Submission to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA)

Matters relating to the Global Stocktake (GST) (APA Agenda item 6)

The Global Stocktake has a crucial role to play in the new climate change framework to galvanise climate action and maintain political momentum for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, its outcomes are expected to inform both the preparation of future NDCs as well as international cooperation. The GST thus offers an opportunity to consider collective progress and existing challenges on climate action in the context of sustainable development. By adopting such a holistic approach, the GST can contribute to strengthen synergies with other relevant international commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals.

Scope of the Global Stocktake

As the prime political moment for renewed support for climate action, the GST must adopt a truly comprehensive approach to review collective progress with the implementation of the Paris Agreement as mandated in article 14.1 PA. Such an approach must consider both the level of action undertaken collectively by parties in relation to mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation as well as progress made with the effective integration of the cross-cutting principles and obligations contained in the Paris Agreement, including a dedicated focus on human rights, which includes the rights of indigenous peoples, gender equality, food security, just transition, intergenerational equity and the preservation of the integrity of ecosystems. The GST should also consider existing challenges preventing States to implement the commitments taken through their NDCs and under the Paris Agreement.

Sources of inputs

The sources of inputs to the GST must reflect this comprehensive approach and consider information provided by civil society, affected communities and international institutions with expertise and experience with these cross-cutting principles. The parties could call on other international institutions to submit to each GST an aggregate report building on their technical expertise as well as relevant information reported to them by parties. Such an inclusive approach would ensure that the GST remains the central process for the review of the implementation of the Paris Agreement with other international institutions feeding into its discussions.

Process

To address effectively the various elements on its agenda, the GST – conceived as a process rather than a single event - must include dedicated events focused on the review of the integration of these cross-cutting principles and obligations to climate action. These events should enable the exchange of experience and expertise between relevant stakeholders including civil society and indigenous peoples representatives, governments, intergovernmental organisations and research institutions.

Outputs

The review of the experience of parties with the integration of cross-cutting principles and obligations to climate action should lead to the preparation of a technical report summarizing lessons learned and key challenges identified. In line with article 14.3, bodies and institutions supporting climate actions must be mandated to consider this information and identify their contribution to addressing these challenges during the following 5 years cycle. This report should be accompanied with a compilation of good practices highlighted throughout the GST.