

Submission by the United States of America Common Tabular Formats For the Structured Summary

This supplemental submission complements and should be read in conjunction with our submission on views on the Article 13 work program dated April 2019¹.

Mandate

As noted in our previous submission, paragraph 77 of the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs) included in Chapter III of the Annex to decision 18/CMA.1 specifies the information that each Party shall provide in a structured summary to track progress made in implementing and achieving its NDC under Article 4. Unlike the common reporting tables for the national inventory report, there are not corresponding tables in current reporting guidance to draw from. However, the MPGs themselves provide a clear starting point for developing the common tabular formats associated with the structured summary.

Paragraph 77 indicates that the information each Party provides in its structured summary shall include the information referred to in the preceding paragraphs 65 to 76, as well as the information listed in subparagraphs 77 (a)-(d). Paragraph 78 includes an additional reporting requirement for each Party with an NDC under Article 4 that consists of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans resulting in mitigation co-benefits consistent with Article 4, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement.

As such, the MPGs provide a clear indication of the rows and columns that should be included in common tabular formats for tracking progress towards the implementation and achievement of each Party's NDC under Article 4. Similarly, as accounting is to be demonstrated through the structured summary, the accounting elements specified in Annex II to decision 4/CMA.1 provide an indication of additional rows to be included.²

This supplemental submission provides examples of how those tables might be developed. Parties may choose to also request complementary narrative information for some or all of the provisions included in Section III.C of the MPGs, or in Annex II to decision 4/CMA.1, when developing the outline of the BTR.

Sample tables

Using paragraphs 65-78 as a starting point, it is relatively simple to identify the columns, and rows, for the common tabular formats that will comprise the structured summary. For ease of reporting and reading, we suggest organizing this reporting into four tables:

- The first table includes information to understand the NDC target(s) and related indicator(s);
- The second table includes information on the accounting approach(es), methodologies, and definitions used when tracking progress;

¹ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/201904161028---United%20States%20Submission%20on%20Art%2013%20Work%20Program.docx.pdf>

² For simplicity, accounting elements from Annex II of decision 4/CMA.1 are not listed as rows if they overlap significantly with provisions of the MPGs that are also specified.

- The third table brings together information on the indicator(s) for the reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s) or starting point(s); the most recent information for each reporting year during NDC implementation; and final information for the target year or period. For each Party that participates in cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards an NDC under Article 4, or authorizes the use of mitigation outcomes for international mitigation purposes other than achievement of its NDC, this also includes the information requested in paragraph 77(d).
- The fourth table, which is reported only in the first biennial transparency report that contains information on the end year or end of the period of its NDC under Article 4, brings together the information on the achievement of the Party's NDC target.

The following tables illustrate how this information might be organized:

Table 1. NDC Target and Indicators	
NDC Target	
1. Description of the target of the Party's NDC under Article 4 (para 64(a))	
2. Provide any definitions needed to understand the NDC under Article 4 (para 76(a))	
3. Confirm if all categories of anthropogenic emissions and removals are included the NDC, and, once a source, sink or activity is included, continue to include it (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 3(b))	
4. Confirm that all sources, sinks or activities included in previous NDCs continue to be included in the NDC (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 3(b))	
5. Providing an explanation of why any categories of anthropogenic emissions or removals are excluded in the NDC (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 4)	
Indicators	
6. Indicator 1 to track progress towards the implementation and achievement of its NDC under Article 4 (para 65)	
7. Information on Indicator 1 for the reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s) or starting point(s). Specify base year(s) or other reference or starting point(s) (para 67)	
8. Indicate if the information on Indicator 1 included in line 3 above has been updated in accordance with any update of the national GHG inventory (para 67)	Yes/No
9. Provide any definitions needed to understand Indicator 1 (para 73)	
10. Describe how Indicator 1 is related to the NDC under Article 4 (para 76(a))	

If the NDC under Article 4 has more than one target, complete the table for each target. If more than one indicator has been identified under paragraph 65 for a target, repeat rows 6-10 for each indicator.

Table 2. Accounting approach, methodologies, and definitions	
<i>For the Party's first NDC under Article 4:</i>	
A1. Explain the accounting approach used for the Party's first NDC under Article 4 (para 71)	
A2. Explain how the accounting approach is consistent with Articles 4.13 and 4.14 (para 71)	
<i>For the Party's second and subsequent NDCs under Article 4, and optionally for the first NDC under Article 4 (decision 4/CMA.1 para 14, para 71):</i>	
B1. Explain how reporting on the accounting approach used is consistent with paragraphs 13-17 and Annex II of decision 4/CMA.1 (para 72)	
B2. Explain how the accounting for anthropogenic emissions and removals is in accordance with methodologies and common metrics assessed by the IPCC and in accordance with decision 18/CMA.1 (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 1 (d))	
B3. Explain how consistency has been maintained between any greenhouse gas data and estimation methodologies used for accounting and the Party's greenhouse gas inventory, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 7(a), of the Paris Agreement, if applicable (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 2(b))	
B4. Explain how overestimation or underestimation has been avoided for any projected emissions and removals used for accounting (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 2 (c))	
B.5 For Parties that apply technical changes to update reference points, reference levels or projections confirm which of the following changes were made: either of the following in the changes: (i) Changes in the Party's inventory; (ii) Improvements in accuracy that maintain methodological consistency (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 2(d))	
B6. Report any methodological changes and technical updates made during the implementation of the NDC (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 2 (e))	
<i>For each NDC under Article 4:</i>	

C1. Provide any definitions needed to understand the accounting approach used (para 73);	
C2. Describe each accounting approach or methodology used to assess the implementation and achievement of the target (para 74(a));	
C3. Describe each accounting approach or methodology used to construct any baseline (para 74(b));	
C4. If the accounting approach or methodology used for the indicator(s) in Table 1 differ from those used to assess the implementation and achievement the target, describe each accounting approach or methodology used to generate the information included for each indicator in Table 3 (para 74(c));	
C6. Provide details on key parameters, assumptions, definitions, data sources and models used (para 75(a))	
C7. Report the IPCC Guidelines used (para 75(b))	
C8. Report the metrics used (para 75(c))	
C9. Provide details on any approach used to address emissions and subsequent removals from natural disturbances on managed lands (para 75(d)(i)), or indicate the relevant section of the national greenhouse gas inventory report containing that information (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 1(e))	
C10. Provide details on which IPCC approach, if any, has been used to account for harvested wood products (para 75(d)(ii)), (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 1(f))	
C11. Provide details on any approach used to address the effects of age-class structure in forests and how this is consistent with relevant IPCC guidance, as appropriate (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 1(g))	
C12. Provide details on any methodologies used to account for mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans (para 75(e))	
C13. Provide details on any methodologies used to track progress arising from the implementation of policies and measures (para 75(g))	
C14. Provide details on any other methodologies related to the NDC under Article 4 (para 75(h));	
C15. Provide details on any conditions and assumptions relevant to the achievement of the NDC under Article 4 (para 75(i));	

C16. Explain how the methodology is consistent in scope and coverage, definitions, data sources, metrics, assumptions and methodological approaches, including on baselines, between the communication and implementation of nationally determined contributions (para 76(b)), (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 2(a))	
C17. Explain methodological inconsistencies with the Party's most recent national inventory report, if applicable (para 76(c))	
C18. Describe how double counting of net GHG emission reductions has been avoided, including in accordance with guidance developed related to Article 6 if relevant (para 76(d))	
C.19 Provide information on how the Party has drawn on existing methods and guidance established under the Convention and its related legal instruments, as appropriate, if applicable (Annex II decision 4/CMA.1 para 1 (c));	
<i>For each Party that participates in cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards an NDC under Article 4, or authorizes the use of mitigation outcomes for international mitigation purposes other than achievement of its NDC:</i>	
D1. Provide information on any methodologies associated with any cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards an NDC under Article 4 (para 75(f))	
D2. Provide information on how each cooperative approach promotes sustainable development, consistent with decisions adopted by the CMA on Article 6 (para 77(d)(iv))	
D3. Provide information on how each cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity consistent with decisions adopted by the CMA on Article 6 (para 77(d)(iv))	
D4. Provide information on how each cooperative approach ensures transparency, including in governance, consistent with decisions adopted by the CMA on Article 6 (para 77(d)(iv))	
D5. Provide information on how each cooperative approach applies robust accounting to ensure inter alia the avoidance of double counting, consistent with decisions adopted by the CMA on Article 6 (para 77(d)(iv))	

D6. Any other information consistent with decisions adopted by the CMA on reporting under Article 6 (para 77diii)	
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If the information requested in a row is not applicable to the Party's NDC under Article 4, the Party should use the notation key "NA" for "not applicable." If more than one accounting approach or methodology is used for the target(s), baseline(s) or indicator(s), or if there are multiple target(s), baseline(s) or indicator(s), repeat the relevant row for each accounting approach or methodology.

	Information for the reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s) or starting point(s) (Specify base year(s) or other reference or starting point (s), and relevant units)	The most recent information available in each reporting year (note year to which information corresponds)					Final information for the target year/period
		Reporting year 1	Reporting year 2	Reporting year 3	Reporting year 4	Reporting year 5	
1. Indicator 1 (para 65)							
2. Where applicable, information on GHG emissions and removals consistent with the coverage of its NDC under Article 4 (para 77(b))							
3. Contribution from the LULUCF sector for each year of the target period or target year, if not included in the inventory time series of total net GHG emissions and removals, as applicable (para 77(c));							

<i>For each Party that participates in cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards an NDC under Article 4, or authorizes the use of mitigation outcomes for international mitigation purposes other than achievement of its NDC³:</i>							
A1. The annual level of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks covered by the NDC on an annual basis reported biennially (para 77(d) (i))							
A2.1a Internationally transferred mitigation outcomes first-transferred/transferred for use towards an NDC under Article 4 (para 77(d)(ii))							
A2.1b Internationally transferred mitigation outcomes used/acquired for use towards the Party's NDC under Article 4 (para 77(d)(ii))							
A.2.2 Mitigation outcomes authorized for international mitigation purposes other than achievement of an NDC (para 77(d))							
A3. The net sum obtained by effecting an addition for A2.1a and A2.2 and a subtraction for A2.1b (para 77(d)(ii))							
<i>Emissions balance reflecting the level of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks covered by its NDC adjusted on the basis of corresponding adjustments undertaken by effecting an addition for internationally transferred mitigation outcomes first-transferred/transferred and a subtraction for internationally transferred mitigation outcomes used/acquired, consistent with decisions adopted by the CMA on Article 6 (para 77(d)(ii))</i>	A4. The total quantity to be correspondingly adjusted, taking into account A3 above, and consistent with the accounting approach described in Table 2, row C2 as relates to cooperative approaches (paras 74(a), 77(d)(ii))						
	A5. An emissions balance reflecting the level of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks covered by its NDC adjusted on the basis of corresponding adjustments reflected in A4						
A6. Any other information consistent with decisions adopted by the CMA on reporting under Article 6 (para 77diii)							

³ Per paragraph 4 of decision 8/CMA1, information provided in a structured summary referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, paragraph 77(d), is without prejudice to the outcomes on matters relating to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and paragraphs 36–40 of decision 1/CP.21.

If more than one indicator has been identified under paragraph 65 for a target, repeat row 1 for each indicator.

For the first NDCs under Article 4 for Parties with a ten-year NDC implementation period (i.e., 2020 to 2030) there will be five biennial reporting years, and the columns for reporting years 1-5 correspond to BTRs submitted in 2024 (reporting year 1), 2026 (reporting year 2), 2028 (reporting year 3), 2030 (reporting year 4), and 2032 (reporting year 5).

For the first NDCs under Article 4 for Parties with a five-year implementation period (i.e., 2020-2025) there will be three biennial reporting years, and the columns for reporting years 1-3 correspond to BTRs submitted in 2024 (reporting year 1), 2026 (reporting year 2), and 2028 (reporting year 3). In this case, columns 4 and 5 would not be applicable.

Each Party that participates in cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards an NDC under Article 4, or authorizes the use of mitigation outcomes for international mitigation purposes other than achievement of its NDC, will need to insert additional columns to accommodate annual figures reported biennially.

Table 4. Achievement of the Party's NDC Under Article 4 (para 70)	
<i>For the first biennial transparency report that contains information on the end year or end of the period of its NDC under Article 4</i>	
1. Restate the target of the Party's NDC under Article 4, per Table 1 line 1	
2. Final information for Indicator 1 for the target year/period, per Table 3 line 1, or per Table 3 line A5 for each Party that participates in cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards an NDC under Article 4, or authorizes the use of mitigation outcomes for international mitigation purposes other than achievement of its NDC	
3. Based on the information provided in rows 1 and 2, did the Party achieve its NDC under Article 4?	Yes/No

If the Party's NDC under Article 4 includes more than one target, repeat this table for each target. If a target includes more than one indicator, repeat row 2 for this target. Each Party may also provide additional information to support its assessment of the achievement of its NDC under Article 4.