United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

The Paris Agreement's Ambition Mechanism – review processes and the global stocktake

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Outline

- Milestones under the UNFCCC process
- Climate change and biodiversity
- ❖ The Paris Agreement
 - Landscape and interrelationships
 - Purpose and long-term goals
 - Review mechanism/Global stocktake
- Closing remarks



The multilateral process | Timeline and milestones

IPCC Assessments:

- ❖ AR5: we are "not on track to stay below 2 °C"
- ❖ SR 1.5:
 - Av. temperature has risen by approx. 1 °C any bit of additional warming matters
 - CO2 emissions need to drop by 45% below 2010 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2050 to achieve 1.5°C goal → still possible within laws of physics (unprecedented transformation required)

(I)NDCs:

Median global mean temperature increase of 2.8–3.1 °C by 2100

Copenhagen Accord (2009) Cancun Agreements (2010) Paris Agreement (2015) Katowice Climate Package (2018)

Kyoto Protocol 1997

UNFCCC (1992)

Climate change: Environmental → Developmental → Existential



Climate change and biodiversity

Protects biodiversity and supports healthy ecosystems

Climate-resilient world

...an urgent need for addressing climate change to curb biodiversity decline \rightarrow some land-use related mitigation measures could unintentionally exacerbate biodiversity decline (IPCC and IPBES)

World with rich biodiversity

Crucial to redouble efforts to decouple positive climate action from negative impacts elsewhere

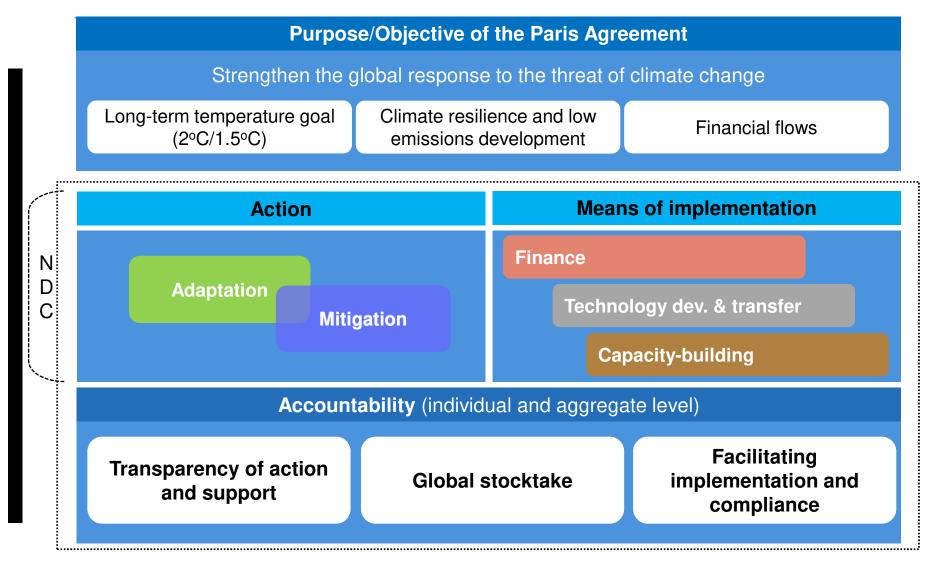
Protects communities from the adverse impacts of climate change, retains ecosystem services for humans and provides a negative emissions service

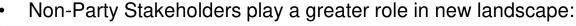
The Paris Agreement notes the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems and the protection of biodiversity

October 2018: Workshop to bring together biodiversity and climate science for coherent policy – CBD/IPCC/IPBES/UNFCCC

→ May 2020: Joint IPCC-IPBES workshop to address synergies and trade-offs between biodiversity protection and climate change mitigation and adaptation

The Paris Agreement | Landscape





- o Global climate action agenda: Platform to galvanize action by non-state actors
- Indigenous people

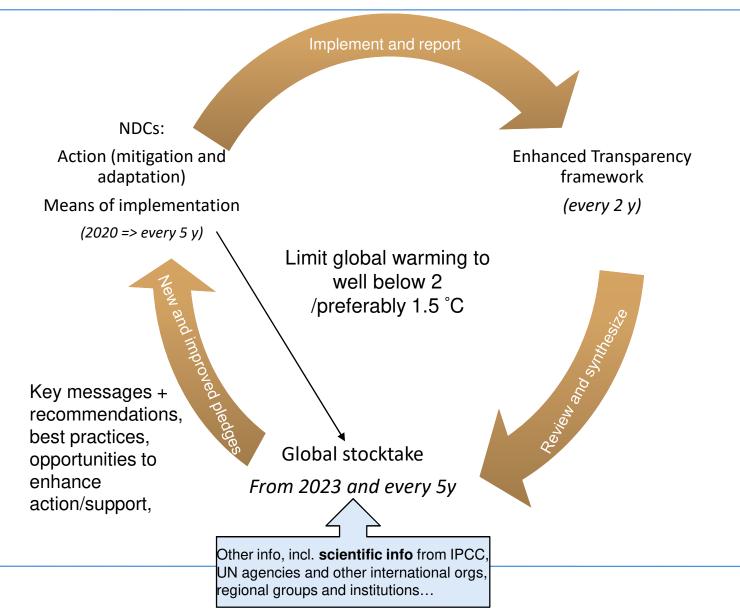
The Paris Agreement | Article 2 | Purpose + long-term goals of the Agreement

- (a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;
- (b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and
- (c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

Additional mitigation and adaptation long-term goals exist in Articles 4.1 and 7.1 respectively



The Paris Agreement | Interrelationship





Paris Agreement | Article 13 | Enhanced Transparency Framework of action and support

Developed country Parties (shall) and other All Parties (shall) Parties that provided support (should) National greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory Financial, technology transfer and capacityreport (Article 13.7(a)) building support provided to developing country Progress made in implementing and achieving Reporting Parties under Article 9, 10 and 11 (Article 119) nationally determined contribution (NDC) (Article 13.7(b)) Developing country Parties (should) All Parties (should, as appropriate) Financial, technology transfer and capacity-Climate change impacts and adaptation (Article building support needed and received under 13.8 Articles 9, 10 and 11 (Article 13.10) Developed country Parties (shall) All Parties (shall) Technical Undergo technical expert review of Undergo technical expert review of information expert review information submitted under Articles 13.9 submitted under Articles 13.7 (Article 13.11) (Article 13 11) Multilateral All Parties (shall) facilitative Multilateral facilitative consideration of progress with respect to efforts under Article 9, and its respective implementation and achievement of its NDCs (Article 13.11) consideration

^{*} The transparency framework shall recognize the special circumstances of the least developed countries and small island developing States (Article 13.3).



^{*} 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);

Paris Agreement | Article 13 | Enhanced Transparency Framework of action and support

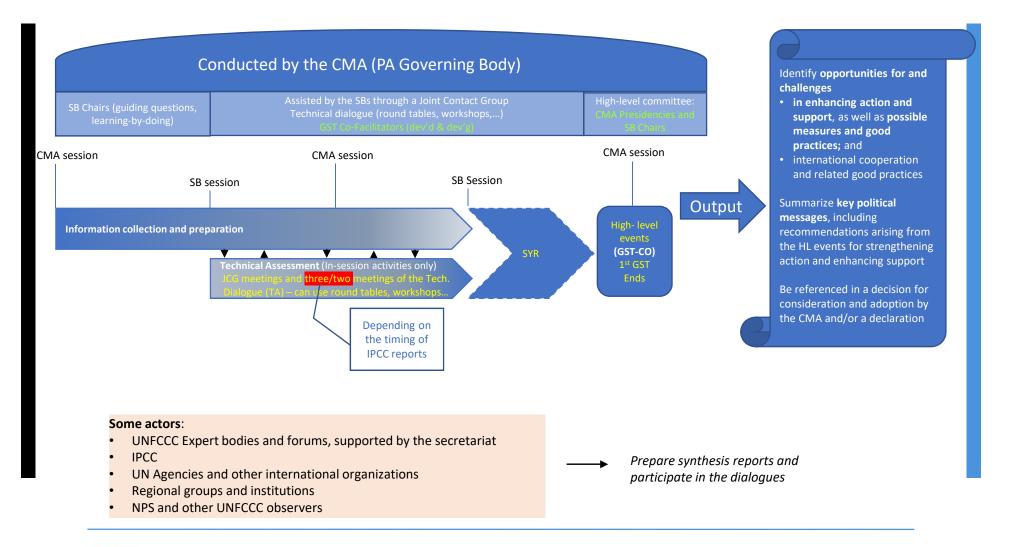
What is new?

- Centralized review, in-country review, desk review or simplified review for all
- One set of modalities, procedures and guidelines applicable to all Parties with flexibility to those developing countries that need it in the light of their capacities
- Need to (extent possible) identify, regularly update, and report on areas for improvement -> continuous improvement
- Provisions/requirements mostly mandatory ("shall")
- Stronger link between reporting, Review of progress and the compliance mechanism

Some benefits: Provides clarity and builds trust/transparency (basis for progress); reduces uncertainty/accuracy over time; identify issues to address/learning opportunities (adequacy of support provided); identify good practices, ...



Paris Agreement | Article 14 | Global Stocktake





Paris Agreement | Article 14 | Global Stocktake

(a)

Reports and communications from Parties, in particular those submitted under the Paris Agreement and the Convention **(b)**

The latest reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

(c)

Reports of the subsidiary bodies

(d)

Reports from relevant constituted bodies and forums and other institutional arrangements under or serving the Paris Agreement and/or the Convention **(e)**

The synthesis reports by the secretariat

(f)

Relevant reports from **United**Nations agencies and other
international organizations, that
should be supportive of the
UNFCCC process

(g)

Voluntary submissions from Parties, including on inputs to inform equity consideration under the global stocktake; **(h)**

Relevant reports from regional groups and institutions;

(i)

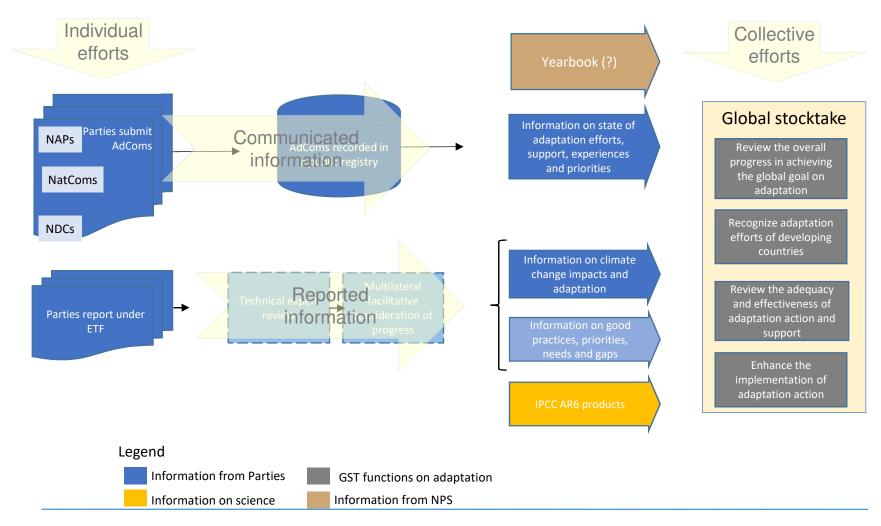
Submissions from non-Party stakeholders and UNFCCC observer organizations



Paris Agreement | Article 15 | Facilitative and Compliance Committee

- ❖ Expert-based and facilitative in nature, be transparent, non-adversarial and non-punitive — Pay attention to national capabilities and circumstances of Parties.
- ❖ Neither an enforcement or dispute settlement mechanism, no penalties/ sanctions, and shall respect national sovereignty.
- Consider a Party's own submissions on implementation of or compliance with the provisions of the PA.
- ❖ Measures: engage in a dialogue w Party, Assist Party, Recommend to Party, Issue findings of fact in rel. to matter.
- ❖ May identify issues of a systemic nature w.r.t. the implementation of and compliance of the PA faced by a number of Parties and bring to the attention of the CMA → CMA can also trigger.
- May seek expert advice, information from processes, bodies, arrangements and forums under or serving the Paris Agreement.

Paris Agreement | Article 7 | Adaptation





In closing...

- ❖ The current landscape is based on pledge-and-review
- ❖ It is a hybrid of bottom up (NDCs) and top-down (long-terms goals)
- ❖ It aims to:
 - Identify and showcase opportunities, possible measures and good practices
 - Identify challenges in implementation and make recommendations
 - Continuously enhance action and support over time
 - Continuously enhance international cooperation for climate action
- ❖ Reviews are carried out NOT to punish but to assist/facilitate → progress is assessed collectively
- National capabilities and circumstances are central to all interactions with Parties – flexibility for SIDS and LDCs
- * Relies on the best available science:
 - Integrated science (biodiversity + CC) to policy makers will lead to coherent policies
 → more consistent and compatible efforts by IPCC and IPBES
 - Follow "science driving policy" and "policy driving science" approach
- ❖ CBD could contribute to the global stocktake → cross fertilization



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Thank you

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