

Equity considerations in NDCs

Virtual event

Monday, 7 December 2020, 14:00 to 15:30

Objectives

Despite the COVID-19 crisis, the year 2020 remains a milestone for climate action. Parties are to submit to the secretariat their NDCs referred to in Article 4 of the Paris Agreement at least 9–12 months in advance of the COP26 in November 2020, with a view to facilitating the clarity, transparency and understanding of the NDCs. The current delay in NDC communications within the agreed timelines is however concerning. Initiatives to better understand key features related to the NDCs are therefore crucial. In this context, a closer look at fairness considerations can help highlight motivating principles to stimulate all countries to be as ambitious as possible.

Decision 4/CMA.1 require that Parties clarify in their NDCs:

6. How the Party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances:

- (a) How the Party considers that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances;
- (b) Fairness considerations, including reflecting on equity;

The event on equity considerations in NDCs pursues the following objectives:

- To stimulate a better understanding of equity and fairness considerations in the context of NDCs
- To stimulate a better understanding of political interpretations, including different countries' way of reflecting on equity and fairness considerations

The event will address the following questions:

- What are different ways to approach the concept of fairness and the different principles that can be applied to consider the fairness of an NDC
- How can countries apply this understanding to their NDC

Programme

The event will take the form of a panel discussion, followed by a Questions & Answers (Q&A) session:

Welcome and Introduction *H.E. Mr Franz Perrez, Ambassador for the Environment, Head of the International Affairs Division, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment* [5 min]

Presentation 1: *Prof. Henry Shue, Professor Emeritus of Politics and International Relations at Merton College of Oxford University* [15 min]

Comment to Presentation 1: *Prof. Anja Karnein, Associate Professor of Philosophy Binghamton University, SUNY, New York*, [5 min]

Presentation 2: *Prof. Lukas Meyer, Professor für praktische Philosophie, Universität Graz* [10 min]

Commentator: *Andreas Bachmann, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment* [5 min]

Commentators with a link to the climate change negotiations

Q&A session [30 min]