

## 4th Authorization Working Group of the Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership (A6IP)

### Summary of Meeting

July 31st, 2024, 19:00 - 21:30 JST (Online)

#### Disclaimer

The organizer has taken diligent measures to maintain objectivity and present a thorough meeting summary. However, it is important to acknowledge the possibility of occasional errors. We kindly recommend referring to the meeting webpage for additional materials pertaining to each speaker's presentation.

#### Summary of the Meeting

The 4th Working Group on Authorization focused on "authorization framework and procedures" with the objectives to explore the available tools and means of support by development partners that assist countries in putting in place authorization arrangements for Article 6 and sharing country experience with formulating authorization framework and procedures, while discussing what areas of support or toolkits are further needed to help countries making strategic decisions on authorization.

The meeting was moderated by Dr. Diana Khan, Program Manager, A6IP Center.

#### Session 1: Introduction

- Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director of A6IP Center, provided updates on A6IP activities, including the progress of A6IP capacity building activities and invited partner countries who have not yet expressed interest in receiving support to do so if interested and emphasized the importance of building understanding on the role of Article 6 for NDC enhancement.
- Michael Vartanyan, UNFCCC secretariat, provided updates on SBSTA 60 discussion on Article 6, including progress on topics covered. Particularly on authorization, the SBSTA 60 has made progress by developing clear options for implementing authorization which will be further discussed at SBSTA 61 for consideration by CMA 6 during COP 29 in Baku.

## **Session 2: Tools to support authorization consideration**

- Supanut Chotevitayatarakorn, Program Manager, A6IP Center, presented the A6IP Capacity Building Tools, which have been developed to support capacity building efforts on authorization, building on feedback received from the past working groups, focusing particularly on areas whether A6IP can contribute to enhancing understanding on Article 6 and sharing of practices and experience across different regions.
- Hari Gadde, Senior Climate Change Specialist, The World Bank, shared observations of the World Bank on authorization process and country considerations for authorization and the current activity of the World Bank under PMIF and Carbon Market Club to develop a template for the authorization letter, as well as approach papers on various topics which will be available on Climate Warehouse.
- Molly McGregor, Head of Knowledge Management, NDC Partnership, presented the Article 6 Readiness Toolkit, co-developed with Perspectives Climate Research, which helps countries in identifying priorities and needs including on authorization as one of the building blocks. The tool will also be available in French and Spanish. The tool will be piloted with a number of countries in partnership with UNEP-CCC. NDC Partnership also introduced the recently launched NDC 3.0 Navigator, which includes a component on reflecting Article 6 in the NDC.
- Jorge Lujan, Project Manager, Energy Changes (on behalf of the SPAR6C Program), presented the SPAR6C Toolbox which comprises 6 guides, in which Guide 2 and Guide 3 are related to authorization and interconnected: the former deals with strategy (authorization criteria) while the latter focuses on institutional arrangements (authorization framework). Based on these guides, a range of tools and resources, including training materials, will be developed.

## **Session 3: Sharing country experience**

- Shao Hua Ng, Senior Manager, National Climate Change Secretariat of Singapore, presented Singapore's approach to Article 6 cooperation and how Singapore sets up a bilateral agreement framework for Article 6 collaboration and the consolidated authorization process and "dual-key system" which ensures accountability. Singapore also explained the ICC Framework and the Eligibility Criteria, which forms the basis for the Eligibility List, as well as the current work on Article 6 Playbook with Gold Standard and Verra.
- Sophal Leang, Deputy Director of the Department of Climate Change, Cambodia, presented Cambodia's Article 6 Operations Manual, which was developed with support from the GGGI, which defines relevant roles and responsibilities, authorization criteria, process of managing authorization, as well as inclusion of positive list of eligible projects, eligible carbon mechanism, and share of ERs for domestic use.

## **Q&A**

- Q to Singapore: Clarification on "consolidated authorization" / A: Singapore takes the consolidated authorization as a single step rather than a sequential process for the purpose of streamlining the process.
- Q to Cambodia: Is Cambodia taking a separate step for authorization of the project and of issuance of credits? / A: Currently, Cambodia has provided no-objection to potential

project proponents and will consider authorizing the amount of GHG reduction and credit issuance separately.

#### **Session 4: Discussion** (with Initial remarks from previous panelists)

Guiding question - What areas of support or toolkits are further needed to support countries in making strategic decisions on authorization.

#### Summary of key discussion:

- Commending that there is a number of knowledge and tools available which can support countries on authorization. Piloting these toolkits (having real case examples) will help to gather feedback from countries and build on lessons learned along the process.
- Recognizing the opportunity to move towards the next round of NDC while elevating the knowledge of countries on the strategic use of Article 6 and to understand where support from technical experts are needed.
- Capacity building is critical and there are opportunities to better coordinate to ensure consistency of messages and filling the gaps of country needs.
- Key considerations for support on authorization include how to help deploy different tools at the country level; how initiatives can collectively support and build clarity to help countries build a comprehensive policy framework for authorization; and how existing toolkits can support countries in identifying Article 6 potential and ensuring contribution to NDC.
- Efforts should also focus on how to ensure robust authorization, recognizing useful resources such as the Article 6 Playbook
- Also noting available resources that support countries in ensuring environmental integrity such as IC-VCM, CORSIA.
- Discussion on how Article 6 can be implemented alongside carbon pricing instruments such as carbon tax and ETS and how it ties with NDC will be very helpful.
- Linkages are also mentioned to the country's readiness in terms of infrastructure and GHG inventories.
- Recognizing A6IP provides a helpful space to facilitate discussion, underscoring the important role of continued collaboration and dialogue to promote mutual learning and sharing best practices.
- Building on experience, A6IP can support developing and sharing emerging best practices.

#### **Session 5: Concluding**

- Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director of A6IP Center, thanked all speakers and panelists and appreciated the rich discussion and examples shared, noting valuable supporting tools being developed by various partners while recognizing that these tools can significantly facilitate filling the gaps and contribute to enhancing countries' understanding while also emphasizing the importance of support to countries in understanding where opportunities of Article 6 are towards the update of NDC 3.0.