Unpacking NDC Tracking Chapter of the BTR in Anglophone Africa Transparency Network

Description of a Party's nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, including updates

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Basis for the NDC in the Paris Agreement: Article 4

A. **Temperature Goals**: Article 2.1(a) specifies first, to hold temperature increase to "well below" 2°C above pre-industrial levels; second, to pursue efforts to limit temperature increase to 1.5°C.

B. **Emissions Goals**: Article 4.1 specifies first to reach global peaking of emissions as soon as possible and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter; and second, to achieve net zero emissions in the second half of the century.

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NDC related obligations to parties signing the Paris Agreement

A. **Prepare and communicate an NDC every five years, with the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) (arts 4.2, 4.9).**

B. **Maintain successive NDCs (art. 4.2).**

C. **Account for their NDCs (art. 4.13).**

D. **Pursue domestic measures with the aim of achieving the objective of their NDCs (art. 4.2).**

These obligations apply to all parties, but to least developed countries and small island developing States, which may develop strategies, plans and actions reflecting their special circumstances (art. 4.6).

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Other relevant elements in Article 4

E. **Successive NDCs will represent a progression and reflect the highest possible ambition (art. 4.3).**

F. **Developed country parties should undertake absolute economy-wide emission reduction targets, with developing countries encouraged to move towards such targets over time (art. 4.4).**

G. **All parties should strive to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (art. 4.19).**

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Decision 4/CMA.1: Further guidance in relation to mitigation

A. **Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of nationally determined contributions, referred to in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 28 (ICTU)**

B. **Accounting for Parties´ NDCs**

Article 4, para 8: in communicating NDC, all Parties shall provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU)

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ICTU (I)

1. Quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year):
(a) Reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting point(s); (b) Quantifiable information on the reference indicators (c) For strategies, plans and actions or polices and measures as NDC components (d) Target relative to the reference indicator, expressed numerically, for example in percentage or amount of reduction; (e) Information on sources of data used in quantifying the reference point(s); (f) Information on the circumstances under which the Party may update the values

ICTU (II)

2. Time frames and/or periods for implementation:

(a) Time frame and/or period for implementation, including start and end date;
(b) Whether it is a single-year or multi-year target, as applicable.

3. Scope and coverage:

(a) General description of the target;
(b) Sectors, gases, categories and pools covered by the NDC;
(c) How the Party has taken into consideration including all IPCC categories;
(d) Mitigation cobenefits resulting from adaptation and/or economic diversification plans

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ICTU (III)

4. Planning processes:

(a) Information on the planning processes
(b) Specific information applicable to Parties
(c) Consideration of the global stocktake
(d) If NDC with adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans resulting in mitigation co-benefits:
    (i) Economic and social consequences of response measures
    (ii) Specific projects, measures and activities to be implemented to contribute to mitigation co-benefits, and economic diversification actions

ICTU (IV)

5. Assumptions and methodological approaches, including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, removals:

(a) Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting (GHG emissions)
(b) Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting (policies and measures or strategies)
(c) If applicable, information on how the Party will take into account existing methods and guidance under the Convention to account for anthropogenic emissions and removals
(d) IPCC methodologies and metrics used
(e) Sector-, category- or activity-specific assumptions, methodologies and approaches consistent with IPCC guidance, as appropriate,
(f) Other assumptions and methodological approaches used
(g) The intention to use voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, if applicable.

6. How the Party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances

7. How the nationally determined contribution contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2 and Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement.

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Other aspects:

- Conditionality
- Coverage of sectors
- Gases
- Timeframe, period of implementation

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Types of targets used in NDCs

ABSOLUTE
Definite (static) GHG emission value to achieve
Examples:
Absolute target, Economy-wide
Absolute target, Sectorial (Non-economy wide)
A carbon budget in addition to the absolute target

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Types of targets used in NDCs

RELATIVE
Reducing specific GHG emissions (per unit), relative to a baseline (comparison)
Examples:
Business-as-usual (BAU), Economy-wide
BAU Sectorial
Intensity target

TRAJECTORY
Definite (dynamic, multiple target years) GHG emission to achieve
Examples:
Peaking target
Achievement of Carbon neutrality/Remaining carbon neutral
Trajectory

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Types of targets used in NDCs

STRATEGIES, PLANS AND ACTIONS:
Low emission development reflecting their particular national circumstances
Examples:
Sectorial Policies and actions, with quantitative results (GHG and non-GHG)
Sectorial Policies and actions, with qualitative results
Cross sectorial Policies and actions

MITIGATION AS CO-BENEFIT
Resulting from adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans
Examples:
Mitigation as co-benefit of sectorial adaptation actions
Mitigation as co-benefit of economic diversification plans, policies and measures

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Making NDC targets SMART

S	M	A	R	T
Specific	Measurable	Ambitious	Relevant	Time-bound
The indicator is clearly defined, so there cannot be different interpretations of it	The indicator value can be measured quantitatively or qualitatively	Achieving the target requires ambitious action	The indicator relates to a relevant impact of a mitigation action	The indicator relates to a point in time of timeframe

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NDC - GHG related targets

NDC target type	Country Examples	Scope	Target value	Target unit	Target timeframe	Value in reference / Base period / BAU
Absolute emission reduction or limitation target relative to a base year	Brazil NDC commits 'to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions in 2025 by 37%, compared with 2005'.	CO_2 , CH_4, N_2O, perfluorocarbons (PFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and SF_6	37	%	2025	Base year emission estimation in the fourth BUR is around 2.4 Mio. kt of CO_2 eq. May be updated according to the latest inventory.
Emission reduction target below a BAU level	Morocco's NDC unconditional) reduction target, '18.3% below BAU emissions by 2030''.	CO_2, CH_4, N_2O and HFCs	18.3	%	2030	The BAU scenario is projected approx. 1.4 Mio. kt CO_2 eq in 2030
Fixed-level target	Argentina's 's fixed-level target, will not exceed net emissions of 359 Mt CO_2 eq by 2030	CO_2, CH_4, N_2O, HFCs and PFCs	359	Mt CO_2 eq	2030	No reference value is used. But in its NDC submission Argentina compares the level of ambition to its 2016 emissions, which were around 364 Mt CO_2 eq.

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NDC – Non GHG related targets

NDC target type	Country Examples	Scope	Target value	Target unit	Target timeframe	Value in reference / Base period / BAU
Sectoral non–greenhouse gas targets	China has pledged to 'increase the share of non-fossil fuels in primary energy consumption to around 25%.	N/A	25	%	2030	N/A
Mitigation actions	Bangladesh aims to implement renewable energy projects, enhance efficiency of existing power plants, improve technology for power generation.	N/A	Implementation of actions	MW	2030	N/A

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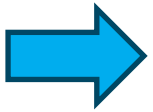
Make targets SMART: Example 1

Target 1: achieving a share of 28% of renewable power by 2030



Make targets SMART: Example 1

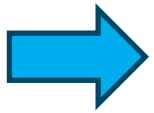
Target 1: achieving a share of 28% of renewable power by 2030

This is not a fully SMART target yet.

- What should the 28% refer to – e.g., power generation (including or excluding imports and exports?) or capacities installed?
- Which technologies should be counted as renewable power technologies?

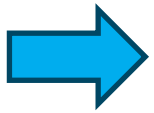
Make targets SMART: Example 2

Target 2: to increase public awareness of climate changes effects and impacts on general health



Make targets SMART: Example 2

Target 2: to increase public awareness of climate changes effects and impacts on general health



- How do you tell whether or not the indicator has been achieved?
- What types of climate change impacts will be addressed?
- What mechanism will be used to engage with the public?
- Under which conditions will public awareness be considered as increased?
- What are the current levels of public awareness, have these been defined?
- Finally, has a timeframe been established for when the target must be reached?

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Make targets SMART – Mitigation targets issues – GHG related targets

Type of mitigation target	Elements to consider for a SMART target	Unit
Absolute emission reduction or limitation target relative to a base year	• Base year clearly agreed? • Gases included agreed? • Sectors / GHG inventory categories agreed • Target year agreed?	kt CO_2 eq
Emission reduction target below a BAU level	• As for absolute emission reduction target • BAU level clearly defined? Data and methods available?	%
Intensity target	• As for absolute emission reduction target • Intensity-relevant factor and source / methodology to be used clearly defined, e.g., GDP, population?	kt CO2 eq / capita or GDP / etc. % (if compared to BAU or base period)

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Make targets SMART – Mitigation targets issues – Non-GHG related target

Type of mitigation target	Elements to consider for a SMART target	Unit
Renewable Energy	• Definition of “renewable” to be used – e.g., which sources, which technologies? • What does it relate to – share in total power / power + heat generated, GWh electricity generated, renewable generation capacities installed / operational?	• % • GWh • MW
Energy Efficiency	• Definition of “energy efficiency” to be used • What does the target relate to, e.g. - energy efficiency improvement compared to a base year or BAU - Energy efficiency target level?	• GWh • TJ / unit of GDP
Forest cover	• Is there a national forest definition? • Methodology to determine forest cover agreed? • Reference level / baseline data and methodology available?	• Hectares or km^2 • % of national territory • % increase compared to reference / baseline

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Thank you for your attention!

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