

COP 23/CMP 13/CMA 1.2 Presidency's Open Dialogue

1. Background

The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its forty-sixth session in May 2017, extensively discussed “opportunities to further enhance the effective engagement of non-Party stakeholders with a view to strengthening the implementation of the provisions of decision 1/CP.21” under the agenda item Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings (AIM):

FCCC/SBI/2017/7 paragraph 119(b)(i) (emphasis added)

“The SBI identified opportunities to further enhance the openness, transparency and inclusiveness of the effective engagement of non-Party stakeholders. [...] Encouraging future Presidencies, subject to the availability of resources, to explore ways to enable **admitted NGO constituencies to have an open dialogue with Parties**, whereby **agenda-setting** as well as **programming** of the dialogue **are conducted jointly** among the admitted NGO constituencies, the Presidency, the Bureau and the secretariat as appropriate, on the understanding that any outcomes of such a dialogue should have **persuasive value only**, respecting the Party-driven nature of the UNFCCC process [...]”.

2. Consultations with NGO Constituencies

In consultation with the Presidency, it was agreed that NGO Constituencies would be invited to propose topics in two categories: **substantive issues** and **process issues**. The Presidency then chose one topic from each category. The secretariat launched an online consultation platform (Samepage) in late August facilitating this consultation. The Presidency also held direct consultations with Constituencies during the Climate Week in New York in September and during the pre-COP in Fiji in October. The current status of planning is based on this series of consultations.

3. Date, time and venue

- Date: Wednesday, 8 November 2017
- Time: 10:00-13:00
- Venue: Bula Zone, meeting room Rakiraki (80 at table, total 432 pax)
 - Seats at the table will be reserved for the Presidency, Parties and Constituency representatives.

4. Communication

- a) Two-page brief on open dialogue objectives to be published on the COP 23 Presidency website and the UNFCCC website before the open dialogue;
- b) Live streaming is planned.

5. Expected outcomes and outputs

The Presidency’s Open Dialogue offers a unique opportunity for Parties and NGO Constituencies to directly interact with each other on concrete issues in the UNFCCC negotiation process. The SBI conclusion states that “**any outcomes of such a dialogue should have persuasive value only**”. It is envisaged that the Parties and NPS will have deeper understanding of actions required on chosen topics (NDC enhancement and implementation; and enhanced observer access to and participation in UNFCCC negotiation and sessions) and identified ways to achieve the goals.

As an initiative of the Presidency, the following informal outputs are foreseen:

- a) **Summary report:** A report that would be posted on the COP 23 Presidency website and the UNFCCC website and to send to participants of the open dialogue. The report will be developed in collaboration with NGO representatives;
- b) **News brief:** Plan to develop a news brief by NGO representatives with images from the open dialogue.

6. Tentative programme

<i>(10 min)</i>	Opening
2 min	Welcome by the Chair, H.E. Ambassador Deo Saran
4 min	Welcoming remarks by the COP 23/CMP 13/CMA 1.2 Presidency (tbc)
4 min	Opening remarks by a UNFCCC representative (tbc)

<i>(90 min)</i>	Session 1: NDC enhancement and implementation
Facilitator (tbc)	
Purpose	
<p>The session on NDC enhancement and implementation aims to facilitate greater collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders (NPS) for enhancing NDCs. NPS can play a key role in supporting effective implementation, strengthening domestic enabling environments and providing analytical inputs to identify new opportunities for mitigation and adaptation action.</p> <p>With a particular focus on the Facilitative Dialogue in 2018, this session will discuss how NPS can contribute to the efforts of increasing ambition with the aim to build momentum, provide confidence and exchange good practice on effective cooperation amongst stakeholders at all levels.</p>	
Guiding questions	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How are Parties and NPS collaborating with each other on enhancing and implementing NDCs? 2. How can NDCs be improved? 3. How best can NPS actively contribute and feed into the FD 2018 both directly and indirectly? 	
5 min	Introduction of guiding questions by the facilitator

10 min	Scene setting presentation - Party: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete experiences at the national level in an inspiring storytelling format.
10 min	Scene setting presentation - Constituencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint presentation by Constituencies on challenges and opportunities.
45 min	Facilitated roundtable discussion
10 min	Wrap up by the Presidency

- 10 min break -

<i>(80 min)</i>	Session 2: Enhancing observer access to and participation in formal meetings
<p>Facilitator (tbc)</p> <p>Purpose</p> <p>In May this year, SBI, under the agenda item Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings (AIM), extensively discussed and continuously enhanced observer engagement in the UNFCCC process. The purpose of this session is to build on the conclusions of SBI 46 and discuss specific steps towards their implementation as well as enabling conditions for further enhancement, in view of previous SBI discussions and conclusions.</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Given that time management in Plenaries and Contact Groups is challenging, what are innovative ways to increase intervention opportunities? Following SBI conclusions, what should the next steps be throughout 2018 for Parties to make greater use of inputs by non-Party stakeholders in workshops and technical meetings, as well as through submissions? What are good practices from other UN processes? How can they be applied in the UNFCCC? 	
5 min	Introduction of guiding questions by the facilitator
10 min	Scene setting presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint presentation by Constituencies on current engagement practices; Secretariat supplements.
50 min	Facilitated roundtable discussion
10 min	Wrap up by the Presidency
5 min	Closing remarks by the Presidency with a Fiji ritual to close