



**Technology Executive Committee**

27 February 2018

**Sixteenth meeting**

**Bonn, Germany, 13–16 March 2018**

**Enhanced engagement of the Technology Executive Committee in the technical examination process on mitigation**

**Background note**

**I. Introduction**

**A. Background**

1. At its twenty-third session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) conducted an assessment of the technical examination process (TEP) on mitigation and adaptation so as to improve its effectiveness and adopted decision 13/CP.23 that introduces new mandates for the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) with regard to its engagement in the TEP.<sup>1</sup>

**B. Scope of the note**

2. This note is prepared by the secretariat to facilitate the TEC consideration of this item. It provides an overview of the TEP on mitigation and previous engagements of the TEC. It also presents the main elements of decision 13/CP.23 that relates to the work of the TEC. Finally, it presents questions for the TEC consideration on possible way forward.

**C. Possible action by the Technology Executive Committee**

3. The TEC will be invited to consider the information provided and provide guidance on how to respond to the COP mandates.

**II. Technical examination process on mitigation and previous engagements of the Technology Executive Committee**

**(a) Overview of the TEP**

4. The TEP on Mitigation (TEP-M) consists of regular in-session thematic technical expert meetings (TEMs), technical papers and the Summary for Policymakers. Parties to the Convention resolved to start this process in 2014<sup>2</sup> and to further accelerate it by 2020<sup>3</sup> in order to implement scalable best practice policies and bridge the ambition gap.

5. The TEMs<sup>4</sup> facilitate the identification of policy options, practices and technologies with high mitigation potential. The TEMs intend to bring together experts from national and subnational governments, private sector, financial institutions, leading international organizations and other stakeholders to examine in-depth opportunities to promote the implementation and increase in support for climate action. The topics of the TEMs as of December 2017, include: renewable energy,

---

<sup>1</sup> [Decision 13/CP.23.](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Decision 1/CP.20, paragraph 19.](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 109–113.](#)

<sup>4</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/climateaction2020/tep/technical-expert-meetings/index.html>.

energy efficiency, land use, urban environment, transport, non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases, and carbon capture and storage.

6. The outcomes of TEMs discussion are captured in **technical papers**.<sup>5</sup> The technical papers summarize information on best practice mitigation policies, practices and technologies that are widely used around the world in the examined thematic areas. In addition to the TEMs' discussions, the papers also reflect proposals from Parties and observers, and the latest findings published by leading international organizations and partnerships that collaborate with the UNFCCC.

7. Discussions from the TEMs are also annually reflected in the **Summary for Policymakers**.<sup>6</sup> The aim of the Summary is to transform the information into a comprehensive, high-level summary of concrete actions that Parties can pursue, in accordance with their national circumstances.

**(b) Engagement of the TEC in the TEP 2015–2017**

8. The TEC has been engaging in the TEP-M since May 2015, although specific mandate by the COP for the TEC to engage in the TEP-M only came in at the end of 2015 through decision 1/CP.21 paragraphs 109 (c) and 111. The TEC has included activities relevant to the TEP under its rolling workplan for 2016–2018.<sup>7</sup>

9. The engagement of the TEC in the TEP on mitigation takes place at different levels:

(a) *Provision of inputs on the implementation of the TEP:*

(i) Provided recommendations to the High-Level Champions, the Chairs of Subsidiary Bodies and the secretariat with regard to potential topics for future TEMs on mitigation (September 2016);

(ii) Provided inputs to the assessment of the TEP to improve its effectiveness (September 2017);

(b) *Engagement in the TEMs on mitigation:*

(i) Engaged in the TEM on mitigation 2015 (June 2015, Bonn, Germany) and provided updates on its work on renewable energy;

(ii) Engaged and provided updates on its work on renewable energy and technology needs assessment in the thematic session on renewable energy supply and efficient public transport during the TEM on mitigation 2016 (May 2016, Bonn, Germany);

(iii) Organized a thematic session on innovative technology solutions for sustainable urban development during the TEM on mitigation 2017 (May 2017, Bonn, Germany);

(c) *Follow-up on policy options identified through the TEP:*

(i) Organized the thematic dialogue on industrial energy efficiency and material substitution in carbon intensive sector, held in conjunction with the 14th meeting of the TEC (March 2017);<sup>8</sup>

(ii) Published the TEC Brief on industrial energy and material efficiency in emission-intensive sectors (November 2017);<sup>9</sup>

(iii) Published executive summaries on industrial energy and material efficiency for target groups (i.e. financial institutions, industry actors, international organizations, domestic policy makers) (November 2017);<sup>10</sup>

(iv) Prepared key messages to the COP on industrial energy and material efficiency in emission-intensive sectors (November 2017).<sup>11</sup>

<sup>5</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/climateaction2020/tp/index.html>.

<sup>6</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/climateaction2020/spm/introduction/index.html>.

<sup>7</sup> [Rolling workplan of the TEC for 2016-2018](#).

<sup>8</sup> [http://unfccc.int/ttclear/events/2017\\_event1](http://unfccc.int/ttclear/events/2017_event1).

<sup>9</sup> <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/tec/brief11.html#Brief11>.

<sup>10</sup> <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/tec/brief11.html#Exec>.

<sup>11</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2017/sb/eng/03.pdf>.

### III. New mandates under decision 13/CP.23

10. The COP, by decision 13/CP.23, introduced new mandates for the TEC with regard to its engagement in the TEP on mitigation; specifically:

(a) To focus the TEP on specific policy options and opportunities for enhancing mitigation and adaptation that are actionable in the short term, including those with sustainable development co-benefits (see paragraph 2 of decision 13/CP.23);

(b) To support the identification of topics for the TEP on mitigation for the period until 2020 (see paragraph 3 of decision 13/CP.23);

(c) To include in the joint annual report of the TEC and CTCN recommendations on ways forward and necessary actions to be taken based on the outcomes of the TEMs (see paragraph 4 of decision 13/CP.23);

(d) To ensure the necessary continuity of and follow-up on the identified policy options and opportunities, including by informing the summaries for policymakers, the high-level events and the 2018 facilitative dialogue (see paragraph 10 of decision 13/CP.23).

11. Decision 13/CP.23 also stresses better integration of the TEP-M with the Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action (paragraph 1) and invites Parties and non-Party stakeholders to organize regional technical expert meetings to examine specific finance, technology and capacity building necessary to scale up actions in the regional context (paragraph 9). Although these mandates are not specifically addressed to the TEC, it may be relevant as the TEC considers how it wants to enhance its engagement in the TEP.

12. The mandates mentioned in paragraph 10 (a) and (d) above are also for the high-level champions, the CTCN, the Adaptation Committee and the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies

13. The mandates mentioned in paragraph 10 (b) and (c) above require consultation with the high-level champions.

14. In early 2108, the TEC started undertaking activities in response to these new mandates from the COP and agreed on:

(a) Inputs on the topics for the TEP on mitigation for the period until 2020, which have been communicated to the high-level champions on 31 January 2018; and

(b) The organization of a regional TEM on industrial energy efficiency in collaboration with the CTCN, to be held during the Africa Climate Week 2018 (9-13 April 2018, Nairobi, Kenya).

### IV. Possible ways forward

15. The TEC may wish to consider the following questions to facilitate its discussion on how enhance its engagement in the TEP process in line with new mandates contained in decision 13/CP.23:

(a) How the TEC can ensure that the TEP on mitigation focuses on policy options and opportunities that are actionable in the short term? What role can the TEC play in this regard? Which parts of the TEP can the TEC best contribute to?

(b) Subject to the availability of funding, what other options can be considered to enhance the TEC engagement at regional level and scale up action in regional contexts?

(c) What would be the best means for the TEC to ensure continuity and follow-up on policy options identified through the TEP? How could this be streamlined into the workplan of the TEC to avoid duplication of work? How the TEC wish to inform the summary of policymakers, the high-level event and the Talanoa dialogue?

(d) What can be done to ensure coherence, coordination and collaboration among the high-level champions, the CTCN, the Adaptation Committee and the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies?