HOST PARTY PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ARTICLE 6.4 MECHANISM (Version 01.0)

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION	
Country:	(Islamic Republic of Pakistan)
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SECTION 2: PARTICIPATION RESPONSIBILITIES	
Is your country a Party to the Paris Agreement?	☒ Yes ☐ No
Has your country prepared, communicated, and is it maintaining a Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement?	☒ Yes ☐ No
Has your country designated a Designated National Authority (DNA) for the Article 6.4 mechanism and communicated that designation to the UNFCCC secretariat?	☒ Yes ☐ No

Please describe how your country's participation in the Article 6.4 mechanism contributes to sustainable development, while acknowledging that the consideration of sustainable development is a national prerogative.
Pakistan's participation in Article 6.4 mechanism can help the country reduce its GHG emissions and foste sustainable development. Article 6 facilitates international cooperation through carbon markets and non-market mechanisms, allowing countries to achieve their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) more efficiently and cost-effectively. Here's how Pakistan's participation contributes to sustainable development: 1. Promotion of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Pakistan can align its Article 6 activities with the SDGs, ensuring projects deliver benefits beyond carbon reduction, such as: • Economic Growth (SDG 8): By incentivizing investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and low-carbon technologies, Article 6 mechanisms create jobs and stimulate economic activity. • Clean Energy (SDG 7): Carbon credit projects can attract funding for solar, wind, and hydropower projects, expanding access to affordable and clean energy. • Climate Action (SDG 13): Projects under Article 6 directly contribute to achieving Pakistan's climate targets outlined in its NDCs. 2. Financing for Climate Resiliene and Adaptation Participation in carbon markets under Article 6.4 can attract international climate finance. This funding can be directed toward: • Developing climate-resilient infrastructure. • Supporting adaptation projects in agriculture and water management, essential for Pakistan's climate-vulnerable population. 3. Technology Transfer and Capacity Building Collaboration under Article 6.4 facilitates access to advanced low-carbon technologies and technical expertise, which can improve: • Efficiency in industries. • Climate-friendly agricultural practices. • Local capacity to implement and monitor climate projects. 4. Strengthened Environmental Governance Participation in Article 6 mechanisms can drive improvements in monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems. This strengthens institutional capacity to assess: • The environmental integrity of projects. • Compliance with sustainable development priorities. 5. Consideration of National Sovereignty in Sustainable Development

The Paris Agreement acknowledges that sustainable development is a national prerogative. For Pakistan, this means:

- **Tailoring Article 6 projects to align with national development priorities, such as poverty alleviation, energy access, and water security.**
- **Ensuring projects address local environmental and social needs through rigorous stakeholder consultations.**
- **Setting criteria to evaluate sustainable development contributions based on Pakistan's unique socio-economic and environmental context.**

6. Equity and Inclusivity

By prioritizing projects in underprivileged and climate-vulnerable regions, Pakistan can ensure equitable distribution of benefits. This aligns with the principles of sustainable development and strengthens resilience in marginalized communities.

Challenges and Safeguards

While the benefits are significant, Pakistan must safeguard against potential risks, such as:

- **Double Counting: Robust MRV systems are essential to ensure integrity in carbon trading.**
- **Greenwashing: Projects must demonstrate tangible environmental and social benefits.**
- **Exclusion Risks: Special attention should be given to involve marginalized communities in project planning and implementation.**

Conclusion

Pakistan's participation in the Article 6 mechanism represents a strategic opportunity to achieve its NDC targets while advancing sustainable development. By leveraging the flexibility of the Article 6 framework and emphasizing its national prerogative, Pakistan can ensure that climate actions contribute to economic growth, social equity, and environmental integrity in a way that reflects the country's development priorities and aspirations.

Please provide detailed information on the types of activities under Article 6, paragraph 4 (A6.4 activities) that your country would consider approving pursuant to chapter V.C (Approval and Authorization) of the Rules, Modalities and Procedures (RMPs).

Additionally, explain how these activities, and any associated emission reductions or removals, would contribute to the achievement of your country's NDC, if applicable, its long-term low GHG emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement?

The scope of activities Pakistan may approve as part of its participation in the Article 6.4 mechanism would be guided by its national climate priorities, sustainable development objectives, and NDC targets. Below is a detailed exploration of activity types Pakistan may consider approving:

1). Renewable Energy Projects

Pakistan is committed to increasing its share of clean energy in the energy mix. Activities in this sector could include:

- **Solar Power Installations: Large-scale solar farms and rooftop solar projects to enhance energy security.**

- **Wind Farms: Development of wind energy projects, particularly in areas with high wind potential such as Sindh and Balochistan.**

- **Hydropower: Small- and medium-sized hydropower plants to provide renewable energy to rural and remote areas.**

Justification: These activities contribute to reducing reliance on fossil fuels, decreasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and achieving NDC targets.

2). Energy Efficiency Improvements

Pakistan's industries and residential sectors offer significant potential for energy efficiency upgrades. Potential activities include:

- **Industrial Energy Efficiency: Retrofitting factories with energy-efficient machinery and processes.**

- **Building Efficiency: Implementation of green building codes, energy-efficient lighting, and HVAC systems.**

- **Efficient Cooking Stoves: Distribution of energy-efficient stoves in rural areas to reduce biomass usage.**

Justification: Energy efficiency activities reduce energy consumption and associated emissions while offering economic benefits.

3). Sustainable Transport Systems

Pakistan faces increasing GHG emissions from the transport sector. Approved activities could include:

- **Mass Transit Systems: Expansion of urban rail, bus rapid transit (BRT), and electric public transport.**

- **Electric Vehicles (EVs): Support for EV infrastructure, such as charging stations, and promotion of EV adoption.**

- **Non-Motorized Transport: Development of bicycle lanes and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure.**

Justification: These activities align with Pakistan’s goals of reducing emissions in urban areas while improving air quality and mobility.

4). Afforestation and Reforestation Projects

Given Pakistan’s vulnerability to climate change, forest-based mitigation activities are a priority:

- Community-Based Afforestation: Involvement of local communities in tree planting on degraded lands.

- Mangrove Restoration: Protection and expansion of coastal mangroves to sequester carbon and protect against sea-level rise.

- Agroforestry: Integration of trees into agricultural landscapes to enhance carbon sequestration and biodiversity.

Justification: These activities address multiple environmental challenges, including land degradation and climate resilience.

5). Waste Management and Methane Capture

Managing solid waste and wastewater offers significant mitigation potential. Activities could include:

- Landfill Gas Capture: Installation of systems to capture methane emissions from landfills.

- Waste-to-Energy: Converting municipal solid waste into energy through incineration or biogas production.

- Recycling Programs: Establishment of comprehensive recycling initiatives to reduce waste-related emissions.

Justification: These activities reduce methane emissions, promote sustainable urbanization, and offer opportunities for clean energy generation.

6). Agriculture and Livestock Management

Agriculture is a significant source of GHG emissions in Pakistan. Activities in this area could include:

- Sustainable Farming Practices: Adoption of low-emission fertilizers, no-till farming, and crop rotation.

- Livestock Emissions Reduction: Installation of biodigesters for manure management and feed optimization to reduce enteric fermentation.

- Water Management: Implementation of efficient irrigation systems, such as drip irrigation, to conserve water and reduce energy use.

Justification: These activities contribute to food security while mitigating emissions from a critical sector.

7). Climate-Resilient Infrastructure

Climate adaptation activities that also deliver mitigation co-benefits may be considered, such as:

- Urban Green Spaces: Development of green parks and urban forests to improve air quality and carbon sequestration.

- Flood-Resilient Construction: Building flood barriers and climate-resilient housing.

- Renewable-Powered Water Desalination: Projects addressing water scarcity using renewable energy.

Justification: These activities enhance Pakistan’s climate resilience while reducing emissions.

8). Industrial Decarbonization

Supporting low-carbon technologies in key industrial sectors, including:

- Cement Industry: Transitioning to low-carbon cement production technologies.

- Steel Manufacturing: Adoption of hydrogen-based steelmaking processes.

- Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS): Pilot projects to capture and store industrial emissions.

Justification: These activities reduce emissions in Pakistan's energy-intensive sectors, aligning with global decarbonization trends.Pakistan's engagement in Article 6 activities provides a pathway to meet its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets, support its long-term low greenhouse gas (GHG) emission development strategy (to be submitted), and align with the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. Below is an explanation of how these activities and associated emission reductions or removals contribute to these objectives:

1. Contribution to Pakistan's NDC Targets

Pakistan's NDC outlines commitments to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Article 6 activities directly contribute by:

a. Enhancing Mitigation Efforts

- Emission Reductions: Projects like renewable energy development, industrial decarbonization, and methane capture reduce Pakistan's reliance on fossil fuels, helping achieve the conditional and unconditional targets in its NDC.

- Carbon Removals: Afforestation and reforestation projects contribute to carbon sequestration, offsetting emissions and supporting land-use sector commitments.

b. Mobilizing Financial Resources

- Participation in carbon markets generates revenue through the sale of Article 6.4ERs, providing much-needed financial resources for NDC implementation. The Government of Pakistan plans to reserve 5% of the issued Article 6.4ERs for its NDC achievement during international transfer authorization.

c. Strengthening Adaptation and Resilience

- Sustainable agriculture and water management projects address vulnerabilities highlighted in Pakistan's NDC, ensuring that mitigation activities also enhance adaptive capacity.

2. Alignment with Long-Term Low GHG Emission Development Strategy

Although Pakistan has not yet formally submitted a long-term low GHG emission development strategy (LTS), many Article 6 activities align with the principles guiding such strategies:

a. Transition to a Low-Carbon Economy

- Renewable Energy: Projects under Article 6 contribute to decarbonizing Pakistan's power sector, aligning with long-term energy transition goals.

- Industrial Decarbonization: Activities like adoption of low-carbon cement and steel technologies position Pakistan to meet global standards for low-carbon production.

b. Promoting Sustainable Urbanization

- Sustainable Transport: Electrification of public transport and development of mass transit systems reduce urban emissions, fostering sustainable cities.

- Waste Management: Methane capture and waste-to-energy projects align with low-emission urban planning objectives.

c. Technology and Capacity Building

- Article 6 activities encourage transfer of advanced technologies and capacity-building initiatives, laying the foundation for long-term emissions reductions.

3. Support for the Long-Term Goals of the Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to well below 2°C, with efforts to stay within 1.5°C. Pakistan's Article 6 activities support this by:

a. Accelerating Global Mitigation Efforts

- Activities such as renewable energy and afforestation reduce global GHG concentrations, contributing to collective efforts under Article 6's cooperative approach.

b. Strengthening Climate Resilience

- Projects addressing water management, agriculture, and urban infrastructure align with the Paris Agreement's goal of enhancing adaptive capacity.

c. Facilitating Global Equity

- By participating in the Article 6 mechanism, Pakistan can access international finance and technology, supporting its transition to a low-carbon pathway while addressing development challenges.

4. Key Mechanisms for Tracking Contributions

To ensure that Article 6 activities contribute to national and global goals, Pakistan will establish robust systems for monitoring, reporting, and verifying (MRV) the associated emissions reductions or removals. This includes:

- Transparent Accounting: Ensuring no double counting of ITMOs between Pakistan and the purchasing country.

- Alignment with NDCs: Evaluating whether Article 6 activities align with specific NDC targets and sectoral priorities.

- Regular Reporting: Documenting contributions through Pakistan's Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and future Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) submissions.

5. Co-Benefits for Sustainable Development

Beyond emissions reductions, Article 6 activities contribute to Pakistan's sustainable development priorities, such as:

- Energy Access: Renewable energy projects improve electricity access in remote areas.

- Job Creation: Low-carbon industries create employment opportunities, supporting socio-economic growth.

- Health Benefits: Improved air quality from reduced fossil fuel usage enhances public health outcomes.

6. Challenges and Safeguards **While the potential is significant, ensuring alignment with Pakistan's NDCs and long-term goals requires addressing challenges:** **• Environmental Integrity: Projects must meet stringent criteria to ensure real, measurable, and additional emissions reductions.** **• Social Inclusivity: Activities should prioritize marginalized communities and avoid exacerbating inequalities.** **• Institutional Strengthening: Robust governance mechanisms are essential to track, verify, and report the impact of Article 6 activities.**
Please provide any additional information that the host Party may deem necessary.

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Document information

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