

# Status of negotiations on transparency issues: from Madrid to Glasgow

Virtual Annual  
Partnership Retreat of PATPA  
28-30 September 2020



*Katia Simeonova, SBI coordinator and transparency manager at UNFCCC*

# COP 25 outcome: big picture

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- We witnessed a hard start with change in venue only around a month before the COP, several important results, remarkable leadership by 3 great women
- Yet, overall outcome did not fully meet the expectations by Parties and other stakeholders
- After COP25, debate has been intensified at all levels on how to enhance further the UNFCCC process



# COP 25 outcome: context

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- **Political momentum from the UN SG high level event** on climate change in September with 60 Parties pledging to increase the ambition of their NDCs and a clear call for all Parties to increase climate change ambition
- **Unprecedented pressure from civil society** and demands of the “new” type of climate activists, e.g. Fridays for Future, that are difficult to be met without immediate solutions that are difficult to achieve within the UNFCCC
- **Leadership by large economies** and announcement by the EU of the Green New Deal
- **Overall push towards the national policy agenda** and away from multilateralism, e.g. WTO



# COP 25 outcome: results

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- **Several noteworthy developments**

- ✓ COP25 delivered important results and decisions were adopted in important areas such as **capacity building, technology, gender, LDCs, NAPs, L&D review and response measures**
- ✓ Multilateral peer assessment processes under SBI, namely MA and FSV continued to **provide a platform for Parties to showcase their climate action and results**, and for developing countries to outline their capacity building needs
- ✓ Parties agreed on a **call for increased ambition of their NDCs** to be submitted or updated in 2020

- **However ...**

- ✓ **Completion of several matters was postponed to the next COP/CMA**, including Article 6 guidance, governance of the loss and damage mechanism, NDCs common time frames duration, and several finance-related matters
- ✓ A **number of SB and COP items resulted in application of rule 16** of the draft rules of procedure, notably a number of MRV items, bunker fuels and the report of the Adaptation Committee, and their consideration will continue at the next session



# SBSTA51 outcome on transparency (1)

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- **Advanced understanding on how to operationalize flexibility**, even though some degree of differences remain
- **CRT for national GHG inventories: discussion advanced based on the existing CRFs** of the Convention and focused on:
  - ✓ Structure and content of tables;
  - ✓ **Specific options on how to operationalize flexibility**, e.g. notation keys, color codes and footnotes; illustrative example by the secretariat were deemed very helpful; software tools and CB support to developing countries
- **CTF for tracking progress towards NDCs**
  - ✓ Advances of the discussion on **policies and measures and GHG projections**
  - ✓ Discussions on the **structured summary** remained complicated because of the need to accommodate diverse NDCs in such summary and the need to consider the linkages with Article 6 on the use of ITMOs and the provisions on corresponding adjustments.
- **CTF for FTC:**
  - ✓ Discussion advanced substantially: on how to disaggregate further the reported information and deal with finance provided and received for loss and damage; on methodologies and assumptions and; on enhanced consistency between reporting of support provided and received
  - ✓ Discussion resulted in **set of draft tables with discussion questions for each of them**



# SBSTA51 outcome on transparency (2)

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- **Outlines** of BTR, national inventory document and technical expert review report: Parties saw a very good progress overall
  - ✓ Discussion on **how to reflect flexibility**, as a separate section or throughout reports
  - ✓ Still different views on the need for an executive summary for the NIR and on how detailed and prescriptive these outlines should be
- **A training programme** for the technical experts participating in the technical expert review
  - ✓ Enhanced understanding of the **scope and requirements of the training programme**
  - ✓ Differences remained among Parties on the role of the CGE in operationalizing of the training programme for review experts.
- **Overall, very good progress that was achieved in all sub-items is reflected in the facilitators notes** that could serve as a basis for further work if deemed useful by Parties
- **Lack of agreement on intersessional work is a huge challenge** given the technical and, in some cases, political complexity of some sub-items; this is exacerbated by the COVID-19 constrains that led to postponing of all UNFCCC in-person sessions from 2020 to 2021
- **Lack of agreement on CGE matters, yet work progressed well in 2020**
- **Urgency to advance the discussion** in various reporting formats, outlines and training courses and **complete mandated SBSTA work by CMA3** to allow preparations by all and submissions of the first BTRs by 2024 at the latest



# ETF and renewed call for capacity building

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- **COP 25 delivery on capacity building was among its most significant outcomes that has often been overlooked**
  - ✓ Clear reference to capacity building “Chile Madrid Call for Action, decision 1/CP.25
- **2020 is essential for capacity building for transparency**
  - ✓ It is expected that the ongoing capacity building effort in many countries to start delivering results to be **manifested in the submission of new or updated more ambitious NDCs** that are informed by the analytical work that underpins the BRs and BURs
  - ✓ Transparency is a central theme for the PCCB this year. It already organized, during the June momentum, the **9<sup>th</sup> Durban Forum on Capacity Building of Transparency**
  - ✓ **TOR for CGE** still pending
- Capacity building effort for ETF are expected to continue through multilateral and bilateral channels, e.g. CBIT to help countries with the view to
  - ✓ **Capitalize on the institutional frameworks and human capacity** that it created through engagement in the existing MRV under the Convention to come up with well informed and **evidence-based NDCs that are accompanied with relevant information to ensure transparency**
  - ✓ **Maintain mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of the impacts** of the institutions that are supported and of systems that are created through capacity building effort
  - ✓ **Support ownership at the national level and understanding at political level that is conducive to change and improvement over time**



# ETF as a vehicle for ambition at international level

Ambition mechanism

NDCs and action on mitigation and adaptation  
Means of implementation

**Objective** (long-term temperature goal (2°C/1.5°C); climate resilient and low emissions development; financial flows

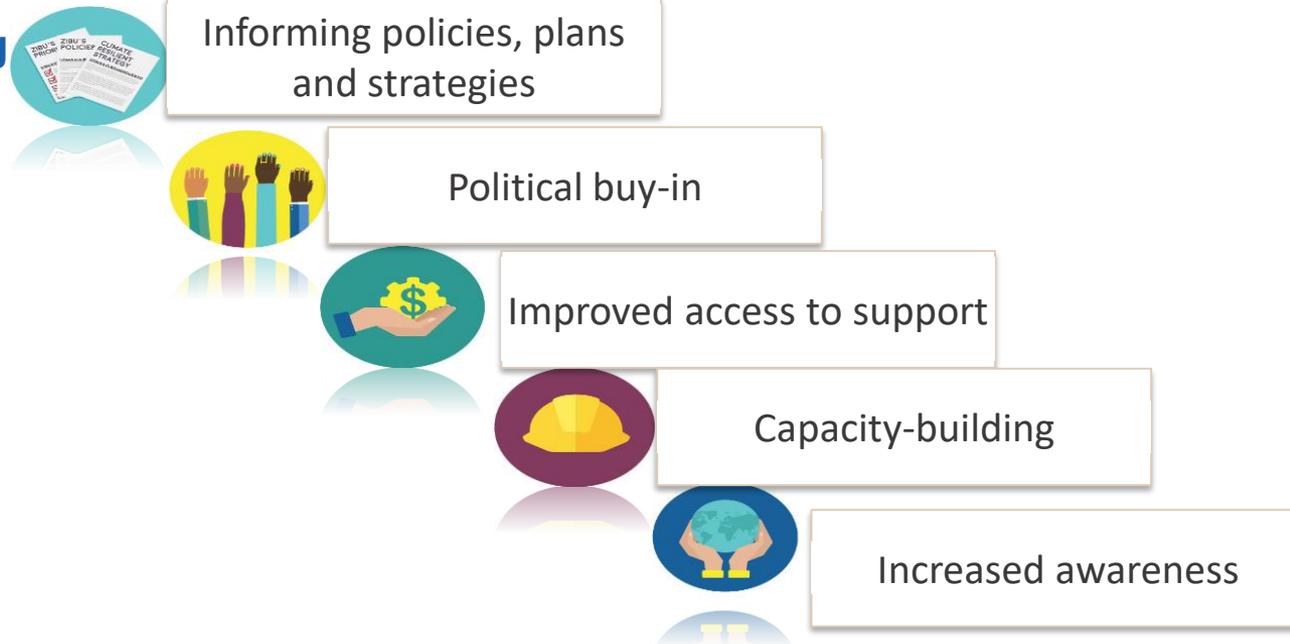
Transparency framework  
Implementation and compliance

Global stocktake  
Science



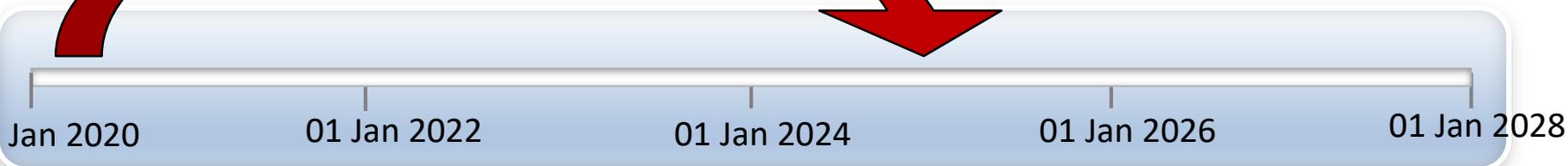
# ETF as a vehicle for climate policy at national level

- At national level, **transparency brings a number of benefits**
  - ✓ Information submitted to the UNFCCC on a mandatory basis must be reliable, up-to-date, and based on robust analyses
  - ✓ That is why it forms the solid basis for decision making at the national level to identify and implement effective climate policies and showcase country efforts and achievements
- **Benefits at the national levels from participation in the international MRV processes are well recog**



# ETF, NDC and GST cycles

**5 year NDC communication cycle 2020-2025**



**BR4/4<sup>th</sup> MA**

**BR5/5<sup>th</sup> MA**

**BTR1/ FMCP1**

**BTR2/FMCP2**

**BTR3**

**BUR1-4/FSV**

**BUR 1-5/FSV**

**NCs**

**NCs**

**5 year GST cycle 2023 – 2028**

- **New and updated NDCs and long-term strategies** to be submitted in 2020 and then in 2025
- **Article 15 Committee on implementation and compliance** has launched its considerations by 2020
- **New ETF to kick-off**
  - ✓ **Final BR/BUR** to be submitted by December 2022/December 2024.
  - ✓ **BTR1 on tracking progress to NDCs** to be submitted by end 2024
- **The first global stock take** to take place in 2023 with preparations launched by 2021



# Climate Dialogues 2020: objectives and outlook

- **COP Bureau decisions to postpone SB52 and COP26 to 2021 and guidance to maximize progress and minimize the impact** of postponing all UNFCCC sessions planned for 2020 to 2021 owing to COVID-19
- **Consultations by the Presiding Officers on the road to COP26**, possible additional sessional period in 2021 on top of the two periods already agreed by the COP
- COP Bureau recognition of the **Climate Dialogues to be held between 23<sup>rd</sup> November and 4<sup>th</sup> December with an objective**
  - ✓ To ensure the timely implementation of the activities mandated for 2020
  - ✓ To informally advance the work and
  - ✓ To keep the delivery of mandates for COP 26 in 2021 on track
- The Climate Dialogues will comprise of mandated events, information events and SBs Chairs consultations



#TiempoDeActuar



COP25  
CHILE  
MADRID 2019  
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE



# Climate Dialogue 2020: Transparency

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- SBSTA Chair consultations on transparency item around three questions:
  - ✓ Q.1 How could the **outstanding issues surrounding flexibility** be advanced and resolved in the negotiations under the SBSTA transparency items, taking into account relevant provisions and guiding principles of the MPGs, including paragraph 3 (decision 18/CMA.1)?
  - ✓ Q2 **How should the linkages between the structured summary and Article 6 be managed** to ensure sufficient progress in SBSTA transparency items during 2020 and 2021 and to enable timely delivery for CMA.3 as mandated by CMA.1?
  - ✓ Q3. How could the **SBSTA Chair assist Parties to advance understanding of the options in the SBSTA transparency items and how to resolve them**, during 2020 and before the first SBs in 2021?
- **Broad support to advance work on transparency through different means and formats**, e.g. information events by the SBSTA Chair similar to those organized in Madrid, informal workshops and consultations by the Chair on how to advance work on this matter
- **Discussions could be informed by the outcomes from the work undertaken in 2020 at the national and international levels**, e.g. secretariat work in assisting developing countries with the CRF reporter, OECD-IEA CCXG work on transparency and perhaps also PATPA



# Outlook for COP 26 in (1)

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UN Secretary-General **António Guterres**: *“It is absolutely essential that countries commit themselves to increase what was promised in Paris because what was promised in Paris is not enough,”*

26.08.2019

The UN SG also declared that the next ten years will be *“crucial for achieving a fair globalization, boosting economic growth and building peaceful societies”*.

3.02.2020

*COVID-19 is a game changer. Yet, it should not prevent from keeping the climate change momentum but rather provide an opportunity to harness benefits from the green recovery provided that the right and forward looking decisions are taken by the Governments for the benefit of the people and the planet*



# Outlook for COP 26 in 2021 (2)

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- **COP26 is expected to deliver the last tally of the operational guidance or the Paris Agreement**, such as Article 6 guidance, operational aspects of the Katowice MPGs on Article 13 on transparency and, hopefully, common time frames of NDCs
- Critically important for **COP26 is to build momentum in the global effort to respond to climate emergency and deliver strong action required by science** that could be achieved through activities undertaken in the lead-up and during COP26 to ensure that
  - ✓ **Governments submit ambitious new and updated NDCs** before COP26, even if due to the COVID-19 pandemics they experience some delay beyond 2020
  - ✓ **Support to developing countries** to take ambitious action on the ground on climate mitigation and resilience is growing and provided timely
  - ✓ **Sub-national and local governments, businesses, civil society and other stakeholders are coming forward with actions and initiatives** that go beyond the existing and expected in near term commitments by the Governments



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**Thank you very much!**

**[KSimeonova@unfccc.int](mailto:KSimeonova@unfccc.int)**

