



High-Level Dialogue

The Importance of Transparency in Raising NDC Ambition

Date: 20 May 2024 | **Time:** 16:45 – 18:15 JST / 07:45 – 09:15 GMT | **Mode:** Hybrid / Tokyo

Background

Both 2024 and 2025 represent pivotal years for global climate transparency and global climate action: Countries are required to submit their first ever Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) under the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement no later than 31 December 2024. At the same time, countries need to prepare their next and more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), to be submitted at least 9-12 months prior to the next COP (30), taking place in November 2025 in Brazil. Thus, countries should submit their new NDCs latest by February 2025, only two months past the BTR deadline.

Transparency, through countries' BTRs, and climate action, through countries' NDCs, are inextricably linked: The overall purpose of the Enhanced Transparency Framework related to action "is to provide a clear understanding of climate change action in the light of the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2, including clarity and tracking of progress towards achieving Parties' individual nationally determined contributions under Article 4", among others. As one of the key elements in the BTRs, countries therefore need to provide detailed information to track progress made in implementing and achieving their NDCs. The BTRs will also serve as crucial input to the Global Stocktake process, which in turn informs the next round of NDCs.

However, transparency is not only linked to the reporting of progress on NDCs but the NDCs themselves, as countries are requested to "provide the information necessary to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU), while communicating their NDCs". The guidance for ICTU, adopted through decision 4/CMA.1, is to be applied from the second and all subsequent NDCs onwards and includes, among others, elements such as quantifiable information on the reference points, and assumptions and methodological approaches. In addition, countries shall also provide information on how the outcomes of the GST informed the preparation of their new NDC.

COP 28 in Dubai saw the conclusion of the first ever Global Stocktake (GST) process. In its outcome text, the GST, among others, "encourages Parties to come forward in their next nationally determined contributions with ambitious, economy-wide emission reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories and aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5 °C, as informed by the latest



science, in the light of different national circumstances”. Importantly, the GST also “emphasizes the critical role of the full implementation of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement”. The GST further decided to launch a Road map to Mission 1.5 “to significantly enhance international cooperation and the international enabling environment to stimulate ambition in the next round of nationally determined contributions, with a view to enhancing action and implementation over this critical decade and keeping 1.5°C within reach”. This Road map is led by the Presidencies of the previous COP 28 in the United Arab Emirates, as well as the two upcoming Presidencies for COP 29 in Azerbaijan and COP 30 in Brazil.

With almost similar timelines for countries’ preparation and submission of their first BTRs and their second NDCs, there is strong merit in exploring how these two different, but strongly related processes can inform each other, and how effective synergies can be created, reaping the largest benefits for both countries and the global climate community. While countries’ first BTR will include information on their current NDC, the experience of tracking reporting progress of their NDC will be crucial to addressing the ICTU elements in their next NDC. Likewise, transparent and clear NDCs will facilitate the reporting in countries second BTR.

Objectives

This High-Level Dialogue will provide a unique opportunity to reflect on the two critical processes of 2024 and 2025 and explores how to address them in a unified and synergistic manner. Both the preparation of the first BTR and the second NDC represent challenging processes for most countries. Using the unique setting of the Global Transparency Forum 2024, this dialogue will provide important insights on how to bring these processes together for the benefits of the countries and the global climate community. Specifically, the High-Level Dialogue will emphasize how the two processes are interlinked and crucial in raising ambition of countries’ NDCs, in line with the 1.5°C temperature goal.

The specific objectives of the High-Level Dialogue are as follows:

- To highlight the urgency of preparing the first BTR and the second NDC in line with the stipulated timelines
- To explore the critical interlinkages of the BTR and NDC preparation processes and how to better synergize these processes, with the ultimate goal of raising ambition
- To explore how support providers can support these processes and foster synergies



Expected Outcomes

- Increased awareness of the urgency and the importance of the two processes of preparing BTRs and NDCs, and enhancing ambition
- Increased awareness of the interlinkages of the processes of BTR and NDC preparations, and how to better synergize them

Join the Dialogue

The dialogue will be in hybrid mode. Participants in the Global Transparency Forum will join in person from Tokyo. Other participants can join virtually via Zoom. Please register [here](#).



High-level Dialogue Agenda

The Importance of Transparency in Raising NDC Ambition

Time	Segment
16:45 – 17:00 (15 min)	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Mr. Yutaka MATSUZAWA, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Japan</p> <p>Ms. Inger Andersen, Under secretary General, UNEP (video message)</p> <p>Mr. Yalchin Rafiyev, Lead Negotiator of the Presidency of COP 29, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan</p> <p>Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO, GEF (tbc)</p>
17:00 – 17:15 (15 min)	<p>Interlinkages of the BTR and NDC preparation processes</p> <p>Jigme, Manager, Transparency Division, UN Climate Change</p>
17:15 – 18:10 (55 min)	<p>Panel Discussion: Fostering Synergies between the BTR and NDC Processes to Further Raise Ambition</p> <p>Moderator: Donald Cooper, Director, Transparency Division, UNFCCC</p> <p>Panellists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COP Presidencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Yalchin Rafiyev, Lead Negotiator of the Presidency of COP 29, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan ○ Ms. Iman Ustadi, deputy chief negotiator, United Arab Emirates ○ Mr. Tulio Andrade, Head for Climate Negotiation, Brazil • Countries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Kishan Kumarsingh, Head, Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Ministry of Planning and Development, Trinidad & Tobago ○ Mr. Fang Hou, Deputy Director, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China ○ Ms. Cecilia Fernanda A da Silva Bernardo, National Director for Climate Action and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, Angola ○ Ms. Christine Dragisic, Branch Chief, Partnerships and Initiatives, US Department of State, US ○ Ms. Camila Margarita Labarca Wyneken, Head of mitigation and transparency department, Ministry of the Environment, Chile



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Shiva, Khanal, Under-secretary, Ministry of Forest and Environment, Nepal • Support Providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Dechen Tsering, Director Climate Change Division, UNEP ○ Mr. Henning Wuester, Director, ICAT ○ Ms. Cassie Flynn, Global director of Climate Change, UNDP (tbc) ○ Chizuru Aoki, Lead Environmental Specialist, GEF <p>Interaction with participants</p>
<p>18:10 – 18:15 (5 min)</p>	<p>The Road Ahead: Outlook and Next steps</p> <p>Mr. Yalchin Rafiyev, COP29 Presidency Lead Negotiator, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan</p>