

Japan's submission on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement
Ensuring rapid operationalization (Article 6.2, 6.4 and 6.8)

May 2021

Introduction

Japan welcomes the invitation from the SBSTA Chair to voluntarily submit further views on the ensuring rapid operationalization (Article 6.2, 6.4 and 6.8). In the following, Japan presents its views on this subject.

Overview

In order to ensure the rapid operationalization of Article 6, it is useful to prioritize consideration of the several issues included in the work plan in the presidential draft text on Article 6 presented at COP25. Those issues of priority are described in the following sections.

Furthermore, Japan intends to make concrete proposals for “the agreed electronic format on Article 6 reporting” and “modalities, procedures and guidelines for the review on Article 6 reporting” for Article 6.2, and “options on principles for methodologies including baseline and additionality principles” for Article 6.4.

Article 6.2 guidance on cooperative approach

With regard to the implementation of Article 6.2 guidance, developing “the agreed electronic format on Article 6 reporting” and “modalities, procedures and guidelines for the review on Article 6 reporting” should be prioritized for practical reasons, i.e., (a) the former is necessary for the submission of annual information, as well as for the first biennial transparency report to be submitted by 2024, and (b) the latter is necessary for all the three review processes (review on an initial report, annual information and a biennial transparency report).

The former should cover the contents specified in paragraph 20 (initial transfer, acquisition, etc.) in annex of the presidential draft texts on Article 6.2 presented at COP25, and should be as simple as possible. The latter can be developed taking into account modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

Article 6.4 mechanism rules, modalities and procedure

With regard to the implementation of Article 6.4 mechanism, identifying and developing the minimum requirements for “options on principles for methodologies including baseline and additionality principles” is necessary, based on the Article 6.4 project cycle. The requirements could include such elements as definition of baseline approaches considering CDM experiences and description of specific methodological approaches (menu-type approach, hierarchical approach, etc.).

With regard to accommodating best available technologies (BATs) concept into baseline and its relationship with a nationally determined contribution (NDC), it will be effective if the Supervisory

Body operationalizes those in the course of implementation in the future, and the SBSTA should develop basic principles under which the Supervisory Body will operate.

Article 6.8 non-market approach

With regard to the implementation of Article 6.8 framework, developing “the schedule for implementing the work programme activities” should be prioritized, as the schedule forms the basis for any activities to follow.

To this end, Parties are encouraged to submit their views on the schedule by March 2022, which could be compiled into a synthesis report. Afterwards, the SBSTA should consider the synthesis report in 2022 and make any recommendations as appropriate for consideration by the CMA at its next session.

Subsequently, it would be useful for Parties to submit their views on the focus areas, taking into account their relevant experiences and plans.