SBTi Technical Council Meeting Minutes

18 November - 15:00-17:00 CET

Public

Disclaimer:

The meeting notes provided herein are intended to capture the discussions, decisions, and actions taken during the meeting to the best of the note-taker's ability. While efforts have been made to accurately represent the proceedings, it is essential to acknowledge that these minutes are a summary and may not capture every detail or nuance of the discussions held. In addition to human note-taking, AI tools were used to support the drafting and summarization of these minutes.

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Meeting minutes are subject to revision and amendment. The content may be updated or modified based on corrections, additions, or clarifications deemed necessary by the Technical Council Chair and Vice-Chair.

Abbreviations:

CEO   Chief Executive Officer
CFE   Call for Evidence
CTO   Chief Technical Officer
CNZ   Corporate Net-Zero
CoC   Code of Conduct
EACs Environmental Attributes Certificates
EAG   Expert Advisory Group
EWG   Expert Working Group
FI   Financial Institution
FINT   Financial Institutions Near-Term
FINZ   Financial Institutions Net-Zero
OC   Oversight Committee
O&G   Oil and Gas
RECs Renewable Energy Certificates
SAG   Scientific Advisory Group
SBT   Science Based Target
SBTi   Science Based Targets initiative
SOP   SBTi Procedure for Development of Standards v1.0
TAG   Technical Advisory Group
TC   Technical Council
TD   Technical Department
ToR   Terms of Reference

Meeting participants

Technical Council Members

Kornelis Blok (Chair)
Owen Hewlett
Mandy Rambharos
Michael Gillenwater
Pankaj Bhatia
Simi Thambi
Benjamin Caldecott
Steven Davis
Anders Bjørn
Pedro Faria
Nicole Roettmer

Absent TC members

Laura Draucker (Vice Chair)
Stephanie Roe
Doreen Stabinsky
Maria Virginia Vilariño

SBTi

Alberto Carrillo Pineda (CTO)
Mona Karraoui (Head of Quality)
Piera Patrizio (Head of Research)
Eoin White (Research Lead)

Session note takers

Hussein Kassir (TC Secretary)

SBTi Observers

Emma Watson (Head of Corporate Standards)

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome and Agenda
2. Technical Council Programme Update
3. Principles for Decision Making
4. CNZ v1.3 Urgent Update – Technical Foundations
5. Closing and Next Steps

Meeting Objectives:

The Technical Council (TC) convened to:

(i) receive a programme-level update on key SBTi technical projects and expected priorities for the 18 December meeting and early 2026 schedule

(ii) discuss the draft "Principles for Decision Making" and provide feedback on its positioning, language and treatment of "science" within SBTi's governance framework

(iii) review an urgent, minor technical revision proposed for the Corporate Net-Zero Standard (CNZ) v1.3, scope 1+2 method and agree on an approval process

(iv) confirm immediate next steps and upcoming meeting logistics.

High-level summary of feedback and decisions:

The following summarizes the key feedback discussed during the meeting and related decisions or actions agreed during the meeting:

I. Welcome and Technical Council Programme Update:

- The Chair opened the meeting, confirmed recording and invited any conflict-of-interest declarations; none were raised.

The Secretariat provided a programme-level update:

- **Corporate Net-Zero Standard (CNZ) draft v2.0** – The second consultation is underway and will run until early December; pilot testing has moved from data collection into analysis. Consultation feedback and pilot results will inform a final draft for TC review towards the end of Q1 next year, and the project remains broadly on track.
- **Sector standards** – For Automotive and Power, first consultations are complete. A second consultation draft for Automotive (focused on usability and interoperability with CNZ) is being finalised for potential discussion and approval to consult at the 18 December meeting; the Power second consultation is expected to come to the TC in Q1 next year.

- The Chemicals Sector Pathways and Criteria have been finalised and are being prepared for publication and integration into the wider SBTi Standards framework.
- The Oil & Gas project remains on pause; an informational paper is being prepared and a proposal on the project will go to the Board in December.
- FLAG and timber/wood fibre pathway – The timber/wood pathway revision remains in progress and may be presented to the TC prior to the first Public Consultation in Q1 2026
- Additional workstreams:
  (i) an urgent revision to CNZ v1.3 target-setting methods (objective iii of this meeting);
  (ii) the FLAG Urgent Revision - No Deforestation Policy, which will return to the TC on 18 December following consultation.

II. Principles for Decision Making: for discussion

- The Secretariat thanked the TC members for their comments on the draft Principles for Decision Making. A short presentation was given framing the document within the Technical Governance framework and its intention to clarify and operationalise quality principles in the SOP for standard development (iterative processes, fairness, openness, science-based, transparency, evidence-based and impartial decision-making).

Key themes from TC feedback included:

- **Language and framing** – Members asked for clearer and, in some cases, softer terminology (e.g. on terms such as "authoritative" or "actionability") and for a clearer explanation of where the Principles fit with other SBTi governance documents and what they are intended to do. The Secretariat is adjusting wording and improving the contextual framing.
- **Scope of "science"** – Feedback emphasised that "science" should be considered more broadly than modelled pathways and emissions budgets, also covering accounting choices, ethical and equity considerations and the wider governance and political context. The Secretariat will rework these sections and more explicitly link to stakeholder-mapping work.
- **Decision making relationship between the principles** – Members cautioned against presenting science, stakeholder input and feasibility in a strict hierarchy. The Secretariat confirmed that the intention is to treat them as interacting dimensions in "productive tension", with science remaining the foundation and end goal ambition, but not framed as automatically overriding other factors to ensure implementation and drive ambitious corporate action. Explicit references to hierarchy have been revised accordingly.
- The Secretariat's intention is to revise the Principles in light of comments, share a further draft (together with the stakeholder policy) for additional TC feedback, and then publish these governance documents to improve transparency for external stakeholders.

- No formal decision was taken. The TC expressed broad support for the direction of travel, subject to revisions.

III. CNZ v1.3 Urgent Update – Technical Foundations:

The Technical Department presented emerging usability challenges for companies setting targets using the absolute contraction approach currently used in the SBTI framework. Minor technical adjustments to the existing method have been identified to help address these issues while maintaining alignment with the ambition level and direction of travel being developed for CNZ v2.0. The TC agreed on the direction of travel proposed and agreed to review and approve this through an offline written process, whereby a short technical note and draft revised methodological text will be circulated for comment, and, following TC feedback and responses from the Technical Department, the Chair and Vice-Chair will have delegated responsibility to approve this adjustment.

Summary of actions and decisions:

- The TC agreed in principle to proceed with a minor technical revision of CNZ v1.3's scope 1+2 method
- Given the minor, technical nature of the revision and the supportive tone of the discussion, the Council agreed that a written offline process is appropriate: a short technical note and revised methodological annex will be circulated for comment; TC members will provide written feedback; the Technical Department will respond and revise; and the Chair and Vice-Chair will approve the final wording without needing to return to plenary unless major comments arise.

IV. Next Steps

Summary of feedback and discussions:

- The TC will reconvene on 18 December 2025; the Secretariat will confirm the agenda and circulate materials in advance.