CARICOM and AOSIS Perspectives on MRV and Transparency in 2020

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Transparency Issues at COP 25

• Under the Convention:
  – SBI Item 2(d): Multilateral assessment working group session under the international assessment and review process;
  – SBI Item 2 (e): Facilitative sharing of views under the International Consultation and Analysis
  – SBI Item 3: Reporting from and review of Parties included in Annex 1 to the Convention
    • (a) Status of submission and review of 7th national communications and 3rd biennial reports from Parties included in Annex 1 to the Convention
    • (b) Compilations and syntheses of 2nd and 3rd biennial reports from Parties included in Annex 1 to the Convention
    • (c) Reports on national greenhouse gas inventory data from Parties included in Annex 1 to the Convention for the periods 1990-2016 and 1990-2017
  – SBI Item 4: Reporting from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
    • (a) Information contained in National Communications from Parties not included in Annex 1 to the Convention
    • (b) Report of the Consultative Group of Experts
    • (c) Provision of financial and technical support
    • (d) Summary reports on the technical analysis of biennial update reports of Parties not included in Annex 1 to the Convention
  – SBSTA Item 10: Methodological Issues under the Convention

• Under the Paris Agreement:
  – SBSTA Item 11: Methodological issues under the Paris Agreement
AOSIS/CARICOM Asks

• Agreement on some sort of process for approaching work next year that would ensure timely completion by COP 26 to include mandate for Secretariat and or co facilitators to produce work intersessionally for further development

• Clear understanding of the use of flexibility allowances under MPG, including a summary table on flexibility use; no deletion of columns – consistent approach across action and support

• Maximum clarity and avoidance of double counting in the CTFs for support provided and mobilized.

• Use of CRTs and CTFs with a view to promoting TACCC principles

• Expanded capacity building support in particular for SIDS and LDCs especially for generating data, and for reporting on support needed and received

• Training programmes for expert reviewers to be developed collaboratively by the Secretariat, the Lead Reviewers and the CGE
Results – Disappointing

- SBI Item 2(d): Multilateral assessment working group session under the international assessment and review process - Completed
- SBI Item 2 (e): Facilitative sharing of views under the International Consultation and Analysis – Completed
- SBI Item 3: Reporting from and review of Parties included in Annex 1 to the Convention – Will continue at SBI 52
- SBI Item 4: Reporting from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
  - (a) Information contained in National Communications from Parties not included in Annex 1 to the Convention – Held in Abeyance
  - (b) Report of the Consultative Group of Experts – Did not conclude TOR
  - (c) Provision of financial and technical support – Will continue at SBI 52
  - (d) Summary reports on the technical analysis of biennial update reports of Parties not included in Annex 1 to the Convention – Took note of information presented
- SBSTA Item 10: Methodological Issues under the Convention
  - 3 Rule 16 & 2 SBSTA 54
- SBSTA Item 11: Methodological issues under the Paris Agreement – Rule 16
Article 13 of Paris Agreement

• Establishes an Enhanced Transparency Framework
  – 2 reporting requirements & 2 review mechanisms

• Reporting
  – Art 13.7 (a): Parties to submit a national inventory report (NIR)
    • Can be part of biennial transparency report (BTR) or stand-alone report
  – Art 13.7 (b): Parties to regularly provide in their BTRs information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving their NDCs

• Review: Technical Expert Review of BTRs & Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress (FMCP)
• Article 13 provides “built in flexibility” to developing countries that need it in light of their capacities

• 1/CP.21 specifies that this includes flexibility “in the scope, frequency and level of detail of reporting, and in the scope of the review”
COP 24/CMA 1 Decision

• Adopted set of modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) to operationalize framework for reporting and review
• MPG to be applied by all Parties except LDCs and SIDS no later than end of 2024
• MPG established the methodologies to be used by Parties in developing their NIRs, information needed for reporting progress on NDCs and terms of technical expert review and the FMCP
• Requested SBSTA to develop for CMA 3/COP 26
  – Common reporting tables for NIRs and common tabular formats (CTFs) for information necessary to track progress (as well as CTFs for reporting of support provided/mobilized and needed/received), taking into account existing reporting formats
  – Outlines of the BTR, NIR and technical expert review reports
  – Training programme for technical expert reviewers

• None of this was achieved; No intersessional work
• Limited time for work before COP 26 in Nov 2020
Common Reporting Tables for NIRs

- Standardized data tables with mainly quantitative data
- Intended to help ensure inventories include transparent documentation and data to enable reviewers to understand underlying assumptions and calculations of emissions and removals
- At CMA 2/COP 25 co-facilitators introduced draft summary tables as basis for further work
- Parties could not agree on common tables that could serve as the basis for further work
Co-facilitators Draft Summary Tables

• Summary and trend tables
• Sectoral report for industrial processes and product use – emission of HFCs, PFCs, SF$_6$, NF$_3$
• Summary report for CO$_2$ eq emissions
• Emission trends - GHG CO$_2$ eq emissions
• Emission trends - CO$_2$
• Emission trends – CH$_4$
• Emission trends – N$_2$O
• Emission trends - HFCs, PFCs, SF$_6$, NF$_3$
• Emission trends - Summary
Options for Flexibility in Summary Tables

• Use of footnotes to explain where flexibility in MPGs has been used
• Use of existing notation keys such as NO for “not occurring” or NE for “not estimated” or a new notation key to explain why data is not provided
• Use of documentation box below table to note flexibility used
• Removing or hiding rows, columns or tables where a Party is reporting no data
• Narrative descriptions in the inventory document
Co-facilitators proposals:

- Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans, including mitigation co-benefits from adaptation actions and economic diversification
- Projections of GHG emissions and removals
- Key underlying assumptions and parameters used for projections
- Information necessary to track progress on implementation and achievement of domestic policies and measures to address social and economic consequences of response measures
Structured Summary

- Description of Party’s NDC, including any updates
- Self-selected, relevant indicators for tracking progress towards implementation and achievement of party’s NDC including most recent information for each indicator for each reporting year
- Party’s accounting approach for its 1\textsuperscript{st} NDC and for its 2\textsuperscript{nd} and subsequent NDCs with a description of how its accounting is consistent with CMA guidance
- Descriptions of methodologies and/or accounting approaches used, for targets, baselines and indicators
- Information necessary to track progress on implementation and achievement of domestic policies and measures for Parties with and NDC that consists of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans with mitigation co-benefits
- An emission balance on the basis of corresponding adjustments for those participating in cooperative approaches
- For 1\textsuperscript{st} BTR following end of Party’s NDCs, a self-assessment of whether NDC was achieved
Status

• To accommodate all NDC types, MPGDs require Parties to report “in a narrative and common tabular format, as applicable”

• Progress made except for Structured Summary

• Differences on interpretation of “as applicable”
  – One group: “narrative and [CTF] as applicable”. Narrative for qualitative information and CTF for quantitative information
  – Others: a narrative, tabular or other format most appropriate for its NDC type. No need for a CTF to present structured summary

• Options under consideration for Structured Summary
  – Common tabular formats
  – Narratives
  – Graphs or graphics
  – A combination
Training of Expert Reviewers

- Art 13.11 requires information provided by Parties (GHG Inventories, Reporting of Progress and for developed countries, Reporting of Support Provided) undergo a Technical Expert Review (TER)
- SBSTA was requested to develop a training programme for Technical Expert Reviewers
- UNFCCC Secretariat has historically led development of training programmes
- Since 2014 Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) has managed training programme for teams of technical experts that conduct technical analysis of BURs
- CMA1/COP 24 extended term of CGE for another 8 years and CMA decided that CGE would serve Paris Agreement
  - Provide technical advice and support to developing countries in preparing BTRs and improving reporting over time
  - Provide technical advice to Secretariat on implementation of training of expert reviewers
  - SBI was to recommend revised TOR for CGE, however disagreement on whether CGE should play more direct role in development of training programme
• Difficult to complete work on Transparency by COP 26 deadline
• Delay will put 2024 launch of reporting under Enhanced Transparency Framework at risk
• Undermines a central feature of Paris Agreement architecture
• Parties need to renew efforts to foster spirit of cooperation and trust in proceeding with and finalizing Transparency negotiations