

**Submission by the Republic of Mali on behalf of the African Group of
Negotiators**
on
**Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines, as appropriate, for the Transparency
of Action and Support**
30 September 2016

Background

Article 13 of the Paris Agreement established the Transparency Framework for action and support. Building on experience from the arrangements related to transparency under the Convention, and elaborating on the provisions in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1) is to adopt modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs), as appropriate, for the transparency of action and support.

The Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the Ad hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) to develop recommendations for MPGs in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 13, of the Paris Agreement, and to define the year of their first and subsequent review and update, as appropriate, at regular intervals, for consideration at COP 24 (2018), with a view to forwarding them to CMA 1 for consideration and adoption. The COP also requested the APA to report on the progress of work on these MPGs to future sessions of the COP, and that this work be concluded no later than 2018.

Through this submission, the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) is responding to the APA invitation¹ to Parties to submit, by 30 September 2016, its views on APA agenda item 5, “Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement”.

Context

The African Group is of the view that the development of the MPGs for the Transparency Framework must be guided by the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC.

The design of the Transparency Framework must respect national circumstances, must take into account the need to balance the political will and technical efforts to improve the quality of reporting over time and the existing capacities together with challenges of developing these capacities over time.

It is also important that the development of MPGs does not lead to increased reporting burden for developing countries while maintaining a status quo for developed countries.

Article 13 of the Paris Agreement

Key building blocks

The development of the MPGs for the Transparency Framework must elaborate and be based on the guidelines and modalities of the existing transparency arrangements under the

¹ www.unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/apa/eng/l03.pdf

Convention, namely the Biennial Reports (BR) and IAR (International Analysis and Review) for developed countries and Biennial Update Report (BUR) and ICA (International Consultation and Analysis) for developing countries, as mentioned in Article 13.3 of the Paris Agreement.

The African Group is also of the view that the flexibility provision as indicated under the Transparency Framework contained in Article 13.2 of the Paris Agreement is applicable only to the developing country Parties. In terms of scope, the flexibility provision in Article 13 is applicable to the information that will be reported, the technical review and the facilitative, multilateral consideration.

We are of the view that the BUR, BR, IAR and ICA processes are the main pillars of the Transparency Framework, from the reporting to the analysis (Multilateral Assessment and Facilitative Sharing of Views). Recent experience has shown that these steps are being well conducted and are producing commendable results. The Group is of the view that these processes need more time to clearly show their efficiency and to also determine which components need to be enhanced in light of the Paris Agreement and decision 1.CP./21.

Consistent with the purpose of the Transparency Framework, Articles 13.5 and 13.6, the development of the MPGs need to be undertaken with the view to inform the global stocktake.

The African Group welcomes the assurance of provision of support to implement this Article (Article 13.14).

Transparency of Adaptation (ToA)

The Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) of all African countries included an adaptation component. This makes periodic provision of adaptation information an essential component of our countries' reporting of climate actions taking place in our countries. As a result, the Group places particular importance in the scope of the Transparency Framework, especially the reporting of adaptation information. The development of MPGs for adaptation should focus on providing clear guidance on how to report the essential set of adaptation information. The essential components of adaptation information are those that will contribute in achieving the purpose of the transparency of action, as indicated in Article 13.5, in particular, to inform the global stocktake under Article 14.

To this end, the African Group view is that the development of adaptation MPGs could start by placing emphasis on describing guidance for reporting good practices, priorities, needs and gaps. In the development of adaptation MPGs, the African Group anticipates inputs from other on-going relevant processes under the Convention, including the Adaptation Committee, National Adaptation Plans, the Nairobi Work Programme, etc.

Furthermore, in the process of developing the MPGs, the African Group calls for a balanced treatment of all the components of the scope of Article 13.

Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)

COP 21 established a Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) and provided guidance relating to the transparency of action and support under the Paris Agreement. The

African Group welcomes the progress made by the GEF in establishing and operationalizing the CBIT.