

**On behalf of**  
**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND BELIZE**

**Submission on Common Timeframes for NDCs**

**Introduction**

Article 4 paragraph 10 of the Paris Agreement states that the Conference of the Parties (COP) serving as the meeting of the Parties of the Paris Agreement shall consider common time frames for nationally determined contributions (NDCs) at its first session (CMA 1).

The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) initiated consideration of this matter at its 47<sup>th</sup> session (SBI 47) with the objective of proposing a draft decision for consideration by CMA 1. The SBI agreed to continue its consideration of this matter at SBI 48. The SBI also invited Parties and observers to submit, by 31 March 2018, their views on common time frames for NDCs referred to in Article 4, paragraph 10, of the Paris Agreement, including on, but not limited to, the usefulness of and options for common time frames and the advantages and disadvantages of those options, for consideration at SBI 48 (April–May 2018).

Trinidad and Tobago and Belize are pleased to submit their views on the cycling of submissions of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

**Proposal**

In order to synchronize the NDCs of Parties that have differing timeframes, and consistent with the intention of paragraphs 23 and 24 of Decision 1/CP.21, it is proposed that all Parties utilize a 5+5-year dynamic NDC cycle commencing in 2025, at which time all Parties would update and submit their 2030 NDC and communicate an indicative 2035 NDC. In 2030 all Parties would then update and submit this previously indicative 2035 NDC and communicate an indicative 2040 NDC. And so forth. This dynamic NDC cycle would not only facilitate maximum enhancement of short-term (five-year) ambition, but also provide a ten-year ambition indication as medium-term planning horizon.

Given paragraphs 23 and 24 of Decision 1/CP.21, this dynamic NDC cycle could be brought about by simply *requesting all Parties in 2025 to update their 2030 NDC and communicate an indicative 2035 NDC, and to do so every five years thereafter.*

**Advantages**

This proposal has several advantages.

1. Parties would have clarity and predictability on when they are expected to prepare and present their NDCs with the certainty that the other Parties are also undertaking the same exercise.
2. This will enhance transparency, confidence and trust envisaged under the Paris Agreement. Parties will be able to see the contributions from other Parties every five years.
3. This will provide useful input to the global stocktake. The global stocktake will be undertaken every five years commencing in 2023. Therefore, in 2023, 2028, 2033, the CMA will be able to collate and analyze the collective contributions in the NDCs to see if they are meeting the first objective of the Paris Agreement, meeting the 1.5/2 degree global warming target, as well as

provide some insight into the trajectory for the future to achieve this target. This would further enable decisions to be made in an informed manner regarding the need for more ambition as appropriate.

4. Parties would not be locked in a cycle of low ambition. For those Parties that utilize a 10-year planning horizon, as every five years they would have an opportunity to update the second 5-year half of their previous NDC based on new circumstances such as new technologies and new market opportunities.
5. The private sector would be afforded additional comfort. The private sector which has an important role to play in the transformation of the development paradigm from a fossil fuel-based economy to a green economy will be able to undertake long term investments in cleaner technologies. Every five years this confidence will be re-enforced by new commitments towards their investments and new opportunities for further initiatives. In other words, the proposed approach would enable the political signals to be clearly communicated to the private sector, and given the inherent predictability, in a manner that would build long-term mutual trust and confidence, and thereby facilitate confident policy and investment decisions.

### **Conclusion**

We welcome the opportunity to further elaborate on our proposal at SBI 48 and future sessions.