

**AMENDMENT TO THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE CONTACT GROUPS ON AGENDA
ITEM 4**

UPDATED NOTE BY THE CO-LEADS OF CONTACT GROUP 4

1. The present document amends the organization of work for all the contact groups on agenda item 4.
2. Contact group 4 was allocated three sessions. In order to address concerns that sections H to K had not yet been duly considered in previous meetings of the Open-ended Working Group, the co-leads of contact group 4 suggested the following organization of work:
 - First session: general comments on Section G (Tools and Solutions); targets 14-21 under Section G in sequential order;
 - Second session: Sections H to K; resuming discussion of targets 14-21 if time permits;
 - Third session: finalizing targets 14-21; discussion on possible further work or areas where consultations among Parties and observers may be useful before the second part of the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group.

Update for the third session of Contact Group 4, Thursday 2 September 2021, 7 a.m. Montreal time

3. At the first session, on Friday 27 August, delegates shared their views on Targets 14 and Target 15 and proposed a range of specific textual amendments and additions. To save time, the co-leads invited participants to submit their textual proposals in advance via email and issued a non-paper comprising:
 - A compilation of textual proposals received from Parties and from observers; and
 - Based on the compilation of Parties' submissions, a draft composite text for each target and section incorporating all proposals received by Parties, using the agreed syntax (i.e. new text in bold, text alternatives in bold and brackets; and text proposed for deletion in brackets).
4. The non-paper also captured the progress already made on Targets 14 and 15; namely:
 - For target 14, a compilation of the textual proposals made by Parties and observers during the session, as well as the composite text, which includes all the textual proposals made by Parties and the textual proposals by observers that were supported by at least one Party;¹
 - For target 15, a compilation of the textual proposals made by Parties during the session of Friday 27 August 2021, as well as a draft composite text, prepared by the co-leads with the assistance of the Secretariat, which includes all the textual proposals made by Parties.
5. As the contact group at its first session of Friday 27 August did not have sufficient time to consider textual proposals by observers on Target 15, the non-paper also included a compilation of submissions containing textual proposals on Target 15 received from observers, pursuant to the invite of the co-leads, which were presented for consideration and, as appropriate, endorsement by Parties.
6. The second session of the contact group held on Monday 30 August, considered sections H to K. Specifically, for each of these sections:
 - Parties and observers that submitted textual suggestions were invited to review and confirm if their textual proposals had been fully reflected in the compilation of submissions presented in the non-paper and to provide amendments or corrections, where necessary;
 - Parties that were not in a position to submit textual suggestions ahead of the meeting were invited to do so at this stage.
 - Parties were also invited to review the textual proposals submitted by observers and indicate those they wished to support.

¹ Due to technical constraints, the composite text did not include all the proposals made by Parties or observers by the time Contact Group 4 moved on to discuss the next target. In the non-paper, the missing proposals were complemented by the co-leads with the assistance of the Secretariat.

- In undertaking the above, Parties also provided the rationale for their proposals. This was considered to be an essential component at the current stage of the process, that would contribute to broadening mutual understanding and laying the foundation for constructive negotiations at the upcoming physical meetings in Geneva.

7. After the consideration of the sections H to K, the contact group returned to the remaining targets, starting with a consideration of the textual proposals submitted by observers on Target 15. Parties were invited to review the observers' proposals and indicate in the chat which specific proposals they supported. The group finished its first consideration of Target 16.

8. For the third and last session of the contact group on Thursday 2 September, the co-leads will issue a revised non-paper, which would include the progress made during the second meeting. The co-leads also renewed their call for written submissions, in particular on the outstanding targets 17 to 21, that would be considered at the third and last session of the contact group, and these written submissions would also be included in the revised non-paper. For those elements already considered, the co-leads would prepare, under their authority, succinct points of convergence and points that need further discussions, as well as any proposals made by Parties on possible further work.

9. Following the guidance of the Bureau, the contact group at its second session did not work on the composite texts. However, the co-leads of contact group 4 have retained the composite texts in the revised non-paper for the information of participants.
