

# **Views on the approach to the consideration of outputs component of the first global stocktake**

## **Cross-Constituency Submission**

As the heart of the Paris Agreement's ambition mechanism, **the Global Stocktake (GST) is essential to ensure its effective and timely implementation. And by ambition, we mean all aspects necessary to reach all of the Paris goals** : mitigation, adaptation, means of implementation and support, finance flows, addressing loss and damage, science, technology transfer and capacity building while securing intergenerational justice, gender equality, and a just transition, protecting human rights, labour rights and biodiversity. Thus, **the GST aims to support Parties and the international community to raise their climate ambition with the ultimate goal to protect people, their rights and livelihoods, and natural ecosystems**, from the impacts of climate change. Young people and vulnerable communities shall be supported to mitigate and adapt, and to build resilience in order to reach climate justice. A just transition for affected workers and communities will guarantee social justice which is crucial to enable the move away from fossil fuels. The science is clear: **Parties and the global communities are far off track to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius**. The GST outputs must therefore propose clear, actionable, and specific paths forward to get on track with the Paris goals, with concrete policies and plans that take a gender-responsive, evidence-based and human rights-based approach, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples, taking into account social justice and inter-generational equity. **This process cannot result in a mere repetition of vague commitments that have been made before**, and the final Consideration of Outputs phase - or "political phase" - must be thoughtfully designed and carried out to avoid this very real possibility. In this submission, we propose a set of recommendations to ensure the GST lives up to its intended purpose in a way that galvanises all Parties and the global community to commit to the transformational action needed before 2030.

### **The GST Consideration of Outputs phase must be guided by the principles of the Paris Agreement, and especially:**

**Be Inclusive:** The success of the GST outcome will be deeply linked with its level of participation and inclusivity. With this in mind, we as constituencies, request efforts are maintained to

- Allow and support the meaningful participation of observers in all upcoming meetings related to the GST, both political and technical (additional workshops, high-level events, climate weeks...)
- Provide us timely information about the recent developments in GST so that we can also contribute to the process.
- Ensure the inclusion and meaningful representation of diverse groups, including traditional knowledge *vis-a-vis* local context on panels, informal meetings, and discussions (especially youth, indigenous people, the disabled, local communities, trade unions, women, farmers, fishers...)

**Be Evidence-informed:** The GST must be science and local knowledge-driven, with institutions such as the IPCC, but also indigenous people' knowledge and the experiences of affected communities on the ground. It is not a space meant to allow the representation of

private interests, especially those aligned with perpetuating business-as-usual emissions. When private interests are entering the GST space, conflict of interest must be avoided, especially by requiring a declaration of conflict of interest by all private actors attending the GST events in advance, as well as confirming the participants of the events 3 to 4 weeks before the event.

**Be Balanced:** must be equitably balanced across all elements and mandates of the Paris Agreement, and should have wide political support from developed and developing countries

The GST Consideration of Outputs phase must be carried out via a strategy purposefully designed to build consensus on and momentum toward ambitious GST outcomes in both global and national forums: **there must be a clear vision for how the activities will lead to achievement of its goals.** This is why we request a dedicated work plan elaborating on the activities of the GST in 2023 (please find some details in the CAN International submission published in February on the same matter - is online in the GST portal).

**Activities during the political phase must actively engage with leaders from the public and private sector at all levels** - from international to local - both inside and outside of the UNFCCC context. While these may be held at splashy international gatherings - e.g. UNGA, G7/G20, MEF, APEC, World Bank/IMF, Regional Climate Weeks - the activities must not be centered on grand announcements or photo opportunities. Rather, they must invite thoughtful reflection and facilitate concrete suggestions for collaborative, transformational, and inclusive action. Activities should review and consider key information collected and themes/conclusions drawn during discussions from the Technical Dialogues (TD) in a manner that emboldens participants to think critically about what they can commit to in light of the GST outputs. **Activities should also continually emphasise the importance of GST outcomes not being empty words on paper**, challenging participants to build consensus around goals that can and will be met within a stipulated time frame with verification and accountability for results. The UNFCCC Secretariat and co-facilitators of the TD and COO phases should prepare a variety of fit-for-purpose materials to present potential outputs to various audiences, aiming to be as comprehensive as possible with a view toward narrowing down outputs that receive wide support to draft the final outcomes. In order to achieve this, **the outcomes must be developed to address both the depth and the breadth of needed climate action**, such as:

- Sector-specific issues and cross-sectoral complexities
- Cross-cutting issues, especially around equity, human rights, finance, capacity-building and education/training
- Both national and international actions needed, including mechanisms within the UNFCCC
- Transformational pathways needed to shift away from business as usual

To conclude, we are expecting several outcomes at COP28 in order to adapt the global climate governance to fight for the long term Paris Agreement target in the coming years:

- A clarification on the need to limit global warming temperatures to 1.5°C, the science-based response measures this implies and the actions to address already occurring and unavoidable climate impacts. **This should include a shift in nationally determined actions**, planning and support to align with these goals, both in considering climate ambition and implementation and addressing climate impacts pre-2030 (recognising the linkages to ongoing processes, including the Mitigation

Work Programme, the Global Goal on Adaptation and efforts to provide support for addressing loss and damage, the New Collective Quantified Goal) and post-2030 agenda.

- A shift of the UNFCCC into a '**implementation crisis**' mode and away from a business-as-usual forum that is stuck in divisive politics and negotiations. The Global Stocktake is the momentum to re-think the functioning of the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement implementations' in terms of participation of all actors of society, implementation tracking, mandate and missions of the secretariat. **Inclusivity is crucial in this process**, especially for right holders in a fair and just process. There should be concrete safeguards on conflict of interest so that the crisis implementation mode can be highly ambitious. **At COP28, we are expecting the creation of a taskforce with Parties and constituencies to work on several institutional and policy reforms that should be implemented at least by 2025, for the next round of NDCs.** This task force should be piloted by the UNFCCC secretariat and supported by Parties and all UNFCCC constituencies.
- **We expect the GST will acknowledge the need to improve accountability for non-state climate actors, and kick-start work on new evaluation mechanisms.** For example, as recommended by the UN High-Level Expert Group on the Net Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities, as a minimum, non-state actors should report on progress made towards commitments in a standardised, open format and via public platforms that feed into the UNFCCC Global Climate Action Portal (GCAP). A new accountability system for non-state actors could include both coordinated support to improve reporting frameworks, and penalties for non-action (such as being ineligible to participate in the Race to Zero or Race to Resilience until such reporting is completed). Such an evaluation mechanism is critical to assess the progress of non-state actors on their climate commitments and the credibility of corporate transition plans.
- **Parties should engage in a global, equitable, and socially just fossil fuel phase out before 2050**, including an immediate stop on fossil fuel expansion and development, as well as phasing out all fossil fuels and environmentally harmful subsidies. This means, Just transition policies around social dialogue, social protection, labour rights and decent work, consistent with human rights and gender equality. Parties should also acknowledge the fact that natural gas is also a fossil fuel that we need to transition away from, and exclude all false solutions and related technologies such as Carbon Capture Storage, nuclear energy or solar radiation management, that prolong dependence on fossil fuels and come with high human rights risks.
- **Parties should align their responses to the climate and biodiversity crises**, including by acknowledging and strengthening the stewardship and protection of ecosystems by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and addressing key policies and financial gaps [to help guide more coherent and integrated near and long-term planning
- **Parties should clarify the process for scaling up both quantity and quality of climate finance provision**, with Parties confirming that adequate and predictable public grant financing must remain at the core of all future financial support,, with a focus on at least doubling adaptation finance before 2025 and with Parties confirming that additional public grant financing will be provided for addressing loss and damage, with concrete contributions and leads for innovative sources of funding to

the new Loss and Damage Fund which was decided at Sharm El Sheikh in 2022.

The IPCC is loud and clear: we have less than 8 years to get on track to keep warming below 1.5°C. **The GST is the only accountability mechanism of the Paris Agreement: if it is a failure, we will have to endure another 5 year delay for any progress and we will not be able to meet the Paris Agreement target.** It HAS to raise credible ambition and action with strong commitments already at COP28.

### **SIGNATORY CONSTITUENCIES**

- ENGO Constituency
- WGC (Women and Gender Constituency)
- YOUNGO (Children and Youth Constituency)
- ITUC - TUNGO

*This submission was developed by several members of the constituencies mentioned above, who may not be able to sign as an individual co-writer but wish to show the collective effort around this submission.*

### **SIGNATORY ORGANISATIONS**

- Climate Action Network International
- Africa Climate and Environment Foundation (ACEF)
- International Student Environmental Coalition (ISEC/ CAN International)
- TEAL Climate
- Caribbean Youth Climate Council
- Independent Global Stocktake (iGST)
- World Wide Fund International (WWF)

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