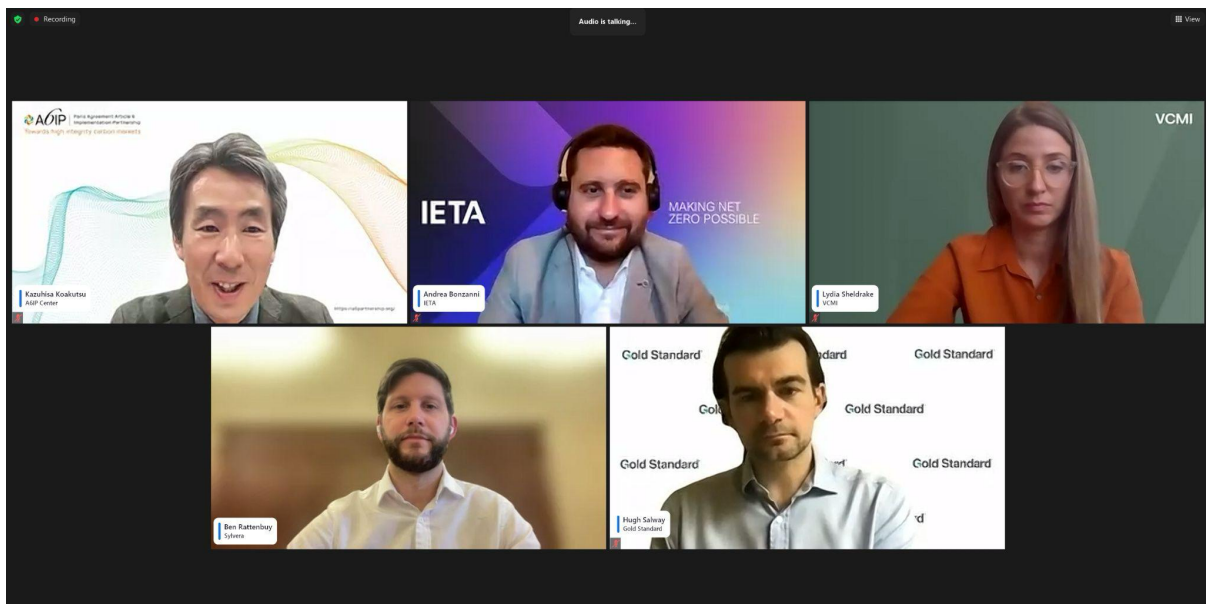


**3rd Plenary  
Meeting of the Paris Agreement  
Article 6 Implementation Partnership**

**Summary of Meeting**

**March 19, 2024**



Organized by:  
Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) and  
Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership Center,  
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

## Summary of Meeting

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Meeting of the Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership (A6IP) focused on advancing the implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, underscoring the importance of international cooperation, capacity building, and private sector engagement in achieving global decarbonization goals. The meeting highlighted initiatives and challenges across different countries and sectors, aiming to streamline Article 6 activities and foster a unified approach towards carbon market development.

Opening remarks by Yutaka Matsuzawa emphasized the critical role of Article 6 in reaching the 1.5-degree Celsius target and welcomed the progress made by the Article 6 Implementation Partnership (A6IP) Center since its establishment at COP27. The support package introduced at COP28 and the ongoing efforts in authorization, reporting, and tracking activities were noted as key components for the successful implementation of Article 6.

Sessions outlined the concerted efforts of various stakeholders, including the A6IP Center's work on providing resources and capacity building, the UNFCCC Secretariat's capacity-building program post-COP26, and the World Bank's initiatives to support carbon market development. Country representatives shared their national strategies and progress, highlighting the diverse approaches and challenges in integrating Article 6 into their climate action plans. Key themes included the need for clear guidelines, the development of national strategies and frameworks, and the importance of capacity building and stakeholder engagement.

A panel discussion with private sector representatives from IETA, VCMI, Sylvera, and Gold Standard addressed the crucial role of the private sector in the carbon market and the implementation of Article 6. The discussion shed light on the challenges related to crediting programs, the quality of carbon credits, and the development of standards for high-integrity voluntary carbon markets. The consensus emphasized the necessity of private sector involvement and innovative solutions to overcome obstacles and enhance the effectiveness of Article 6.

The closing remarks by Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director of the A6IP Center, stressed the importance of collaborative partnerships for the forthcoming fiscal year, starting April 2024. Koakutsu invited participants interested in collaboration to engage with A6IP, highlighting the center's commitment to expanding its efforts and ensuring the successful implementation of Article 6.

## Disclaimer

The organizers have taken diligent measures to maintain objectivity and present a thorough conference summary. However, it is important to acknowledge the possibility of occasional errors. The organizers do not accept any liability or responsibility for inaccuracies in this report. We kindly recommend referring to the meeting webpage for additional materials pertaining to each speaker's presentation.

## Opening Remarks

### **Yutaka Matsuzawa, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Japan**

We acknowledge the importance of engagement in Article 6, playing in reaching the 1.5-degree Celsius target. This article is pivotal in driving decarbonization and mobilizing private sector investments, presenting a significant step towards our goals. The establishment of the Article 6 Implementation Partnership at COP27, is making headway with its authorization, reporting, and tracking activities – essential components for successful implementation. The support package introduced at COP28 is a welcome development. We trust that today's meeting will pave the way for collaborative discussions on further advancing Article 6 implementation.

## Session 1: Overview of Article 6 Implementation Partnership (A6IP) Progress and Future Plans

### **Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director, A6IP Center**

- The A6IP Center, established after COP27, is dedicated to aiding countries in reaching their net-zero objectives by facilitating the implementation of Article 6. It provides a variety of resources, including capacity building tools, a comprehensive support package, and an informative database, all aimed at enhancing the environmental integrity of carbon markets. A specialized working group has been established to support the deployment of Article 6, with resources available on the A6IP website. At COP 28, the center showcased its support package, and in early 2024, it partnered with the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) to host a webinar focused on engaging the private sector with Article 6. The A6IP Center has launched a two-year strategic work program concentrating on authorization tracking and reporting and enhancing National Determined Contributions (NDCs) through the high-integrity carbon market. It is committed to promoting cooperation among governments, the private sector, and regional organizations to ensure the success and integrity of carbon markets.

### **Perumal Arugumam, Manager, Mitigation Division, UNFCCC Secretariat**

- In response to a directive from COP 26 in Glasgow in 2022, the UNFCCC Secretariat initiated a capacity-building work program aimed at fostering voluntary participation in the Article 6 Implementation Mechanism. Throughout 2023, there was significant stakeholder engagement in Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Transition activities across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The UNFCCC supports the implementation of Article 6 through its Regional Collaboration Centers and has assigned cooperative approach IDs to participating countries to streamline processes. To further bolster Article 6 implementation, the Secretariat is organizing regional webinars targeting the private sector and Designated National Authorities (DNAs), leveraging climate summits and peer-to-peer learning workshops. Additionally, it has updated the Article 6 Review training manual and developed a knowledge product detailing the roles and responsibilities of host parties. An extensive knowledge product is also in the works to demystify Article 6's technical terminology for all stakeholders. Looking ahead, the Secretariat plans to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Article 6 Implementation Partnership Center by June 2024. This agreement is intended to enhance administrative collaboration, streamline the work plan, and ensure the coordinated delivery of work.

### **Harikumar Gadde, Senior Climate Change Specialist, World Bank**

- The World Bank is taking significant steps to support the development of carbon markets in various countries, focusing on monetizing high-integrity credits through the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in 15 countries. They aim to streamline the carbon market processes with an Engagement Roadmap and collaborate with various partners. A framework to assess countries' readiness for carbon markets is being discussed, emphasizing infrastructure needs and capacity building for effective participation. The World Bank is working on customizing carbon market approaches tailored to the unique contexts and capacities of different countries. This involves developing governance frameworks, building market infrastructure, and offering capacity building, with over 30 countries already benefiting from the lessons learned. Furthermore, the bank is facilitating carbon pricing and transparency through initiatives like a carbon action forum, technical working groups, and the development of an Academy to enhance capacity on carbon pricing and markets in over 30 countries, utilizing partnerships and tools to measure impact.

## Session 2: Sharing lessons learned on A6 Implementation

- **Diana Khan, Program Manager, A6IP**

Partnerships play a vital role in the implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, emphasizing the importance of providing tailored support packages that align with the specific needs and priorities of partner countries. The A6IP Center facilitates this through a structured 6-step process that includes online consultations and the implementation of support packages. Currently, Thailand, Tunisia, and the Bahamas are in the third stage of this support package process, indicating active engagement and progression towards meeting their Article 6 commitments.

- **Paweena Panichayapichet, Manager, Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization**

Thailand is actively working to align with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement by focusing on integrating its Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM), and the domestic Thailand Voluntary Emission Reduction (T-VER) program. The country is engaging in the transfer of carbon credits to the Swiss Confederation to contribute towards its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). With 51 projects already in its pipeline, Thailand is collaborating with the Swiss Confederation on the first two projects for credit transfers. To further enhance its carbon market and meet international standards, Thailand aims to develop a single registry system for carbon credits. Additionally, it is focusing on including CORSIA (Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation) in its national plan and improving methodologies for calculating emission factors, demonstrating its commitment to implementing Article 6 and advancing its environmental goals.

- **Dr. Alick Muvundika, MZaAS Acting Deputy Director, National Institute for Scientific and Industrial Research, Zambia**

Zambia is making strides towards achieving its conditional NDC target of a 47% emissions reduction by leveraging carbon markets. The country is developing a comprehensive national strategy to implement Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which includes drafting a climate change bill and aligning forestry regulations accordingly, with support from the Global Green Growth Institute under the SPAR6C Project. Efforts are underway to update Zambia's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and establish a carbon market framework that outlines guidelines for project developers, including requirements and timelines for the submission, review, and authorization of mitigation and adaptation projects. Additionally, Zambia is working on creating an integrated measurement, reporting, and verification system for carbon market activities, aided by the Spark program. This initiative underscores the importance of tracking mitigation activities and enhancing the capacity of both private and government stakeholders in the carbon market. Significant progress in Article 6 implementation is evident through bilateral agreements with Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, and Singapore. By aiming to enact a climate change bill by the beginning of the next month, Zambia seeks to attract more carbon projects and further support capacity building within the country.

- **Raïda El Elj, Director of Implementation and Support Mechanisms, Climate Change National Coordination Unit, Ministry of Environment, Tunisia**

Tunisia is focused on engaging in cooperative approaches under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, with an emphasis on renewable energy and industrial processes as outlined in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). The country aims to effectively implement Article 6, prioritizing the development of authorization arrangements and enhancing national inventory reports. To support this effort, Tunisia plans to establish a framework for tracking Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) and make necessary legal adjustments, while also addressing capacity gaps among stakeholders. Collaborating with the Center for Environment, Technology, and Development, the Tunisian government is working to boost capacity for Article 6 implementation. This includes organizing technical workshops to tackle capacity and reporting challenges within Tunisia, demonstrating the country's commitment to fulfilling its obligations under the Paris Agreement and enhancing its contribution to global efforts against climate change.

- **Dr. Krishan Kishor Garg, Joint Director/Scientist-D (HSM DIVISION), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, India**

India has taken significant steps towards implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement by establishing a new authority dedicated to this purpose. The country is planning to undertake 13 activities under Article 6.2, focusing on renewable energy and carbon capture, and is engaging in bilateral discussions with Japan, Singapore, and South Korea. Additionally, the Indian government has announced a carbon trading scheme aimed at developing the domestic carbon market. While working with various organizations to implement Article 6, India has not yet set specific targets for non-obligated entities.

- **Dr. Alexandra Soezer, Director, Climate Action Center of Excellence (CACE), Gulf Organization for Research and Development**

Dr. Soezer shared insights from her previous role at UNDP on implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement across various countries. They encountered challenges such as the complexity of transferring mitigation outcomes and their costs, uncertainties in corresponding adjustments impacting investor decisions, the constraint of utilizing mitigation outcomes within the same NDC cycle limiting market opportunities, and the presence of only small mitigation opportunities in potential seller countries. To tackle these issues, UNDP offered solutions like capacity building on Article 6 frameworks, providing registry solutions, and aiding in project development. They supported the creation of Article 6 frameworks that featured institutional arrangements with clear roles and responsibilities, defined workflows and authorization processes for project execution, mechanisms for tracking and reporting for effective monitoring, and a structured fee system for corresponding adjustments and operational support.

### Session 3: Panel discussion on A6IP actors in the private sector

1. **Andrea Bonzanni, International Policy Director, IETA**
2. **Lydia Sheldrake, Director of Policy and Partnership, VCMII**
3. **Ben Rattenbury, Vice President of Policy, Sylvera**
4. **Hugh Salway, Senior Director, Market Development and Partnerships, Gold Standard**

### Key takeaway from Panel Discussions included:

During a panel discussion on the role of A6IP actors in the private sector, key figures from various organizations shared their insights on implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. A primary concern highlighted was the absence of clear guidance on how crediting programs under Article 6 should operate, which introduces uncertainty for both governments and businesses.

- Gold Standard is collaborating with the Singapore government to develop a comprehensive playbook for executing Article 6 through crediting programs, aiming to clarify the roles of registries, the definition of terms such as "issuance" and "credit", and enhancing communication between entities. VCMII focuses on ensuring that voluntary carbon markets support Article 6 objectives, developing standards for high-integrity markets, and aiding capacity building for countries exploring voluntary carbon markets.
- Sylvera contributes by offering carbon credit ratings, advocating for a nuanced view of carbon credit quality as a spectrum and emphasizing the importance of directing finance towards projects with significant climate benefits. IETA, representing the business side of carbon markets, tracks Article 6 negotiations progress and educates the private sector on emerging opportunities, in addition to conducting workshops and capacity-building initiatives in specific countries.
- The panelists unanimously recognized the vital role of the private sector in the successful implementation of Article 6 and are engaging in various initiatives to tackle the challenges and leverage the opportunities ahead. The session also hinted at the anticipation of collaborative efforts at the regional level, especially with the approaching June 2024 Sessions.

### Closing Remarks by Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director, Article 6 Implementation Partnership Center

As we enter a new fiscal year In April 2024, we are excited with the opportunity to expand our efforts. A6 requires collaborative partnerships to implement Article 6. Director Koakutsu encouraged participants interested in collaborating to reach out to A6IP.