

SUBMISSION BY SLOVENIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

Governance and timelines for the 6.8 framework

20 October 2021

Implementation of Article 6.8

The EU and its member states would like to thank the SBSTA Chair for the encouragement to provide views ahead of the Article 6 events.

We want to recall our views expressed in our submission dated 16 June 2021¹.

We welcome this opportunity to address provisions for the Implementation of Article 6.8 and express our views specifically regarding the guiding questions under the headline “Governance and timelines for the 6.8 framework”:

We believe that non-market approaches (NMA) have a high potential to contribute in a coordinated and effective manner to the implementation of NDCs. In this regard, and recalling our submission on “Enabling ambition on Article 6”², it’s important to emphasize that cooperation through non-market approaches can deliver innovation and enable ambition, where such cooperation should be fostered and realized through a range of institutional arrangements and instruments, both inside and outside the UNFCCC.

We are open to seeking to further refine the arrangements and focus of the work programme, and we also recognize that the latest iteration of the Madrid text, on Article 6.8, is a good basis for further discussions, which already includes essential elements to find a compromise and a landing ground at COP 26, in Glasgow.

We aim for progress on the work programme at COP26 in 2021, which has to include a CMA decision, a further work programme as an Annex to that decision, and a work plan.

Regarding further elaborations of our approach to ensure a rapid operationalization of the Articles 6.2, 6.4, and 6.8, we refer to our corresponding submission, dated 05/10/2021³.

¹ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/202106161042---PT-06-16-2021%20EU%20Submission%20Article%206.8.pdf>

² <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/202106021558---PT-06-02-2021%20EU%20Submission%20on%20Enabling%20ambition%20in%20A6.pdf>

³ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/SubmissionsStaging/Documents/202105101017---PT-05-10-2021%20EU%20Submission%20Rapid%20Operationalization%20A6.pdf>

What milestones does the work programme need?

The work programme should be implemented as soon as possible under the guidance of the “NMA forum” as proposed in the latest version of the Madrid text, supported by submissions by parties and stakeholders, in order to enhance linkages and create synergies between mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology transfer, and capacity-building, in the context of sustainable development, human rights protection and poverty eradication, and in order to facilitate the implementation and coordination of non-market approaches. We have to ensure that the work programme is complementary and facilitative, and to avoid duplication of work with other work streams. The work programme activities could be grouped into steps/stages/sequences and should be time bound but could take place not necessarily one after another:

- identify areas of focus;
- identify the relevant existing non-market approaches within those areas;
- identify the existing linkages, synergies, coordination and implementation occurring between those non-market approaches;
- identify opportunities for the enhancement of existing linkages, creation of synergies, coordination and implementation of the non-market approaches in a local, national and global levels;
- assess the results of the previous steps and draw conclusions on how to enhance existing linkages and create synergies;
- proceed to the practical enhancement of linkages and creation of synergies through the relevant governance of the framework for nonmarket approaches.

The work programme activities could include establishing a collaboration web-platform to be maintained by the UNFCCC secretariat for the purpose of sharing information and the development and implementation of tools for promoting synergies and co-benefits and identifying linkages across different initiatives.

How will success of the work programme be assessed?

The criteria for success are essentially the objectives laid out in Article 6.8, and the success of the work programme can only be assessed with reference to its delivery of those objectives. More detailed success criteria could be elaborated as the focus of the programme is refined, and opportunities for synergies and efficiencies identified and implemented. We support the proposed review of the work programme with reference to these criteria by the CMA.



What are realistic options for governance arrangements?

We consider that it is premature to entertain specific institutional proposals, settings and arrangements, without clarity and prioritization of the issues to be addressed under the work programme, which means that any new discussion on governance should only happen after the implementation of the work programme, as part of the review.

The work-programme itself could be undertaken through the “NMA forum” as proposed in the latest version of the Madrid text. We believe the work of the NMA can be supported by the secretariat, and as the programme evolves we will need to address the financial implications in our decision.

How do these issues relate to the rest of the package (Article 6/ the wider Glasgow outcome) and how could resolving these issues contribute to reaching consensus?

We recognize that full and effective implementation of Article 6.8 is an essential element of the package of measures we want to see adopted in Glasgow. The subject matter covered is very broad and touches on a range of discussions being undertaken elsewhere, and it will be important to ensure that the work of the work programme is complementary to other work items being undertaken under the agreement, while avoiding duplication of work with other work streams.