

U.S. Submission - New Collective Quantified Goal 2023 Workplan

March 2023

The United States welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the 2023 Workplan for the ad hoc work programme of the new collective quantified goal, for consideration by the co-chairs of the ad-hoc work program. While work pertaining to the new collective quantified goal advanced in 2022, it is imperative that Parties and non-Party stakeholders meaningfully progress the deliberations in 2023 in order to conclude in 2024.

Work on the new collective quantified goal in 2022 identified key topics of interest across Parties and built needed trust among participants. However, these deliberations were relatively unstructured, provided limited time for meaningful engagement, struggled to facilitate broad participation, and did not sufficiently leverage the interlinkages between constituent parts (including the Technical Expert Dialogues, High-Level Ministerial Dialogue, and Co-Chairs' Annual Report). As was widely recognized at COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, there is room for improvement in 2023.

In this context, the United States strongly supports the development of a 2023 Workplan for the ad hoc work programme that addresses these shortcomings. Specifically, **the United States recommends that the 2023 Workplan focus principally on the 2023 Technical Expert Dialogues**, including specifying for each Technical Expert Dialogue:

- Proposed topics
- Indicative date and venue
- Key questions and proposed dialogue objectives
- Timeline for submissions

The United States also urges the co-chairs of the ad hoc work programme in 2023 to take steps to address these shortcomings, including by:

- Ensuring that Technical Expert Dialogues are well-structured, with clear organizing questions and objectives in advance;
- Providing sufficient time for in-depth engagement and exchange between Parties and relevant experts – particularly from non-Party stakeholders; and
- Preparing outputs of the Technical Expert Dialogues to be relevant and meaningful inputs to the High-Level Ministerial Dialogue to take place at COP28.

Proposed Topics for Technical Expert Dialogues in 2023

The United States proposes focusing Technical Expert Dialogues in 2023 on those key issues that have not yet been addressed in the deliberations to date, including elements specifically referenced in decisions 14/CMA.1, 9/CMA.3, and -/CMA.4. We would not propose revisiting in 2023 issues that were discussed in 2022. Specifically, the United States supports Technical Expert Dialogues on:

1. Innovative Approach(es) to the New Goal

A Technical Expert Dialogue on innovative approaches to the new goal will provide space to reflect on the purpose(s) of the new goal and the key features that flow from such purpose(s). Participants should be encouraged to think creatively about approaches, including those that

build upon and/or diverge from the existing approach. It is imperative for the new collective quantified goal to be articulated in a way that responds to the imperatives of the Paris Agreement, including the necessary roles of various actors in implementing Article 2.1(c) for the benefit of the Agreement's goals on limiting temperature rise and enhancing resilience/adaptation. Specifically, recognizing the scale of the investments required in this critical decade to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius and build a climate-resilient future for all, it is essential that the ad hoc work programme consider how the new collective quantified goal can facilitate a global economic transformation that contributes to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.

2. Article 2.1(c) of the Paris Agreement

A Technical Expert Dialogue on Article 2.1(c) of the Paris Agreement will consider in-depth how the new goal can contribute to achievement of Article 2.1(c), including efforts being undertaken to increase the demand for climate-related finance and investment, measures for scaling-up investments in climate-related activities and scaling-down investments in those activities that are actively harmful to the goals of the Paris Agreement, and work pertaining to climate-related financial risks. This Technical Expert Dialogue should consider these issues conceptually and practically, including as they relate to transparency and reporting as part of the new goal. While the relevance of Article 2.1(c) is explicitly referenced in decisions 14/CMA.1, 9/CMA.3, and -/CMA.4, there has been insufficient consideration within the ad hoc work programme of how the new goal can meaningfully contribute to the achievement of Article 2.1(c).

3. Policies and Enabling Environments

A Technical Expert Dialogue on policies and enabling environments to attract climate finance will provide experts an opportunity to consider how policy efforts being undertaken by Parties to incentivize climate action across different national circumstances – including the relationship between ambitious NDCs and climate investments – are accounted for within the new goal. Creating the right incentives for climate action through policies and other measures is one of the central roles of governments as they pursue ambitious climate action.

4. Impacts and Effectiveness

A Technical Expert Dialogue on impacts and effectiveness will focus on how impacts and effectiveness are approached, accounted for, and monitored in the context of the new goal. Climate finance in discussions under the UNFCCC process to-date has focused predominantly on issues of quantity rather than quality. It is essential that the new goal not only focus on the volume of finance flowing toward climate-related activities, but also how effective that finance is at contributing to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. Particularly as the cost of key technologies falls, an impact-based approach to climate finance is essential to assure that we are pursuing and incentivizing the actions which are most effective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or build resilience, rather than those which are simply most expensive. This is a complex topic that must be explored in detail, including to consider how our understanding of effectiveness differs across contexts – such as in LDCs and SIDS – in order to avoid disadvantaging the most vulnerable.