The Paris Agreement and its objectives, including on the enhanced transparency framework

Regional MRV Network Development
COP 24 outcome: overview

World nations adopt a robust set of guidelines for implementing the landmark Paris Agreement on Climate Action <https://bit.ly/2EwnUQn>
Presentation outline

- Paris Agreement - overview
- Transparency framework - overview
- Transparency framework - purpose
- Katowice outcome
- Few concluding remarks
**The Paris Agreement (1/2)**

Strengthen the global response to the threat of CLIMATE CHANGE

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<td>* Tech dev. &amp; transfer</td>
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<td>* Capacity-building</td>
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<td>* Global stock-take (ambition mechanism)</td>
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![Graph](image-url)
The Paris Agreement (2/2)

Objective: (long-term temperature goal (2°C/1.5°C); climate resilient and low emissions development; financial flows)

Global stocktake
Science

Ambition mechanism
Action (mitigation and adaptation)
Means of implementation

Transparency framework
Implementation and compliance
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
Overview of Reporting under the ETF

**Mandatory**: Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving NDCs under Article 4 of the PA

**Mandatory**: Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided and mobilized under Articles 9-11 of the PA

**Non-mandatory**: Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9-11 of the PA

**Non-mandatory**: Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the PA
Article 13 of the Paris Agreement: transparency of action and support

**Reporting**

- **All Parties (shall)**
  - National greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory report *(Article 13.7(a))*
  - Progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contribution (NDC) *(Article 13.7(b))*

- **All Parties (should, as appropriate)**
  - Climate change impacts and adaptation *(Article 13.8)*

- **Developed country Parties (shall) and other Parties that provided support (should)**
  - Financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support provided to developing country Parties under Article 9, 10 and 11 *(Article 13.9)*

- **Developing country Parties (should)**
  - Financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9, 10 and 11 *(Article 13.10)*

**Technical expert review**

- **All Parties (shall)**
  - Undergo technical expert review of information submitted under Articles 13.7 *(Article 13.11)*

- **Developed country Parties (shall)**
  - Undergo technical expert review of information submitted under Articles 13.9 *(Article 13.11)*

**Multilateral facilitative consideration**

- **All Parties (shall)**
  - Multilateral facilitative consideration of progress with respect to efforts under Article 9, and its respective implementation and achievement of its NDCs *(Article 13.11)*

*The transparency framework shall provide flexibility in the implementation of the provisions of this Article to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities *(Article 13.2)*;

*The transparency framework shall recognize the special circumstances of the least developed countries and small island developing States *(Article 13.3).*
The ETF in the Paris Agreement – purpose

Action: provide a clear understanding of climate change action in the light of the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2, including:

- Clarity and tracking of progress towards achieving Parties’ individual nationally determined contributions under Article 4;
- Parties’ adaptation actions under Article 7, including good practices, priorities, needs and gaps.

Support: The purpose of the framework for transparency of support is to provide:

- Clarity on support provided and received by relevant individual Parties in the context of climate change actions under Articles 4, 7, 9, 10 and 11;
- To the extent possible, a full overview of aggregate financial support provided.

Article 13.5

- Article 4 – mitigation/nationally determined contribution;
- Article 7 – adaptation;
- Article 9 – finance;
- Article 10 – technology development and transfer;
- Article 11 – capacity-building;
- Article 14 – global stocktake
The ETF in the Paris Agreement – salient features of the Katowice outcome (1)

- Adopted modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) for:
  - Reporting (biennial transparency report)
  - Technical expert review
  - Facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

- Agreed on dates for:
  - Submission of first biennial transparency report – 31 December 2024 (all Parties with discretion to SIDS and LDCs)
  - First review and update of the MPGs – no later than 2028 (subsequent reviews as needed)

- Addressed support (financial and technical) to developing countries:
  - Support to prepare the first and subsequent biennial transparency reports
  - Request to the GEF to consider options for improving the efficiency of the process (addressing the challenges in the application process and better streamlining of the processes)
  - Continue supporting the operation of the CBIT
  - Mandated the Consultative Group of Experts to also serve the Paris Agreement starting from 1 January 2019

Follow-up work to develop common reporting tables, common tabular formats, outlines of BTR, NID and TER report, and training for TER.
Flexibility to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities:

- Provided at the provision-level
- To be self-determined
- Clearly indicate the provision to which flexibility is applied, concisely clarify capacity constraints, and provide self-determined estimated time frames for improvements in relation to the capacity-constraints
- Technical expert review shall not review Party’s determination to apply flexibility or whether the Party possesses the capacity to implement the provision without flexibility

Facilitating improved reporting and transparency over time:

- Areas of improvement identified by the Party and the technical expert review team
- How the Party is addressing or intends to address areas of improvement
- Highlight areas that are related to the flexibility provisions used
- Identification of reporting-related capacity-building needs
- Domestic plans and priorities with regard to improved reporting are not subject to technical expert review
Streamlining the MRV arrangements under the Convention and the ETF under the Paris Agreement (1/3)

- Final biennial reports are those that are submitted no later than **31 December 2022**
- Final biennial update reports those that are submitted no later than **31 December 2024**

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<th>Biennial transparency report</th>
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Obligation to submit annual inventories continue; starting from the date that first report under the Paris Agreement is due

- Applicable to developed country Parties to the Convention that are also Parties to the Paris Agreement
- Use the MGPs for the ETF to report and review under the Convention (NC and annual national GHG inventories)
Streamlining the MRV arrangements under the Convention and the ETF under the Paris Agreement (2/3)

With respect to reporting and review of national communications under the Convention every four years, starting from the date first report under the Paris Agreement is due:

- NC + BTR → BTR/NC

  - Single document using ETF MPGs
  - Supplemental chapters using relevant NC Guidelines
  - Research and systematic observation; education, training and public awareness
  - Adaptation (?)

If not reported in the BTR
Parties to the Convention that are not Parties to the Paris Agreement:

- Reporting obligations under Article 4 and 12 of the Convention, and existing MRV arrangements continue
- May use MPGs to meet their reporting commitments under Article 4 and 12 of the Convention

Information of REDD-plus activities for a result-based incentives:

- Submit information as an annex to the biennial transparency report
- Technical analysis to be carried out concurrently with the technical expert review under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement
IN CONCLUSION:

• Katowice outcome on the transparency framework under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement constitutes enhancement - a same set of guidelines for all Parties

• Recognizes different starting points of Parties:
  a) Flexibility to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities
  b) Continuous improvement over time

• Also recognizes that developing country Parties will continue require support (both technical and financial)

• The transparency framework is enhanced but NOT something completely new (builds on and enhances the existing MRV arrangements)

• The existing MRV arrangements provide good opportunity (and basis) to prepare for the implementation of the transparency framework

• Effective participation in the transparency framework is important (both domestically and internationally)
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION
Reference notes (key areas of flexibility provisions by section)
Methodologies, parameters and data

- Able to use nationally appropriate methodologies if they better reflect its national circumstances and are consistent with the IPCC GLs. Need to transparently explain national methods, data and/parameters selected.
- Able to use lower tier methods if resources do not allow – need to explain why and prioritize for future improvements (particularly for key categories).
- Encouragement to use country-specific and regional emission factors and activity data (or propose plans to develop them).

Key category analysis

- Identify key categories for the starting year and the latest reporting year.
- Flexibility > lower threshold for 85 per cent instead of 95 per cent.

Uncertainty assessment

- Conduct quantitative estimates and qualitative assessment of uncertainty of the emissions and removal estimates for at least the starting year and the latest reporting year.
- Also conduct assessment of uncertainty in the trend.
- Flexibility > at a minimum should conduct qualitative assessment.
Completeness assessment

- Threshold for insignificant emissions > if the level of emissions from a category is below 0.05 (0.1) per cent of the national totals (without LULUCF) and 500 (1000) kilotonnes CO2 eq (whichever is lower); total of all insignificant emissions should remain below 0.1 (0.2) per cent of the national totals

QA/QC

- Mandatory for all Parties to elaborate a QA/PC plan and implement the procedures
- Flexibility > Encouragement

Sector and gases

- Sectors > all IPCC sectors and categories
- Gases > mandatory to report 7 gases: CO2, CH4, N2O, HFCs, PFCs, SF6 and NF3
- Flexibility > at least 3 primary gases plus any of the F-gases if (1) included in its NDC; (2) covered by Article 6 activity; or (3) was reported previously.

Time series

- Report consistent time series starting from 1990
- Flexibility > at a min, cover reference year/period for its NDC, and, in addition, a consistent time series from 2020 onwards
Tracking progress

- National circumstances and institutional arrangements
- Description of NDCs, including updates
- Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving its nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement
- Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including those with mitigation co-benefits resulting from adaptation actions and economic diversification plans, related to implementing and achieving a nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (flexibility > encouragement to report estimates of expected and achieved GHG emissions reductions instead of “shall, to the extent possible”)
- Summary of greenhouse gas emissions and removals
- Projections of greenhouse gas emissions and removals, as applicable (flexibility > encouragement to report projects; end point of projects can be the end point of NDCs; use less detailed methodology or coverage)
- Other information
Technical expert review

- In-country review for:
  a) the first BTRs
  b) At least two biennial transparency reports in a 10-year period, of which one is the BTR that contains information on the achievement of NDCs
  c) A BTR, if recommended by the TER of the previous BTR
  d) A BTR upon request of the Party

(Flexibility for those developing countries that need it in the light of their capacities to undergo first BTRs, a centralized review instead of in-country review)

- Information requested by the TER team should be provided within two weeks (flexibility – within 3 weeks)
- Comments on the draft TER report to be provided within one month (flexibility – up to 3 months to provide comments)
- Timeline to complete the TER report - no later than 12 months from the start of the technical expert review process
Facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress

- Response to written questions to be provided no later than one month prior to the working group session through the online platform (flexibility - submit written responses up to two weeks prior to the working group session)