Transparency in the Paris Agreement

Andrew Rakestraw
Lead Transparency Negotiator
U.S. Department of State
RakestrawAR@state.gov
## Existing reporting and review

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“Here in Paris, let’s agree to a strong system of transparency that gives each of us the confidence that all of us are meeting our commitments. And let’s make sure that the countries who don’t yet have the full capacity to report on their targets receive the support that they need.”

- President Barack Obama
November 30, 2015
162 INDCs have been submitted, covering 189 countries and representing ~99% of global GHG emissions
Figure 1
Types of mitigation target communicated in the intended nationally determined contributions

Note: The percentages shown are percentages of the Parties that submitted an INDC by 4 April 2016.
“An enhanced transparency framework”

Article 13.1 – “An enhanced transparency framework for action and support, with built-in flexibility which takes into account Parties’ different capacities…is hereby established”

Article 13.7 – “Each Party shall provide
(a) A national inventory report…prepared using good practice methodologies accepted by the IPCC”, and
(b) Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving its nationally determined contribution under Article 4.”

Article 13.11 – “Information submitted by each Party…shall undergo a technical expert review”

Critical diplomatic and technical work ahead to define the details of the flexibility and timing of these new requirements (2016-2018).
“Common modalities, procedures and guidelines”

- Conclude work at COP-24 in 2018
- Modalities, procedures and guidelines apply upon the entry into force of Paris Agreement
- Flexibility for those developing countries that need it in the light of their capacities
- Biennial reporting
- No backsliding in quality or frequency from current transparency arrangements
- Importance of facilitating improved reporting and transparency over time
Reporting

• **Action on GHGs**: Requires all countries to report:
  • Greenhouse gas emissions inventories using internationally accepted standards of good practice (i.e. IPCC bottom up methodologies);
  • Information necessary to track progress towards greenhouse gas reduction targets;

• **Support**: Calls on all countries to provide information on support provided and received.
  • Developed countries are required to do so, developing countries are encouraged to do so.

• **Adaptation**: Encourages countries to provide information on adaptation planning and action.
**GHG Emission Inventory profiles**

**Developed Countries**
- Energy: 45%
  - Electricity & Heat: 20%
  - Transportation: 11%
  - Manufacturing & Construction: 6%
- Land-Use Change & Forestry: 0.2%
- Agriculture: 4%
- Industrial Processes: 2%
- Fugitive Emissions: 2%
- Other Fuel Combustion: 7%
- Waste: 1%
- International Bunkers: 2%

**Developing Countries**
- Energy: 35%
  - Electricity & Heat: 15%
- Transportation: 4%
- Manufacturing & Construction: 8%
- Agriculture: 10%
- Industrial Processes: 3%
- Fugitive Emissions: 3%
- Other Fuel Combustion: 4%
- Waste: 2%
- International Bunkers: 1%

Source: Developed Countries, Non-Annex 1 Year, 2005 Emissions (WRI 2011 Climate Indicators Analysis Tools).
Importance of Land Use for Developing Countries

Lack of good quality maps and land use/conversion data is a key obstacle for many countries. Required by the IPCC Guidelines. Remains a priority for implementing the Paris Agreement.
Review

• **Technical review:**
  • Consideration of support and implementation and achievement of nationally determined contribution
  • Identify areas of improvement
  • For developing countries, identification of capacity-building needs

• “**Multilateral facilitative consideration of progress**”:  
  • Achievement of nationally determined contribution
  • Efforts under finance article
Capacity-building

- Establishes a new Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency:
  - To strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities;
  - To provide relevant tools, training and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement [transparency article]; and
  - To assist in the improvement of transparency over time.
- Will build from lessons learned in 20+ years of capacity-building support for transparency for MRV
- Global Environment Facility Council approved project on June 7
- Start funding projects this year.
- U.S. pledged $15 million; Overall: $35 million
Paris Agreement: Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C

How can the research community contribute to the success of the Paris Agreement in achieving its overall goals?

Fig. 1: Global CO2 emissions and probabilistic temperature outcomes of Paris.

Allen A. Fawcett et al. Science 2015;350:1168-1169
Thank you!

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