

DRAFT TEXT

on

SBSTA 58 agenda item 13

Guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement and in decision 2/CMA.3

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), pursuant to paragraphs 16(a) and 17 of decision 6/CMA.4, considered matters relating to the guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article¹ 6, paragraph 2, and in decision 2/CMA.3.
2. The SBSTA took note of:
 - (a) The submissions² from Parties;³
 - (b) The workshops held intersessionally:
 - (i) A hybrid workshop on potential challenges Parties participating in cooperative approaches may face in addressing different elements of the initial report and to support the identification of related capacity-building needs, held on 24 April 2023;⁴
 - (ii) A hybrid workshop on the draft version of the agreed electronic format,⁵ held from 25 to 26 April 2023;⁶
 - (iii) A virtual workshop,⁷ as part of the capacity building programme,⁸ with the broad participation of Parties, on completion and submission of initial reports, held from 17 to 18 May 2023.
3. The SBSTA also took note of:
 - (a) The technical paper⁹ prepared by the secretariat on the basis of issues identified at the workshop referred to in para. 2(b)(ii) above, on potential considerations in the preparation of the reporting on elements listed in the initial report;
 - (b) The informal workshop report¹⁰ on the draft agreed electronic format prepared under the guidance of the SBSTA Chair;
 - (c) [The informal note¹¹ prepared by the co-facilitators for this agenda item to capture the views expressed by Parties at this session on the matters referred to in paragraphs 16(a) and 17 of decision 6/CMA.4].
4. The SBSTA invited Parties [and observer organizations] to submit via the submission portal¹² by [dd/mm/2023] views on the matters referred to in paragraphs 16(a) and 17 of decision 6/CMA.4 for consideration at SBSTA 59 (November–December 2023).
5. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare, with a view to facilitating understanding of the relevant issues but without prejudging possible outcomes, and

¹ “Article” refers to an Article of the Paris Agreement.

² Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx> (in the search field, type “Article 6”).

³ See decision 6/CMA.4, paras. 4, 15, 19 and 28.

⁴ Referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chap. IV.A.

⁵ Referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chap. IV.B, and contained in decision 6/CMA.4, annex VII.

⁶ As per decision 6/CMA.4, para. 3.

⁷ As per decision 6/CMA.4, para. 23.

⁸ Referred to decision 2/CMA.3, paragraph 12.

⁹ Referred to in decision 6/CMA.4, para. 20. Document FCCC/TP/2023/2, available at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/tp2023_02.pdf

¹⁰ Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Art_6.2_WS_informal_report_AEF.pdf

¹¹ Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/XXXXXX>.

¹² <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.

considering the relevant work undertaken in the first intersessional period of 2023 and relevant views expressed by Parties at this session, a technical paper without formal status [X days] before the workshop referred to in paragraph 7 below, which includes analysis of the following elements related to the SBSTA mandates as contained in decision 6/CMA.4, including the linkages between those elements, and the use of flowcharts and other visual representations, on:

- (a) [The modalities for reviewing information submitted by Parties as per the reporting requirements of the Article 6.2 guidance, that is confidential;]
- (b) [The process of authorization;]
- (c) [The draft version of the agreed electronic format;]
- (d) [Common nomenclatures;¹³]
- (e) [The development of guidelines or rules for reconciling inconsistencies and preventing double counting in relation to data on ITMOs in the Article 6 database;]
- (f) [The flow of information tracked in the registries of participating Parties, the international registry¹⁴ and the registry for the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, to the agreed electronic format;]
- (g) [Analysis and sequencing of the steps in the Article 6, paragraph 2, reporting and review processes, based on previous work;]
- (h) [Approaches to implementing participating Parties' tracking arrangements¹⁵ with a view to informing Parties on the possible choices for tracking].

6. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to, as parts of the manual referred to in paragraph 22 of decision 6/CMA.4, develop a section on the preparation of the initial report and a section on the agreed electronic format. The SBSTA further requested that the respective sections of the manual referred to in paragraph 6 above include an explanation of key terms and concepts, illustrative elements of information, examples, case studies that are not country-specific, and questions and answers on elements of the Article 6.2 guidance related to reporting requirements and the evolving reporting practice, and be informed by the outcomes of the intersessional workshops referred to in paragraph 2(b) above and the hybrid workshop referred to in paragraph 7 below. These sections of the manual should be made available to Parties by the end of 2023;

7. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to hold a hybrid workshop to be held in conjunction with the workshop being organized under agenda item 14 "Rules, modalities and procedures for the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement and referred to in decision 3/CMA.3" before SBSTA 59 to consider the following:

- (a) The draft version of the agreed electronic format, including its elements and example entries, relevant terms included in the Article 6.2 guidance and footnotes;
- (b) The process of authorization;
- (c) Participating Parties' tracking arrangements;
- (d) [Input to the manual referred to in paragraph 6 above;]
- (e) [The Article 6 technical expert review specifying recommended action to be taken when inconsistencies are identified, and provisions on how a Party should respond to those recommendations and the implications of non-responsiveness, if any;]
- (f) [The training programme for technical experts participating in the Article 6 technical expert review.]

8. [The SBSTA also requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the SBSTA Chair, to prepare a revised version of the draft agreed electronic format prior to the workshop

¹³ Referred to in decision 6/CMA.4, annex I, Ch. II.B.

¹⁴ Referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 30.

¹⁵ Referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, paras. 4(d), 29 and 30.

referred to in paragraph 7 above that reflects the views of Parties referred to in paragraph 3(b–c) above.]

9. To facilitate deliberations on further guidance on cooperative approaches at SBSTA 59, the SBSTA requested its Chair to prepare an informal document on the basis of the work referred to in paragraphs [5 and] 8 above and 13 below, including textual proposals, for consideration by the SBSTA with a view to it recommending a draft decision on further guidance on cooperative approaches for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its fifth session (November–December 2023).

10. The SBSTA acknowledged the importance of and urgent need for a strong capacity-building programme with timelines for operationalizing the guidance on cooperative approaches and requested the secretariat to continue to provide regular updates on the status of the work on the capacity-building programme referred to in paragraph 12 of decision 2/CMA.3. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prioritize as part of the capacity-building programme activities related to the preparation of the initial report, including making arrangements for authorization and tracking, and the preparation of the agreed electronic format in its draft version.

11. The SBSTA recalled paragraph 34 of decision 6/CMA.4 regarding the request to the secretariat to establish a voluntary forum of Article 6 registry system administrators and technical experts of participating Parties to facilitate cooperation among them, including sharing knowledge and experience in the context of implementing and operating the infrastructure under the Article 6.2 guidance, and to provide input to the further development and implementation of such infrastructure, as necessary, and requested the secretariat to expedite the implementation of that mandate.

12. The SBSTA recalled paragraph 38 of decision 6/CMA.4 regarding the request to the secretariat to prepare a technical paper on options for funding the activities related to the infrastructure and the technical expert review under Article 6, paragraph 2, and requested the secretariat to prepare the paper as soon as possible but no later than one month prior to the workshop referred to in paragraph 7 above.

13. In relation to the technical paper referred to in paragraph 12 above, the SBSTA also requested the secretariat to conduct a survey of Parties with a view to assessing when countries are planning to submit their initial report and the potential use of the international registry in order to understand the potential volume of work and associated costs.

14. [Recognizing the interlinkages between the matters referred to in paragraphs 16(a) and 17 of decision 6/CMA.4 and the corresponding matters in Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement, the SBSTA invited its Chair to consider organizing, at SBSTA 59, a joint¹⁶ meeting of the informal consultations on the guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement and on the rules, modalities and procedures for the mechanism established by Article 6, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement, in order to facilitate consideration of the aforementioned interlinkages.]

15. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraphs 5, 7, 8, 12 and 13 above.

16. The SBSTA invited Parties to make contributions to the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities for operationalizing the guidance on cooperative approaches and supporting the intersessional work referred to in paragraphs 5, 7, 8, 12 and 13 above.

17. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

18. The SBSTA agreed to continue consideration of this matter at SBSTA 59.

¹⁶ In addition to separate informal consultations for each of the relevant agenda items.