

Joint Informal Consultation on APA Agenda Item 4 on further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the PA and Agenda Item 5 on modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Art. 13 of the Paris Agreement

Tuesday, 8 May 2018, 10-11am, Chamber Hall, SB48

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The joint informal consultation started at 10.09am.

Materials for discussion for joint informal consultations on APA items 4 and 5 are available [here](#)

Co-Facilitator that this meeting was discussed at Heads of Delegation meeting last week.

- Avoid risk of duplication
- Nothing gets left behind
- Provided this space
- 3 objectives:
 1. Inform Parties of work under APA 4, APA 5
 2. Identify and consider similarities and differences of items discussed under APA 4 and 5
 3. Revisit and reconsider questions asked by Co-Chairs at HoDs meeting
- Elements and linkages most visible, not to take decisions
- Inform each other of progress made, exchange views
- If possible, identify ways to manage linkages
- Co-Chairs considers this a trial for considering linkages

Updates for APA 4 and 5 were provided to Parties.

Guiding questions for the discussion:

- In light of the relationship between the guidance for the adaptation communication and the MPGs under Article 13.8, what is the information that should be requested in adaptation communication guidance, and what is the information that should be requested in Article 13.8 MPGs?
- What steps should Parties consider to minimize the risk of duplication of work between items 4 and 5, and, at the same time, ensure that everything that needs to be developed is developed, and that nothing is left behind because Parties are not certain where to address it?

Table:

Comparison of elements/headings in APA 4 informal note and section D of APA 5 informal note

APA 4: elements in annex I, option 1	APA 4: elements in annex I, option 2	APA 4: elements in Annex II	APA 5: proposed headings D.2-11 in light revision of the informal note
A. Common set of elements			
National circumstances	National circumstances, including population, levels of development, legal frameworks and institutions	National circumstances	D.2. National circumstances and institutional arrangements
Impacts, vulnerabilities and risk assessments	Expected impacts, risks and vulnerability and adaptive capacity	Impacts, vulnerabilities and risk assessments (including future scenarios)	D.3. Vulnerabilities, risks and impacts, and methodologies used
Adaptation priorities, policies, plans, actions, strategies and/or programmes, as appropriate	National goals related to adaptation, resilience, and reducing vulnerability	Adaptation priorities, policies, plans, actions, strategies and/or programmes, if applicable	D.4. Adaptation policies, strategies, plans and actions and efforts to mainstream adaptation into national policies and strategies
National goals related to adaptation, resilience, and reducing vulnerability	Adaptation priorities, plans, strategies, planned actions, resilience-building activities and expected results	Adaptation support needs of developing country Parties	D.5. Information related to loss and damage
Adaptation support needs of developing country Parties	Economic diversification plans	Communication of indicative projected levels of public financial resources to be provided by developed country Parties to developing country Parties, including finance, technology and capacity-building	D.6. Adaptation priorities, barriers, costs and needs
Adaptation efforts of developing countries (for recognition)	Co-benefits of adaptation	Contributions to adaptation	D.7. Progress on implementation of adaptation
Communication of indicative projected levels of public financial resources to be provided by developed country Parties to developing country Parties, including finance, technology and capacity-building	Cooperation to enhance adaptation at national, regional and international levels	Information on adaptation actions that result in mitigation co-benefits	D.8. Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions and processes
B. Additional / opt in opt out	Information on synergies with other international conventions	Information on economic diversification efforts, if applicable	D.9. Cooperation, good practices, experiences, and lessons learned
Information on adaptation actions that result in mitigation co-benefits	Implementation and support needs, including the costs of meeting those adaptation needs	Information on sustainable development efforts, if applicable	D.10. Effectiveness of adaptation efforts
Cooperative dimension at the national, regional and international level	Adaptation actions currently under implementation	Timeframe	D.11. Recognition of adaptation efforts
Progress on implementing adaptation actions and plans	Implementation and results achieved	Means of implementation	
Economic diversification plans; information on adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans and/or national development plans that result in mitigation co-benefits	Monitoring and evaluation, and approaches used	Traditional knowledge or community-based adaptation climate change and local communities' involvement, if applicable	
Adaptation efforts of developing countries (for recognition)	Good practices, lessons learned and information sharing		
Traditional knowledge or community-based adaptation climate change and local communities' involvement	Barriers for implementation of adaptations, challenges, and gaps		
Legal framework and institutional arrangements as appropriate			
Monitoring and evaluation			

- Colors: indicates that there are overlaps
- No color: only covered in one Agenda Item

New Zealand

- Same guidance be used for Art 7 and Art 13.8 – don't think is practical to have two sets of guidance on how Parties communicate adaptation, impacts to vulnerability etc.
- High level guidance
- Not very prescriptive
- Careful with level of detail
- Can be most effectively done in our process between now and meeting in Poland
- Very large amount of work for Art 13 MPGs – development of guidance should be given in its entirety to APA Agenda Item 4

South Africa

- African Group
- Kind of content to be included in AC include assessments of particular impacts on vulnerability in context of temperature outcome of current NDCs, global goals we have agreed on, adaptation priorities, all programmes as appropriate, adaptation support needs of developing countries and contribute to GST for recognition
- Info that should be reported under transparency framework primarily concerned with adaptation efforts undertaken by countries, reflecting what Parties have done which is analogous with other information provided under TF i.e. impacts, progress on implementation

on adaptation, experiences, monitoring and evaluation in national MRV systems, common experiences Parties wish to share.

- Qualitative and quantitative
- Suggest that two groups work in this respect – use conceptual distinction to develop two sets of guidance
- Feel that there are two clear options in transparency, which is in direct reference to APA Agenda Item 4

Ecuador

- LMDC
- Thank you for opportunity to exchange views on transparency and adaptation
- Understand that in the Adaptation room, strong linkage between TF and APA 4
- APA 4 should develop info for AC as part of or in conjunction with NC, NAP, etc.
- Information that should be developed under APA 4 is info related to national circumstances, adaptation priorities, supports and needs – should be clearly stated in this Agenda Item and APA 5 should develop MPGs to review items in Art 13.7b or include in Art 13.8
- Important to maintain discussion on AC but also as part of NDCs in APA 4 given there is a place where adaptation and experts on adaptation are taking place

Uruguay

- Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay
- Welcome joint session with APA 4 and 5 and appreciate presence of four Co-Facilitators
- As in our submission, our understanding of TF – “shall” and “should” should remain as an approach
- Significant difference in terms of how adaptation relates to the review; adaptation excluded from full review under TF
- Nature of information is related
- To have a placeholder in APA 5 that relates to work on APA 4 – list of elements
- Under APA 5 – all elements should be optional
- Recognize in chapeau in APA 5 might be needed to address nature of list of elements when they are being treated in Art 7.10 and Art 13.8
- Further work might be needed but see opportunity to discuss and placeholder

European Union

- Support views by New Zealand
- Information in AC and MPGs cover mostly the same content, MPGs are one vehicle to submit AC
- Minimize risk of duplication – make reference to adaptation information in MPGs and wait for output of APA 4
- Flexible on exact way on integrating work from APA 4 in MPGs 1) refer to APA text in MPGs or 2) copy and paste; look at APA 4 outcome at the end and see what is the best approach
- One issue to be discussed in APA 5 on objectives – reference to Art 13 there
- Point to fact that interlinkages with APA 4 and MPGs do not only relate to adaptation; also interlinkages on support provided and received for adaptation and we think info should be part

of relevant sections of MPGs under APA 5 and also linkage with SBSTA work on support provided and received

- Another linkage to MPGs – info on adaptation actions that result in mitigation co-benefits; Art 13.7b; discussed by Parties
- Agree with Uruguay that we do not see scope of TER as we discuss cover info on adaptation under Art 13, para 8.

United States

- Incredibly important to work to reflect adaptation underway for those who choose to present
- Some things we would not agree with, many overlaps:
- Capture info on national circumstances, institutional arrangements, vulnerability,... ,adaptation priorities and barriers, cooperation on adaptation action, sustainability of adaptation action and more.
- Note no vehicle for AC, Parties can choose their vehicle for this
- Support mobilized, support provided and received; will be reported in APA 5 (EU mentioned, clear mandate on that)
- Mitigation co-benefits, economic diversification – in tracking progress in MPGs
- Climate change impacts; adaptation experts to develop guidance – but concerned about not having time. Can be flexible in division of work so long as 1) we don't change the voluntary nature of adaptation reporting 2) not be too prescriptive on vehicle

Norway

- Useful to take stock of what's happening in the two different rooms
- Info required under AC, Art 13.8 on adaptation quite similar – table provided shows that we do to large degree have same elements; should request same information
- APA 4 and 5 similar info to be generated
- Quite comprehensive
- For AC, important that it is comprehensive enough for various vehicles that AC can be submitted under
- On steps we should take, we believe we have good momentum in our deliberations in APA 4 and 5 – should continue to work as we have up to now and we can make further progress and at some point in time can have another stocktake and see where we are at
- Could address further linkages of other sections under APA 5 identified before

Bhutan

- LDCs
- Adaptation is very important to our group and space to provide information is important, discussion is essential
- AC is a space for us to provide forward looking adaptation information whereas report as S. Africa mentioned is on actions taken towards achieving global goal of adaptation. Scope of adaptation coming out of transparency is not subsequently going to be subject to review
- Not just linkages between transparency and AC – actually flows across several Agenda Items but APA 4 outcomes is going to be useful for APA 5

- Issues not completely captured under APA 4, which may have to be captured under 5
- APA 5: using items coming from APA 4 and operationalizing it
- Important to maximize time but we also see that we cannot avoid duplication completely, need to reduce it but a lot of info going to be useful from 5 that flows into 4
- What we are doing here is excellent – keep checking on progress made in APA 4

Colombia

- AILAC
- Thank you for opportunity to share on division of labor to advance work in short time that we have
- Important we come out of this session on work in Agenda Items
- Different substance of work in each Agenda Items
- On APA 4 AC, working on a mandate to work on guidance required to provide content of AC based on Art 7.10 (things that Parties will do, and will go to GST for collective action); APA 5 is on report on progress that Parties said they would do
- Expect discussions under TF on adaptation will continue – important to continue. Recognition of efforts, sharing of experiences and lessons, understanding progress towards global goal on adaptation.
- Still thinking of way forward

Canada

- Clarity and way forward
- APA has given clear mandate to APA 4; guidance on communicating on adaptation
- All guidance for AC to be addressed in APA 4 – to have effective discussion and ensure that all experts are in the room
- Prevent duplication in two rooms
- Clear division of labor
- LMDC's point – adaptation not included in TER

Saudi Arabia

- Useful session, appreciate organization of this joint session
- Arab Group, support LMDC position
- Closely related work, but different
- Important to have conversation in both rooms
- Outlined difference between two mandates of APA 4 and 5

China

- Support intervention of Ecuador on behalf of LMDC
- Useful table to start work here
- Hear different understanding on what should be developed under APA 4 and 5, respect different views
- In terms of a pragmatic way to move forward to save way and time, support dividing work here between APA 4 and 5

- South Africa suggested elements on how to divide work but which can be developed where can be discussed by two groups
- By no means pre-judge what should be reported under AC or under TF
- Some debates on vehicles and nature
- Once two groups develop guidance, decide on what to do with both vehicles and nature
- Agree with others that adaptation should not be reviewed, don't stop countries if they want to be reviewed and any review should be given enough support

Egypt

- Support interventions by South Africa for African Group and Ecuador for LMDC and Saudi Arabia for Arab Group
- APA 4 – forward looking, NDCs, NDCs should be one of vehicles as part Art 7.11 (clear ref to Art 4.2)
- APA 5 should focus on implementation of adaptation

Switzerland

- EIG
- Useful to get common understanding of what we around doing here
- Table is useful because it shows us that work undertaken between two groups is very similar
- Guidance should be there same
- NCs one vehicle
- Parties have different ways to conceptualize reporting under Art 13.8 and AC – acknowledge that different views on forward looking vs. backward looking elements and those relating to long-term goals – however, believe we have run into discussion that issues are raised in two rooms.
- Able hands of adaptation experts in APA 4
- Close coordination in AC experts required to ensure guidance do not have any overlaps or gaps in the end

South Africa

- African Group
- Table useful, commonalities reflection that some Parties submitted fairly similar proposals – does not reflect Parties views
- Two distinct approaches to this issues
- We regard in transparency that we deal with all of the items in a balanced manner including reporting on adaptation – should keep discussing this in transparency
- China's suggestion on how to proceed are interesting – useful to explore creative ways for Bangkok session

Kuwait

- Align with interventions by South Africa for African Group and Ecuador for LMDC and Saudi Arabia for Arab Group
- CBDR & RC, national circumstances

- On duplications, this is the first trial we will be facing – “aim and shoot”, will face some duplication in first report that’s why we ask for modalities and review, looking for second trial
- Some developing countries will be submitting for the first time, so will be looking at some duplications

Ecuador

- See value in this discussion
- Can exchange some views, to clarify question from our colleague from Canada
- Hope to continue in next session in Bangkok

India

- Welcome initiative to have joint session of APA 4 and 5
- Believe this is an important issue and need to continue discussions in both Agenda Items as expressed by many Parties
- Different tracks – forward looking in AC, and in transparency talking about actions taken and experience
- Support interventions by South Africa for African Group and Ecuador for LMDC which clearly state that these are important issues – basic principle of additional burden on developing country Parties should be avoided

Japan

- Difficult to distinguish between forward and backward looking information

Co-Facilitators thanked colleagues for sharing, and rich exchange.

- Clear from statements that Parties have identified relationship between two items and this is why there is such a good exchange
- Different views of nature and relationship of items
- Important to continue work under both items as plans
- Not possible to pre-judge how items will be considered under APA
- Parties are aware and appreciate the overlaps as shown in the tool
- Committed to designing a way forward what does not create any additional burden
- Will communicate to Co-Chairs about this session
- APA 4 will continue in informal consultation at 6pm in Chamber Hall
- APA 5 will continue in informal consultation at 3pm in Chamber Hall
- Thank you and look forward to continued discussions

The joint informal consultation ended at 11.07am.