

## Co-Chairs' Report back to plenary | CONTACT GROUP 2

### 29 April 2024

On behalf of my contact group 2 co-chair, Mr Oliver Boachie, and myself, I am pleased to provide this final report back to plenary on the work done by contact group 2, and its subgroups.

A first report of the contact group was delivered to plenary on the evening of Friday, 26 April. This report therefore primarily refers to work undertaken in sub-groups 2.1 and 2.2 from Saturday, 27 April, and the discussions of contact group 2 earlier this evening.

Contact group 2 resumed at 6pm this evening to hear the reports back from sub-groups 2.1 and 2.2 and agree on the way forward.

**Sub-group 2.1** convened nine times during INC4 – an additional 5 times from the last report to the plenary, focusing on a detailed review of Part III.1 concerning Financing [Mechanisms [and Resources]] and Part III.2 on Capacity Building, Technical Assistance and Technology Transfer. During these sessions, the subgroup successfully completed the first read-through of all provisions mandated to this subgroup. The group was also able to complete validation of the co-facilitator's streamlining of Parts III.1 and 2.

The co-facilitators were given the mandate to streamline many of the provisions included in Parts III.1 and 2 to make the document more manageable, striving to the extent possible not to omit any positions. This effort involved consolidating different options where relevant while preserving the intentions behind all positions reflected in co-chairs streamlined version.

The sub-group validated the streamlining for the financing section for paragraphs OP0, parts of OP4, OP6, OP7 and OP10.

For OP1, OP2 and OP5, it was agreed to revert to the co-chairs' streamlined text version. Consideration of OP3 on special circumstances of particular countries was deferred to a later stage. The text of OP8 and OP9 were maintained.

For the section on capacity building, the subgroup accepted a partial streamlining of OP1 with the group agreeing to leave the text as presented in the co-chairs' streamlined version, for further discussion at a later stage.

Members of the subgroup have actively participated by submitting various proposals for additional text, restructuring, and reordering of the sections under discussion. Thirty-eight (38) sets of comments were submitted on means of implementation on the online portal. All of these proposals have been compiled and are accessible through [in-session documents](#), for review and consideration.

**On sub-group 2.2**, since the previous report back to plenary, two further meetings of the sub-group were held. In total, the sub-group met five times to consider Parts IV, V and VI. During the discussions, the sub-group completed the read through of Part IV on aspects including national plans, compliance, reporting and periodic assessment and Part V on the governance of the prospective instrument.

Further, the group completed validation of streamlining of Part IV, completed the first line-by-line negotiation of Part IV.1 on national plans, and began line-by-line negotiation of Part IV.2 on implementation and compliance. The co-facilitators were given the mandate to prepare an initial draft of part VI of the text on final provisions, based on standard articles from other conventions and document UNEP INC.1/PP/8, as well as submissions made for INC3 that has been made available on the INC4 website as part of the co-facilitators' non-paper on subgroup outcomes.

59 sets of comments that were submitted on parts IV, V and VI are available on the online portal.

During the **third meeting of the contact group**, the group heard reports back from the two sub-groups and confirmed agreement for the non-papers of the co-facilitators' of sub-groups 2.1 and 2.2 to be forwarded to the plenary as part of the outcomes of contact group 2.

Mr. Chair, while we have progressed further streamlined text to facilitate negotiations, we recognize that many views expressed in the meetings of the subgroups during this session, and submitted on the in-session documents platform, are not yet captured in the text that the contact group forwarded to the plenary. Reflections on these views were presented by the co-facilitators of the subgroups at the last contact group meeting and were noted by the contact group.

We look forward to these views being discussed at the next session of the Committee not only as part of a rich exchange of views but more importantly, in the line-by-line textual negotiation that we have begun to move into at this session.

We also wish to sincerely thank all members of the Committee for their participation in this process, and our co-facilitators – Naomi, Miguel, Marine and Danny.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.