of supporting national activities aimed at minimizing the impacts of climate change? What barriers have your organization encountered and how has it succeeded in overcoming them?
- (b) Which policies and measures has your organization identified as effective to bridge the emissions and adaptation gap, and how can these policies and measures be emulated?

## C. Date and venue

17. SED 4 will take place on Tuesday, 2 December 2014, from 15.00-18.00, and on Wednesday, 3 December 2014, from 15.00-18.00, in Lima.

## D. Other matters

18. The SBSTA and the IPCC will hold a special event on the AR5 SYR on 2 December 2014, from 13.15-14.45. As the AR5 SYR is a key source of input for both themes of the 2013–2015 review, SED 4 participants are encouraged to attend this event as SED 4 will build on the presentations made at the special event.

19. SBSTA 40 and SBI 40 requested us, the co-facilitators, with the support of the secretariat, to convene an additional meeting of the SED after SBSTA 41 and SBI 41, in conjunction with a meeting of the ADP and prior to SBSTA 42 and SBI 42, to consider, in addition to all previous material, further inputs referred to in decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 161, in particular its subparagraphs (b–d), with a view to closing the SED prior to SBSTA 42 and SBI 42 in accordance with decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 91.<sup>4</sup>

20. In order to allow for further time for reflections and discussions, and to capture the outcomes of SED 4 in a consolidated report, we suggest to adjourn SED 4 on 3 December in Lima, and resume the meeting in February 2015, in Geneva, Switzerland, in conjunction with the first part of the third session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP). We believe that these arrangements will allow the SED to fulfill its mandate and provide a synthesis of its work. We look forward to working with you at SED 4.

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<sup>4</sup> FCCC/SBI/2014/8, paragraph 194; and FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2 paragraph 75.