

**Algeria submission on the Ad-hoc Working Group of the Paris Agreement (APA) agenda item 5 “modalities procedures and guidelines on the transparency framework of action and support referred to in article 13 of Paris Agreement PA”**

1. Algeria makes this submission containing its view on the Ad-hoc Working Group (APA) agenda item 5 on “modalities, procedures and guidelines on the transparency framework of action and support under art 13 of the Paris Agreement”, pursuant the APA co-Chairs guiding questions in its draft conclusion (ref. Doc; FCCC/APA/2016/L.4, Para 15).
2. Before answering the APA co–chairs guiding questions, it is important to recall some major principles and elements to be considered:
3. The issue of transparency and its relevant points like MPGs is linked to other items under the APA agenda especially items 3 (features of the Nationally Determined Contributions), 4 (adaptation communication) and 6 (Global stocktaking). These issues should be addressed in a balanced manner and progress made in any specific item shall be considered in other items.
4. The transparency framework shall be for developing countries facilitative, non-punitive, and non-intrusive, respects sovereignty and void to put new undue burden, takes into account Parties’ different capacities and circumstances and builds upon existing arrangements and experiences.
5. Support for transparency shall be provided to developing countries by developed countries covering national capacities building including institutional arrangements, individual expertise, regulation and knowledge.
6. In response to the guiding questions of the APA co- chairs, Algeria gives its points of view as following:
  - a) **What should be the specific components of the modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) for the transparency of action and support under Article 13, paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12?**
7. The transparency framework should cover both action (mitigation and adaptation) and support in a way that transparency of action provides a clear understanding of climate change action in the light of the objective of the Convention (Article 2), including clarity and tracking progress towards achieving Parties’ individual nationally determined contributions under Article 4, and Parties’ adaptation actions under Article 7, including good practices, priorities, needs and gaps, to inform the global stocktake under Article 14.

Transparency of support should provide clarity on support provided and received by individual Parties in the context of climate change actions under Articles 4, 7, 9, 10 and 11 of the Paris Agreement, and, to the extent possible, to provide a full overview of aggregate financial support provided, to inform the global stocktake under Article 14. (PA art 13 para 5-6).

**8.** The existing MPGs under the Convention shall form the main components of those MPGs. The specific components of MPGs should cover the following:

a) **information to be communicated by Parties:** for example:

- the greenhouse gases (GHG) to be covered,
- sources of emissions and sinks of GHG removals,
- methodologies and IPCC tiers used,
- national circumstances, climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation needs,
- financial, technological and capacity building support needed by Developing countries and those provided by Developed countries,
- information on NDC implementation and progress in achieving its objectives,
- policies, plans and actions of mitigation and adaptation undertaken by parties,
- any other information that the party considers necessary to be communicated,

b) **The reporting process:** MPGs should cover the following:

- reports to UNFCCC: GHG inventories, National Communications, Biennial Reports (BR), Biennial Updated Reports (BUR), NDC,
- The procedures and frequency of reporting,
- The support to be ensured to developing countries to realize their reports.

c) **The international examination process:** it should be based on the existing process which consists in:

- Review of GHG inventories, national communications, Biennial Reports (BRs), International Assessment and Review (IAR), technical expert review and multilateral assessment of developed Countries,

- International Consultation and Analysis (ICA), Technical expert examination and Facilitative Sharing of Views (FSV) of developing countries submitted Biennial Update Reports (BURs).

The MPGs shall cover the type and the frequency of review for each category and the support to be ensured to developing countries in establishing and developing their national system of transparency.

**(b) How should the transparency framework build on and enhance the transparency arrangements under the Convention, recognizing that the transparency arrangements under the Convention shall form part of the experience drawn upon for the development of the MPGs?**

**9.** The starting point here is that the transparency framework should build on the existing arrangements under the Convention (PA art 13.13).

Also transparency arrangements under the Convention, including, national communications, biennial reports and biennial update reports, international assessment and review and international consultation and analysis, shall form part of the experience drawn upon for the development of the modalities, procedures and guidelines under P.A Article 13. Decision 1/CP.21 para 93 requests the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement, in developing modalities, procedures and guidelines referred to in paragraph 91, to draw on the experiences from and take into account other ongoing relevant processes under the Convention.

**10.** Transparency regime under the Convention is defined in art 12 and 4. It is fixed mainly by decisions 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17, 19/CP.18 on action and support (Cancun tools).

The existing transparency arrangements under the Convention have established a transparency framework of action and support. An important work has been realized in relation to MPGs related to national communications for Annex I and non-Annex I countries, biennial reports (BR and BUR) and multilateral examination (IAR and ICA).

**11.** In the existing framework, all parties are committed to communicate information to the UNFCCC and to pass via a process of consideration of the implementation of the Convention. When it comes to the content, the periodicity and the process of verification, the actual framework requires:

**12.** For Annex I parties, the provision of important volume of information and details, comparable with other Parties. It is of a frequency of 1 year for inventories and 2 years for the BRs. The process of verification goes through technical expert Review and international Assessment and Review (IAR).

While for non annex I parties the content and volume of information is not as important as for developed countries, the frequency of the submission of information is of a minimum of 2 years (BUR). The process of verification is a multilateral Analysis and consultation on the BURs.

**13.** We should consider in developing MPGs that this structure shall form the basis of the framework under PA and a part of it and take into account that the experience of Developing countries in this process especially in reporting and examination is short.

They are not in possession of knowledge neither of technical tools to be subject of a system similar with Annex I parties. If we take into consideration submission of BURs, very few developing countries have elaborated and submitted BURs and less have passed through international examination.

On another hand, annex I parties had acquired long experience, developed knowledge and technical tools to provide in-depth information, elaborate and submit frequently inventories and reports and also go through in-depth review by experts and parties.

**14.** For all the above-mentioned considerations, we should start from the existing transparency system as a basis and adapt its arrangements to meet the requirements under the Paris Agreement.

**15.** The new requirements are mainly:

1/ to ensure clarity, implementation and tracking NDCs progress towards achieving Parties' individual objectives;

2/ to ensure transparency of support provided and received by Parties;

3/ to inform the global stocktake under Article 14.

**16.** The work will focus on how to reflect the new requirements in the existing transparency framework keeping in mind that the existing one is able to support the new elements.

**17.** By consequence, some improvement should be made to allow the current framework to respond to the P.A specific provisions. The task of improvement needs to be initiated by a phase of assessment of the current MPGs under the Convention and its decisions (1/CP.16, 2/CP.17 and 1/CP.18) to identify potential gaps and possibilities of improvement.

**18.** When it comes to the enhancement of the existing framework, we consider that the guiding principle is how to ensure implementation of the Convention and Paris Agreement by enhancing action and support taking into account that action covers mitigation and adaptation, two elements to be treated in a balanced manner.

Considering also that enhancement of action requires enhancement of support, the MPGs should provide sufficient elements to treat both in an equal manner. It is necessary in that regard to develop modalities and tools through which:

- support provided by developed countries shall be reported in a quantitative manner,
- An assessment of the provided support should be guaranteed,
- double counting of support is avoided and clarity on sources of finance is given,
- support is systematically ensured to developing countries to allow them to report on the support needed and received including to develop their national system of transparency.

**(c) With respect to the MPGs, how should flexibility for those developing countries that need it in the light of their capacities be operationalized?**

**19.** As mentioned above, the existing transparency framework ensures flexibility to the developing countries in content of information, reporting and examination process. This flexibility shall form the corner stone and be reflected in MPGs development. It should be provided to developing countries in a systemic manner and reflected in all MPGs in terms of content and level of detail of reported information; scope and frequency of reporting; scope, frequency and stringency of examination.

**20.** The following points can give an indication on how to operationalize flexibility in favor of developing countries:

- Flexibility shall be reflected in the content and the detail of information to be reported by these countries. They are not obliged to provide in-depth details and information. As nationally determined process they should have possibility to select the gazes and sectors to be covered and which IPCC methodology to use.
- The frequency of submission shall not be rigid. It should respect the internal circumstances and capacities, specific needs and vulnerability to climate change impacts,
- The process of examination shall be proceeded in a facilitative manner, to help countries to ameliorate their national system and capacities, take into account the national circumstances and avoid to add new burden or pressures (paragraph 92 of decision 1/CP.21). It should advice, when necessary, on how developing countries could face difficulties in implementing their NDCs,

- It should take into account the lacks in developing countries related to national capacities and resources, availability of data and statistics, knowledge and expertise for the elaboration of GHG inventories, availability of national system for measurability, report and verification.
- Flexibility passes also through a systematic financial and technical support for transparency as a condition of responding to transparency requirements. Capacity-building for transparency initiative must be reinforced and receive required allocations. It should help parties to define possible difficulties in that regard and offer possibilities to overcoming them.

**(d) What other elements should be considered in the development of the MPGs, including, inter alia, those identified in paragraph 92 of decision 1/CP.21?**

**21.** More than the elements enumerated in the Para 92 we consider that it is necessary to consider also the following elements:

- The needs expressed by developing parties which covers adaptation, financial, technical and capacity building,
- To provide information on how Developed country Parties are taking the lead in undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets,
- to consider social and economic impacts of the response measures,
- Reports from UNFCCC subsidiary bodies, committees and financial entities, which could help in developing MPGs on the transparency framework.
- Adaptation has to be considered when fixing MPGs of the framework under Article 13 taking into account that major developing countries have an adaptation component in their NDCs. MPGs to be developed about the reporting and the review of the financial and technical support must include support for adaptation actions of developing county Parties,
- Development of MPGs should conduct to a balanced treatment between mitigation and adaptation, not only for the action but also for the financial and the technical support to be provided for developing country Parties.