
THE ARTICLE 6.4 MECHANISM REGISTRY

The [Article 6.4 Mechanism Registry](#) is a specific type of registry created under the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM). It records the emission reductions and removals (called A6.4ERs) generated by activities specifically approved under this crediting programme.

Operated by the UNFCCC Secretariat under the supervision of the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body (SBM), the primary functions of the mechanism registry can be summarised as follows¹²:

1. **Tracking A6.4ERs and CERs:** This registry is responsible for tracking A6.4ERs and CERs by assigning and utilising unique identifiers for each. The registry will incorporate various accounts such as pending, holding, retirement, cancellation, cancellation towards overall mitigation of global emissions (OMGE), and share of proceeds for adaptation (SoP-A).
2. **Connection to the international registry:** The mechanism registry will be linked to the international registry.
3. **Tracking the authorisation status and first transfer status of A6.4ERs:** The mechanism registry will track A6.4ERs authorised for use towards NDCs and/or for other international mitigation purposes (OIMP), aligning with specific registry requirements akin to those delineated for Article 6.2 registries. In parallel, it will track A6.4ERs not authorised for use towards NDCs and/or OIMP, known as mitigation contribution units (MCUs) which can be used, inter alia, towards results-based finance or national targets. Furthermore, it distinctly identifies transactions that meet the definition of first transfer, which is crucial for transparency and reporting.

Moreover, the registry will streamline the reporting process by enabling automatic pre-filling of the Agreed Electronic Format (AEF) and other necessary quantitative data for ensuring compliance with the reporting requirements outlined in Article 6.

¹ UNFCCC (2022): [FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1](#).

² UNFCCC (2023): [FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/10/Add.2](#).



Registry status

An [update](#) from January 2026 highlights the commencement of the development on the digital infrastructure for the registry system under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. The work follows the activation of a multiyear [implementation contract](#) aimed at building a coordinated suite of Article 6 registries, including the Mechanism Registry, and the services needed to connect them.

In the meantime, an interim mechanism registry (IMR) has been set up to provide support while the Article 6.4 Mechanism Registry is being developed. For detailed guidance on how to use the IMR, please refer to the [user guide](#).

Opening an account

When the final registry is available, Parties and entities will be able to request account openings through the interface on the UNFCCC website. Until then, the IMR requires Parties and entities to submit forms to request the opening of accounts.

For Parties: To use the IMR, Parties must complete the Article 6.4 mechanism registry Party engagement form (A6.4-FORM-REGS-001)³, and submit it via email, including necessary attachments, to a6.4mechanism-registry@unfccc.int.

- Once a completed form is received, the secretariat will contact the Party's designated representatives to complete identity verification processes. Upon successful completion of these processes, the administrator will open the Party's section of accounts in the IMR and notify the Party representatives accordingly.

For Entities: For activity participant entities to open an account in the IMR, they must complete the Article 6.4 mechanism registry entity account opening form (A6.4-FORM-REGS-002)⁴. The form should be submitted via email to a6.4mechanism-registry@unfccc.int, attaching copies of their Host Party approval and authorisation of activity participants form for Article 6.4 projects (A6.4-FORM-GOV-010)⁵, and/or authorisation of activity participants by other participating parties form for Article 6.4 projects (A6.4-FORMGOV-011)⁶.

- For non-activity participant entities to open an account in the IMR, they must complete the Article 6.4 mechanism registry entity account opening form (A6.4-FORM-REGS002)⁷ and submit it via the DNA of the authorising

³ Link to form A6.4-FORM-REGS-001 ([word](#)) ([PDF](#))

⁴ Link to form A6.4-FORM-REGS-002 ([word](#)) ([PDF](#))

⁵ Link to form A6.4-FORM-GOV-010 ([word](#)) ([PDF](#))

⁶ Link to form A6.4-FORM-GOV-011 ([word](#)) ([PDF](#))

⁷ Link to form A6.4-FORM-REGS-002 ([word](#)) ([PDF](#))



Party, including necessary attachments, to a6.4mechanism-registry@unfccc.int.

Once a completed form is received, the secretariat will contact the entity's authorised representatives to carry out identity verification processes. Upon successful completion of these processes, the administrator will open the entity's account under the section of its authorising Party and inform the authorised representatives.

Transfer

Account holders can request to transfer units held in their account(s) to other accounts in the registry. A6.4ERs and CERs can only be transferred to accounts which are eligible to receive them as per the matrix shown under **table 1**.



Table 1 : Transfer matrix

Key:

- = Transfer is possible under the conditions listed for the corresponding number.
- = Transfer is not possible for this combination.

Source: Authors adapted from [UNFCCC \(2025\)](#)

FROM \ TO	Pending Account	Holding Account	SoP Adaptation	OMGE (mandatory)	OMGE (voluntary)	NDC Retirement (Host Party)	NDC Retirement (Other Party)	CER Retirement	AER OIMP Cancellation	AER OP Cancellation	MCU & CER Voluntary Cancellation	Administrative Cancellation	RBP Holding	RBP Cancellation
Pending Account	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ³	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ³	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁵	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Holding Account	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁷	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁸	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁸	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁸	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁹	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
SoP Adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹⁰	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹⁰	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹⁰	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
OMGE (mandatory)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMGE (voluntary)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NDC Retirement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CER Retirement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OIMP Cancellation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AER OP Cancellation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MCU & CER Voluntary Cancellation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Administrative Cancellation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RBP Holding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁶	<input type="checkbox"/>
RBP Cancellation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Explanations for Specific Conditions:

- ✓1: Transfer according to distribution instructions from activity participants; signifies first transfer for AERs if the target account is authorized by another Party.
- ✓2: Automatically transferred at final approval of issuance. AERs are first transferred.
- ✓3: According to distribution instructions from activity participants; signifies first transfer for AERs.
- ✓4: According to CER transfer instructions.
- ✓5: According to the issuance instruction for removal activities, AERs may be first transferred under the reversal standard.
- ✓6: According to the reversal instruction for removal activities, AERs may be first transferred under the reversal standard.
- ✓7: According to transfer instructions; AERs need to be authorized for NDC if the receiving account is authorised by a Party other than the host Party; AERs are first transferred in this case.
- ✓8: According to transfer instructions; AERs are first transferred.
- ✓9: According to replenishment instructions; AERs may be first transferred under the reversal standard.
- ✓10: According to transfer instructions from the Adaptation Fund.

*RBP: Result based Payment

To request a transfer of their account holdings in the IMR, users must complete the Article 6.4 mechanism registry transfer request form (A6.4-FORM-REGS-006)⁸ and submit it via email to a6.4mechanism-registry@unfccc.int . Once a completed form is received, the administrator will execute the transfer and notify the authorised representatives and the account holdings will be updated accordingly.

⁸ Link to form A6.4-FORM-REGS-006 ([word](#)) ([PDF](#))

Registry interoperability

As the registry systems underpinning Article 6 are progressively put in place, the need for effective communication between systems and for ensuring consistency and integrity of unit data during transfers has become increasingly important. This requires a certain level of interoperability, understood as the ability of different registry systems to connect, exchange information, and coordinate their operations efficiently, ultimately reducing the burden on users and lowering the risk of discrepancies.

Under Article 6.2, Parties have the option to establish technical connections between national registries and/or between national registries and the International Registry ([Decision 6/CMA.4](#)). These connections remain voluntary, and Parties may design their own technical architecture. However, when opting for interoperability, Parties must introduce minimum standards, security protocols, and reconciliation procedures to mitigate risks such as double issuance, data inconsistencies, and loss of transaction traceability. This includes ensuring timely and accurate communication of data on unit authorisation, transfer, acquisition, and corresponding adjustments.

In contrast, **interoperability between the International Registry and the Article 6.4 Mechanism Registry is mandatory**, as confirmed by the [Decision 6/CMA.4](#) and COP29 decisions that advanced the rulebook for the mechanism. This mandatory link ensures that A6.4ERs authorised for use as ITMOs can be transferred through the Article 6 infrastructure and properly accounted for in the international reporting and accounting system.

Can Mitigation Contribution Units (MCUs) later become ITMOs based on the registry status?

- Yes, it is possible for Mitigation Contribution Units (MCUs) to be converted into ITMOs, based on the registry status and relevant adjustments. Countries can initially issue MCUs for domestic use or for the Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM), and at a later stage, convert them into ITMOs by applying a corresponding adjustment. However, this is only possible as long as the MCU has not been transferred out of the Article 6.4 Mechanism registry.
- This flexibility is important for countries in managing their NDC strategies. For instance, if a country is uncertain about meeting its NDC targets, it can issue MCUs to mitigate the risk of overselling carbon credits. However, if the country later determines that it will exceed its NDC, it can convert those MCUs into ITMOs, which could potentially secure a higher price on the market.



The **Supervisory Body** will provide further guidance on the specific timeframes and conditions for such conversions, ensuring that the process is clear and transparent.

It is also important to note that decisive action on interoperability will depend on the registry architecture adopted by Parties. Interconnections may operate either through actual transactions of units (*i.e.* asset transfers) or through information exchanges relating to accounting quantities, depending on Parties' choices and the guidance.

The scope and type of Article 6 registries, their respective functions, and the desired level of interoperability between them are expected to be further clarified in coming sessions of the Parties (CMA) and by the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body, now mandated to finalise the registry infrastructure and enable the issuance and tracking of credits under the mechanism.

Article 6 focal points are therefore encouraged to stay closely informed of these developments and begin assessing their national needs, particularly regarding IT capacity, data security, registry governance, and legal mandates, since interoperability decisions will directly shape the capacity-building and institutional requirements for effective participation in Article 6 mechanisms.

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