Thank you for letting us speak at the start of this session.

We would like to thank the co-facilitators for preparing the informal note. We believe it provides a good tool for identifying the elements that emerged during the informal consultations, as well as elements of convergence among Parties' and non-Parties' stakeholders.

In particular, we would like to express our appreciation for the inclusion of human rights among the guiding principles, the action plan, establishment of a Task Force as well as the need for financing of ACE activities.

The past ACE work programmes have focused to a large extent on the identification and sharing of good practices, enabling mutual learning amongst state Parties and stakeholders. To complement and go beyond this work and to further contribute to the enhanced implementation of ACE, we believe that the new work programme should review proactively the barriers to the promotion of ACE and opportunities to overcome those. As the IPCC has emphasized that civil society is essential to drive effective climate action, the new ACE work programme should strive to identify and solve any hindrance posed to full and effective contributions of stakeholders to climate action.
We would like to thank the co-facilitators for preparing the informal note. We believe it provides a good tool for identifying the elements that emerged during the informal consultations, as well as elements of convergence among Parties’ and non-parties stakeholders.

We are happy to see that most of the elements that we proposed are covered across various sections of the informal note. In particular, we would like to express our appreciation for the inclusion of human rights among the guiding principles, the idea of a five-year action plan, the establishment of a Task Force as well as the need for better financing of ACE activities. All of those elements would ensure better mainstreaming of ACE across relevant workstreams, stronger guidance to Parties and more robust implementation of ACE elements in climate action at the domestic level.

We would like to use this opportunity to offer further views with regard to the approach of the future Work Programme. The past ACE work programmes have focused to a large extent on the identification and sharing of good practices, enabling mutual learning amongst state Parties and stakeholders. To complement and go beyond this work and to further contribute to the enhanced implementation of ACE, we believe that the new work programme should review proactively the barriers to the promotion of ACE and opportunities to overcome those. As emphasized by IPCC - that civil society is essential to drive effective climate action, the new ACE work programme should strive to identify and solve any hindrance posed to full and effective contributions of stakeholders to climate action.
Thank you to the co-facilitators for preparing the updated informal note and for allocating extra time for observers to speak. We would like to provide our views on the following elements.

On the guiding principles, we would like to reiterate the importance for the new work programme to include the language of human rights, as some of its pillars are already internationally recognized rights, such as the right to information, access to information and environmental education.

Regarding the structure, we believe that an action plan or roadmap should span across 5 years and include activities that are in line with other timeframes of the Paris Agreement, for instance, NDC updating or the Global Stocktake. We believe that many of the activity options that are included in the text, especially those at the international level, would contribute to a better understanding of the relevance of ACE for other processes within the UNFCCC and at the national level, as well as better financing for ACE-related activities. We believe that a human rights approach should also inform specific activities under the new work programme, which is currently not reflected in the text. We look forward to further engaging with Parties on options for providing additional structure to the work programme. As stressed during the past consultation, we believe that the new work programme should not only focus on the identification and sharing of good practices but should proactively review the barriers to the promotion of ACE and opportunities to overcome those, striving to identify and solve any hindrance posed to full and effective contributions of stakeholders to climate action.

Additionally, we believe that a Task Force or expert group would provide guidance to Parties, by gathering Party and non-Party stakeholders that are already conducting work outside of the UNFCCC that is relevant to the ACE pillars. The task force could also provide inputs and guidance on monitoring and reporting, leveraging funding for ACE activities, and applying a human rights-based approach to ACE, among others. Thus, we call upon Parties to keep the reference to a Task Force in the text and to further explore options for its operationalization.

Finally, we would like to stress the importance of continued dialogue ahead of COP26. The ACE regional dialogues, informal consultations and expert group meetings ahead of SB52 were pivotal to lay the ground for constructive consultation at this ongoing session. We thus urge the SBI chair to continue to follow an inclusive and transparent process in the coming months.