

Side Event at the 27th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP27) : Exploring approaches to mitigation target setting for NDC updates

Date: 2:00-4:00 PM, 10 November 2022 Venue: Korea Pavilion of COP27, Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

1. Background

Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, countries agreed to cut greenhouse gas emissions with intention of limiting global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels. According to the IPCC "Global Warming of 1.5°C" report, the global-mean temperature cannot avoid getting hotter to 1.5°C due to past human-induced emissions but warming greater than 1.5°C is depending on future rates of emission reductions.¹ Therefore, the implementation of the Paris Agreement to curb the global temperature going higher than 1.5°C urgently requires a worldwide economic and social transformation in terms of managing greenhouse gas emissions.

As a major way of the drastic transformation to 1.5°C of warming, the Paris Agreement asks countries to update their 5-year circle of NDC (Nationally Determined Contribution) which is countries' ambitious target for mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. So far, all 193 parties have issued at least a first NDC.² The Glasgow Climate Pact in 2021, the key outcome from COP 26, drives further action for countries to update and strengthen the targets in their NDCs in 2022 since there still remains large gap between the emissions cuts required to limit global warming to 1.5°C and the emissions reductions currently planned.³

In this context, during the 27th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP27), UNOSD will organize a side event that focuses on exploring experiences of various countries in setting their own emission mitigation targets in NDCs with a view to introduce the approaches used for different mitigation goal types including base year emissions goal, base year intensity goal, and baseline scenario goal. Countries will share their experiences, best practices, and lessons learned on setting their mitigation targets to support the participants to set the target tailored to their own circumstances through hands-on experiences.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the side event are to provide a platform for policy dialogue and knowledge sharing through presentations and discussions on strengthening emission mitigation targets in NDCs. The event is expected to have the following outcomes:

- Enhancing capacities of country representatives, policymakers, practitioners, and experts on accelerating the implementation of Paris Agreement with a special focus on NDCs;
- Sharing experiences, best practices, and lessons learned on setting mitigation targets;
- Advancing networks among participating organizations, countries, and regions to promote the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

3. Participants

The side event will gather country representatives, government officials, policymakers, experts and stakeholders who are attending the 27th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP27) being held from 6 to 18 November 2022 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

¹ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2022/06/SR15_Chapter_1_HR.pdf

² <u>https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/all-about-ndcs</u>

³ https://ukcop26.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/COP26-Presidency-Outcomes-The-Climate-Pact.pdf

Agenda (Tentative)	
Thursday, 2pm – 4pm, 10 November 2022	
Time	Content
14:00-14:10	 Opening Remarks Mr. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) (video message) Mr. Chun Kyoo Park, Head of Office, UNOSD
14:10-14:25	 Standard for National and Subnational Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals Ms. Kelly Levin, Chief of Science, Data and Systems Change, Bezos Earth Fund
14:25-15:25	 Experiences of Designing Mitigation Goal at National and Subnational Level Mr. Jongchul Bang, Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Research Center, Republic of Korea Ms. Antonella Piacentinni, Head of the Department of Mitigation at the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Paraguay Mr. Sonam Tobgay, Chief Forestry Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Bhutan Mr. Letsatsi Phinehas Lekhooa, COP27 Simulation Model Participant, Lesotho Dr. Fairda Malem, Head of Climate Change Cooperation Promotion Division, Department of Environmental Quality Promotion, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand
15:25-15:40	Supporting Countries to Enhance their NDCs through Ambition, Quality and Process Ms. Amanda McKee, NDC Partnership
15:40~16:00	 Q&A and Panel Discussion Moderator Ms. Yujeong Kim, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD

4. Organizers

This event is organized by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).

5. Formality

The side event will be held in a hybrid format.