
**First virtual meeting of the Virtual Working Group on
Targets, Indicators and Milestones**
Monday, 01 February, from 13:00 – 16:00 CET

VIRTUAL WORKING GROUP ON TARGETS, INDICATORS AND MILESTONES

Report of the 5th Virtual Meeting on Targets, Indicators and Milestones

1) Welcoming remarks and review of meeting agenda and meeting objectives

Welcome remarks were given by co-facilitator Mr. Wajira Palipane (Sri Lanka).

There were 90 participants on the call.

2) Discussion on document: Set of recommendations for a process to establish indicators and milestones for finalized targets recommendations

A total of 12 electronic submissions were received for inputs to the proposal: *Set of recommendations for a process to establish indicators and milestones for finalized targets recommendations*. The co-facilitator proceeded to give an overview and note the general considerations received on the electronic submissions. She followed by giving a brief overview of the group's mandate and reiterated that the intentions of the output document produced by VWG1 is to build on meeting documents SAICM/IP.4/3 and SAICM/IP.4/INF/15

The co-facilitator proceeded to explain the three options set out in the recommendations document. Before opening the floor for general comments, she stressed once more that this is not agreed text and that the output document will be presented to the Bureau as areas where the group had convergence. The meeting participants expressed strong support for the outcome document. There was general agreement from the group to bring forward Option 1 and Option 2 and exclude Option 3. The co-facilitators agreed to expand on the considerations as being discussed in order to reflect the outputs of the group. In moving forward, the co-facilitators agreed to use the comments in the written submissions and considerations captured during this discussion to finalize the output document that will be presented to the Bureau.

3) Discussion on Co-facilitators reflections of progress made on Part I of VWG1 mandate

The co-facilitator reminded the group that in the previous VWG1 discussion, the group tasked the co-facilitators and the secretariat to provide an advance version of the targets and target wording by capturing the different modifications (noting that there was not necessarily full agreement). The advance version should include a section of "considerations" to include areas of convergence. The draft targets document was uploaded on the SAICM dedicated VWG1 webpage on 26 January 2021 and intended to serve as the basis for discussion under this meeting agenda item. The intent is then, based on these discussions, to present an outcome document to the Bureau with these reflections as part 1.

The co-facilitator proceeded to open the discussion on the proposal for target formulations. Targets were discussed one by one. Specific attention was given on possible formulation of targets based on points of convergence of views among stakeholders, including new targets for which the formulations gained overall support. The co-facilitator explained that trying to find convergence of views based on the written submissions

proved to be a difficult task. The co-facilitator stressed in multiple occasions that this is not agreed text that will be presented to the Bureau but rather views of the VWG that had convergence. Some stakeholders felt that it was important to mention that not all stakeholders had the possibility to participate in written submissions or during virtual meetings, due to short feedback cycles, internet access, language and time zone barriers, additionally some stakeholders believe that their submissions have never been considered or discussed. Therefore, they felt it was important to note that the suggestions in the report are not an agreed text by all stakeholders.

Additionally, the participants discussed considerations and components of each target which provide explanations and rationales to further inform the process. The group also discussed the considerations set out on each target and how these are intended to serve as a “guide” for the wording of the targets in moving forward pending agreement on the next steps. There was also general convergence from the group to include an annex with new targets proposed by stakeholders that are not included in the main text of the outcome document. In moving forward, the group agreed that these areas of convergence will be included in the outcome document of the group that will be presented to the Bureau.

4) Final steps/ Closure

The co-facilitators informed the group that the outcome document would be prepared based on the discussions in the final VWG meeting
