

Flexibility provisions under ETF and MPGs relating to Article 13 of the Paris Agreement

Date: 16 March 2024

MPGs and ETF

Paris Agreement

Implementation reflects equity & principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances (art. 2, para.2).

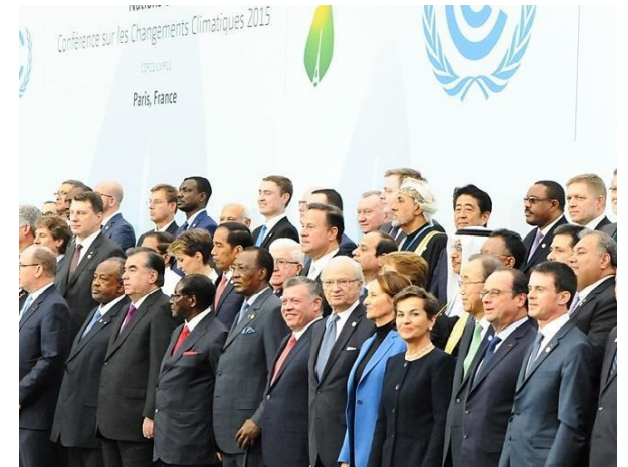
Establishes an **enhanced transparency framework (ETF)** for action & support (art. 13, par. 1)



Objective: builds mutual trust & confidence & promotes effective implementation

Characteristics

- With built-in **flexibility**
- Which takes into account the Parties' different capacities
- builds upon collective experience



Introduction MPGs for ETF Article 13 under the Paris Agreement

Decision 18/CMA.1

Guiding principles reflecting relevant provisions (art. 13 PA, par. 92, 93 dec. 1/CP.21)

- a) Building on and enhancing the transparency arrangements under the Convention, **recognizing the special circumstances of the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS)**, and implementing the transparency framework in **a facilitative, non-intrusive, non-punitive manner, respecting national sovereignty and avoiding placing undue burden on Parties**;
- b) The importance of **facilitating improved reporting and transparency over time**;
- c) **Providing flexibility** to those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities;
- d) Promoting transparency, accuracy, completeness, consistency and comparability;
- e) Avoiding duplication of work and undue burden on Parties and the secretariat;
- f) Ensuring that Parties maintain at least the frequency and quality of reporting in accordance with their respective obligations under the Convention;
- g) Ensuring that **double counting is avoided**;
- h) Ensuring **environmental integrity**.

Introduction MPGs for ETF Article 13 under the Paris Agreement

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Flexibility for the implementation of art. 13 of the PA for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities is reflected in the MPGs

Least developed countries (LDCs) & small island developing States (SIDS) → may submit at their discretion the information referred to in **Art. 13, par. 7, 8, 9, and 10** of the PA (**NIR**, information for tracking progress in implementing & achieving NDC, information on climate change impacts & adaptation, information on financial, technology transfer & capacity-building support provided, information on financial, technology transfer & capacity-building support needed and received)

FCCC/PA/CMA/2018/3/Add.2

Decision 18/CMA.1

Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement,

Recalling the Paris Agreement, adopted under the Convention, in particular Article 2, paragraph 2, and Article 13, including paragraphs 1, 14 and 15,

Also recalling decision 1/CP.21,

Recognizing that the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency, established pursuant to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 84, will continue to support developing country Parties, upon request, to build their institutional and technical capacity, both pre- and post-2020,

Also recognizing that flexibility for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities is reflected in the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency of action and support,

1. *Adopts*, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 13, of the Paris Agreement, the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support (hereinafter referred to as the modalities, procedures and guidelines) contained in the annex;
2. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to undertake the first review and update, as appropriate, of the modalities, procedures and guidelines no later than 2028 on the basis of experience in reporting, technical expert review and facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress, and *decides* that subsequent reviews and updates will be undertaken as and when the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement determines them to be appropriate;
3. *Decides* that Parties shall submit their first biennial transparency report and national inventory report, if submitted as a stand-alone report, in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines, at the latest by 31 December 2024;
4. *Also decides* that the least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit the information referred to in Article 13, paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10, of the Paris Agreement at their discretion;
5. *Invites* Parties and, as appropriate, intergovernmental organizations to nominate technical experts with the relevant qualifications to the UNFCCC roster of experts as referred to in chapter VIII.1 of the annex;
6. *Requests* the secretariat, in addition to the actions specified in the modalities, procedures and guidelines, to:
 - (a) Produce synthesis reports on Parties' biennial transparency reports and national inventory reports;
 - (b) Produce an annual report on the technical expert review;
 - (c) Publish Parties' biennial transparency reports and national inventory reports, if submitted as a stand-alone report, the technical expert review reports, and the records of Parties' facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress on the UNFCCC website;
7. *Recalls* that, in accordance with Article 13, paragraphs 14 and 15, of the Paris Agreement, support shall be provided to developing country Parties for the implementation of Article 13 and for the building of transparency-related capacity of developing country Parties on a continuous basis,

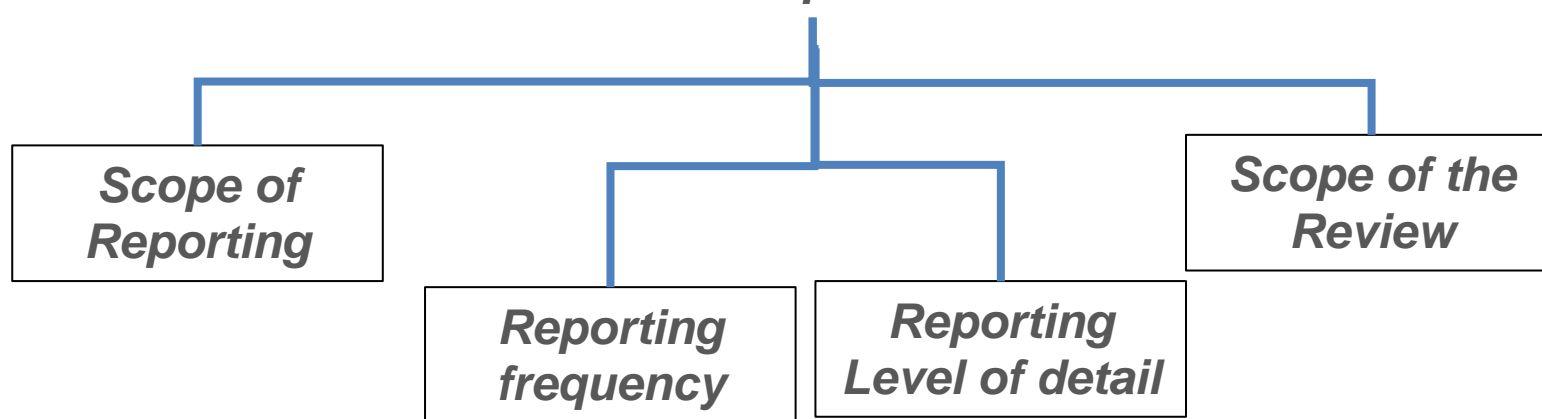
Introduction MPGs for ETF Article 13 under the Paris Agreement

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MPGS



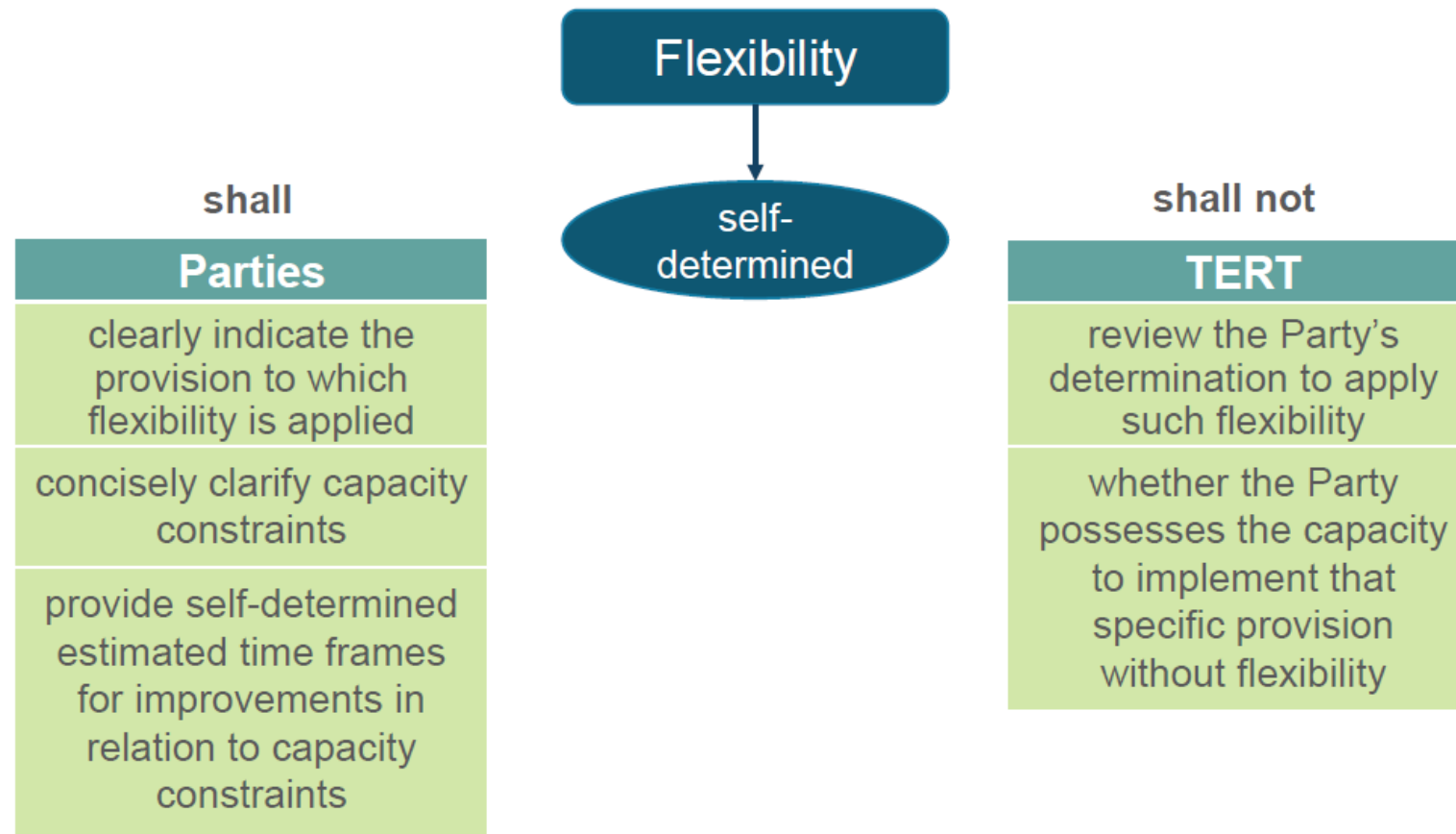
*Specify flexibility for those developing
country parties that need it in the light of
their capacities.*



PA, art. 13, par. 2:
*The transparency framework shall provide **flexibility in the implementation of the provisions** of this Article to those **developing country Parties** that need it in the light of their capacities. The modalities, procedures, and guidelines **referred to in paragraph 13 of this Article** shall reflect such flexibility.*

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Decision 18/CMA.1

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The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement,

Recalling the Paris Agreement, adopted under the Convention, in particular Article 2, paragraph 2, and Article 13, including paragraphs 1, 14 and 15,

Also recalling decision 1/CP.21,

Recognizing that the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency, established pursuant to decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 84, will continue to support developing country Parties, upon request, to build their institutional and technical capacity, both pre- and post-2020,

Also recognizing that flexibility for those developing country Parties that need it in the light of their capacities is reflected in the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency of action and support,

1. *Adopts, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 13, of the Paris Agreement, the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support (hereinafter referred to as the modalities, procedures and guidelines) contained in the annex;*

2. *Requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to undertake the first review and update, as appropriate, of the modalities, procedures and guidelines no later than 2028 on the basis of experience in reporting, technical expert review and facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress, and decides that subsequent reviews and updates will be undertaken as and when the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement determines them to be appropriate;*

3. *Decides that Parties shall submit their first biennial transparency report and national inventory report, if submitted as a stand-alone report, in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines, at the latest by 31 December 2024;*

4. *Also decides that the least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit the information referred to in Article 13, paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10, of the Paris Agreement at their discretion;*

5. *Invites Parties and, as appropriate, intergovernmental organizations to nominate technical experts with the relevant qualifications to the UNFCCC roster of experts as referred to in chapter VII.1 of the annex;*

6. *Requests the secretariat, in addition to the actions specified in the modalities, procedures and guidelines, to:*

(a) *Produce synthesis reports on Parties' biennial transparency reports and national inventory reports;*

(b) *Produce an annual report on the technical expert review;*

(c) *Publish Parties' biennial transparency reports and national inventory reports, if submitted as a stand-alone report, the technical expert review reports, and the records of Parties' facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress on the UNFCCC website;*

7. *Recalls that, in accordance with Article 13, paragraphs 14 and 15, of the Paris Agreement, support shall be provided to developing country Parties for the implementation of Article 13 and for the building of transparency-related capacity of developing country Parties on a continuous basis;*

Information on flexibility

Decision 18/CMA.1 Decision 5/CMA.3, annex IV

Developing country Parties that **need flexibility in the light of their capacities** shall report this information **but have discretion as to where it is reported**

- Developing country Parties may **elect to report information on the specific flexibility provisions applied** in the overview chapter of the BTR and/or integrate this information into **the relevant chapters** above where specific **flexibility provisions** have been applied.
- Information to include:
 - Reporting provisions to which **self-determined flexibility** is applied;
 - **Capacity constraints** in relation to the application of flexibility;
 - Self-determined **estimated time frames** for improvements in relation to those capacity constraints.
- Parties may also elect to include **on a voluntary basis a summary table** in the BTR and/or CRTs on the **specific flexibility provisions** applied.

Flexibility to Developing Country Parties

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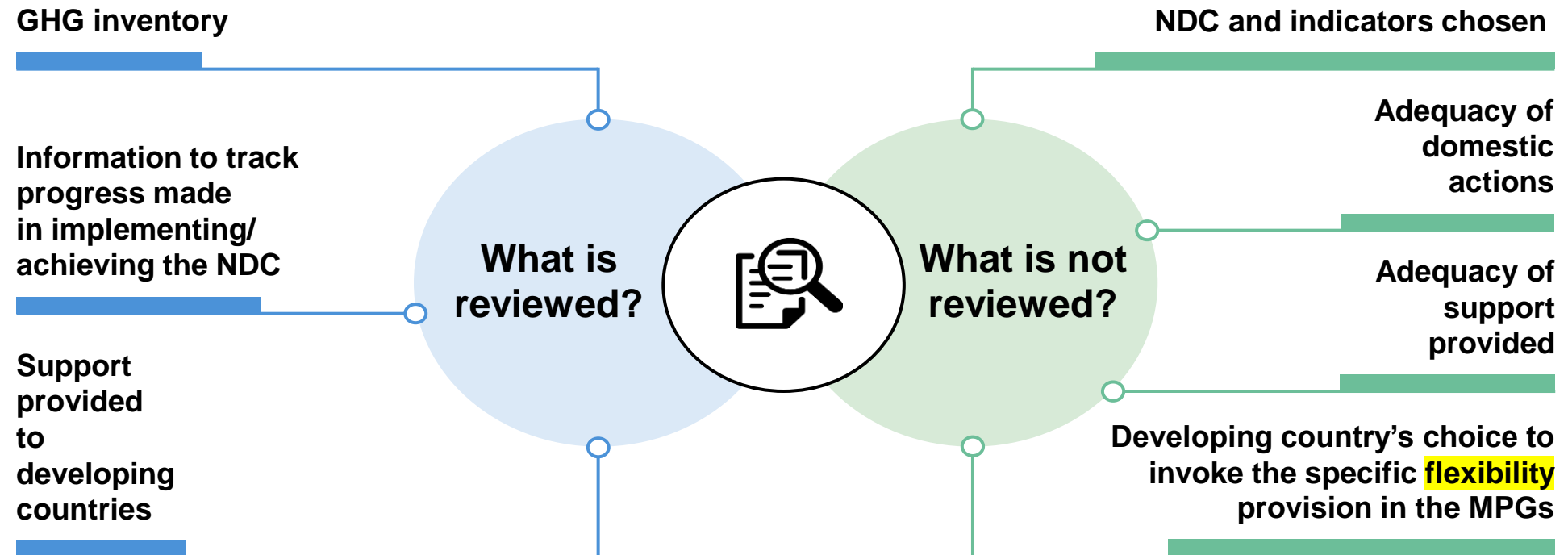
GHG Inventory		Para
Key category Analysis	Option to identify fewer key categories; less complex methodologies can be used to estimate GHG emissions and removals for categories that are not key	25
Uncertainty assessment	Option to omit reporting of quantitative uncertainty information if data are not available	29
Completeness	Option to omit estimation of more insignificant categories	32
QA/QC	Option to neither develop a formal QA/QC plan nor provide information on general QC procedures implemented	34 & 35
Gases	Option to report fewer GHGs	48
Time series	Option to report a shorter time series and an earlier “latest reporting year”	57&58

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Mitigation policies and measures, actions and plans		Para
Estimates of expected and achieved GHG emissions reductions	Option to omit reporting these estimates	85
Projections		
Projections of GHG emissions and removals	Option to omit reporting projections, or report less details	92, 95 & 102
Technical expert review		
Format of review	Option to be subject to a centralized review in lieu of in-country review	159
Responding to TERT questions	Option for more time to respond to the TERT's questions	162 (c)
Responding to TERT's review report	Option for more time to provide comments to the draft report"	162(f)
Facilitative multilateral consideration of progress		
Responding to written questions	Option for more time to respond to written questions	193 (c)

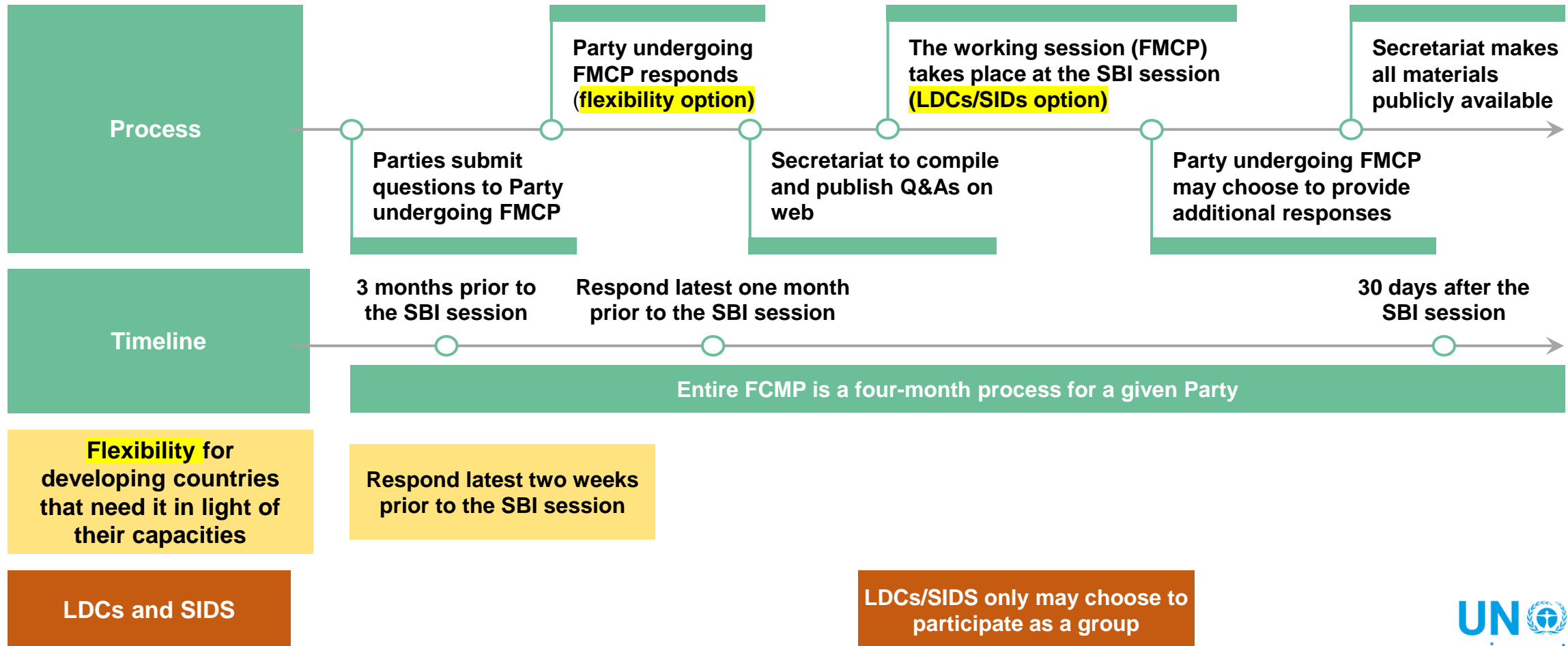
Flexibility provision under the Technical Expert Review (TER)

Information to be reviewed



Special circumstances of LDCs and SIDS in the TER process - LDCs and SIDS may choose to participate in the same centralized review as a group.

Flexibility Provision under Facilitative Multilateral Consideration of Progress (FMCP)

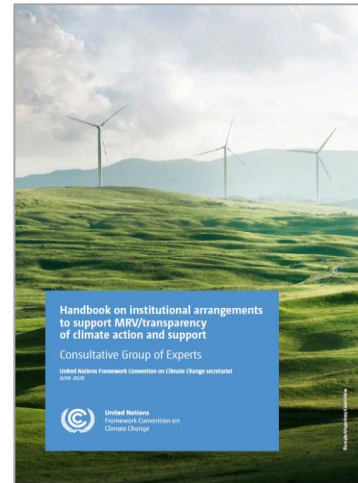
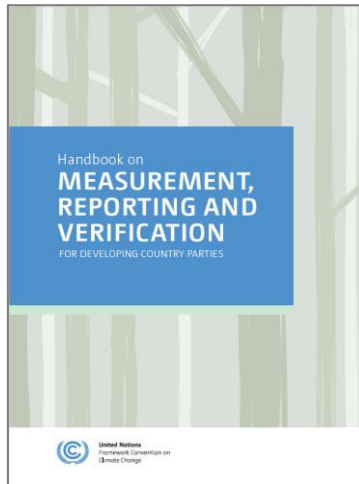


Flexibility Provision application...exercise

QA/QC Encouragement to develop a QA/QC plan and provide information on general QC procedures implemented	34	In place of the mandatory requirement to elaborate a QA/QC plan , developing country Parties that need flexibility in the light of their capacities are encouraged to elaborate an inventory QA/QC plan in accordance with the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, including information on the inventory agency responsible for implementing QA/QC.
	35	In place of the mandatory requirement to implement and provide information on general QC procedures , developing country Parties that need flexibility in the light of their capacities are encouraged to implement and provide information on general inventory QC procedures in accordance with their QA/QC plan and the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.
Gases Option to report fewer GHGs	48	In place of the mandatory requirement to report on seven gases, flexibility to report at least three gases (CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O) as well as on any of the additional four gases (hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, SF ₆ and NF ₃) that are included in the Party's NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, are covered by an activity under Article 6, or have been previously reported.
Time series Option to report a shorter time series and an earlier "latest reporting year"	57	In place of the mandatory requirement to report a consistent annual time series starting in 1990 , flexibility to report data covering, at a minimum, the reference year or period for a Party's NDC and, in addition, a consistent annual time series from at least 2020 onward .
	58	The latest reporting year for those Parties that choose to apply this flexibility shall be no more than three years prior to the submission of the national inventory report, compared with no more than two years for all other Parties.

- Step 1: In the three groups (Countries)
- Step 2: Discuss how you would go about selecting flexibility provisions
 - (Country: United Africa) QA/QC Encouragement to develop a QA/QC plan and provide information on general QC procedures implemented.
 - (Country: The Gambia) Gases - Option to report fewer GHGs.
 - (Country: Ice Cream) Time series Option to report a shorter time series and an earlier “latest reporting year”.
- Step 3: Share your decision with other countries

In closing...



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Thank you for your attention

Please reach out to us for any question,
comments or suggestions!



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