



The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP
COP President Designate
9 Downing Street
London
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By email

1 September 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Informal ministerial consultations on Common Timeframes

Two months remain before we gather in Glasgow and I have heard clearly from Parties about the importance of resolving Common Timeframes for NDCs at COP26 as part of a balanced negotiated package. It has been nearly six years since Paris, where we agreed on the need to have Common Timeframes. It is also nearly three years since we had intended to conclude negotiations on Common Timeframes at COP24 in Katowice. Therefore, success on Common Timeframes at COP26 depends on us, as Ministers, coming prepared and ready to be flexible so we can reach agreement.

To help Parties move forward, and respond to calls for this issue to be discussed at a political level, at the recent July Ministerial I announced that Minister Simonetta Sommaruga of Switzerland and Minister Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya of Rwanda would lead informal ministerial consultations on Common Timeframes.

These consultations will focus on finding convergence, including on the length of the time frames for NDCs. This will complement and build on the technical work being led by the SBI Chair. The Ministers will report back to me ahead of ministerial meetings at the Pre-COP when we will discuss this issue further.

I would be most grateful if you would prioritise attendance in these important consultations and engage in an open and co-operative discussion.

Details of these consultations have been communicated by the UNFCCC secretariat. The opening meeting will take place on 7th September at 11:00 - 13:00 CEST.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alok' followed by a stylized flourish.

The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP
COP President Designate