

# **Submission by the Republic of Mali on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators**

**On**

## **APA AGENDA ITEM 6**

**Agenda item 6: Matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement: a) Identification of the sources of input for the global stocktake; b) Development of the modalities of the global stocktake**

In response to the invitation of APA 1.3 the African Group is pleased to submit its views and proposals on the possible elements of a textual outline for the identification of the sources of input, and development of the modalities for the Global Stocktake (GST). This submission builds on previous submissions and elaboration of views by the African Group on the GST.

The GST needs to be robust, hence a clear framework and outline of the inputs are required to inform it with the aim of further defining the modalities needed to conduct it. The GST should be Party-driven, and undertaken in a holistic and facilitative manner through a transparent intergovernmental process. It should identify additional opportunities to accelerate the implementation of enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs), and incentivize the progressive rising of ambition on the basis of science, equity and transparency.

The Group believes the following structure of the GST presents opportunities for the design of modalities that leverage the strengths and mitigate the weaknesses of both a fully bottom-up or top-down architecture.

### **POSSIBLE TEXTUAL OUTLINE**

The objective of the GST, set out in Article 14.1, is to “periodically take stock of the implementation of this Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals”. In doing so, it must cover all the pillars of the Paris Agreement “in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support”. The African Group is of the view that the overall effectiveness of the Paris Agreement depends on the implementation of all its provisions.

#### **Principles**

- Guiding principles:
  - Balanced treatment of all three pillars of Paris Agreement;
  - Comprehensiveness;
  - CBDR-RC;
  - Party-driven;
  - Equity; and
  - Best available science.
- Linkages to other provisions of the Paris Agreement and Decisions

#### **Objective of the GST**

- Article 14.1: Measure collective progress towards the global goals of the Paris Agreement:
  - Article 2.1, emphasizing the importance of strengthening the global response in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;
  - Article 4.1;
  - Article 7.1; and
  - Paragraph 53 of Decision 1/CP.21

- Article 14.3: Outcome
  - Self application of the equity framework
- The African Group notes that further technical work is required to develop the equity framework that identifies the indicators that Parties can self-apply in updating and enhancing their NDCs, and elaborating why those NDCs are fair and ambitious. Such a framework would also have to provide indices to guide the recognition of the contributions developing countries make to the global effort through their adaptation efforts.
- The Secretariat should be requested to provide a synthesis report of the indicators used by Parties in proving the fair and ambitious nature of their NDCs to inform the consideration and development of the equity framework.
- Since the GST is to be undertaken in a facilitative manner, and Parties have agreed that each successive contribution must show progression, the nationally determined nature of each Party's contribution must be respected.

### **Modalities of the GST**

- The African Group is of the view that in order to effectively assess progress on each pillar of the Paris Agreement, modalities to assess progress that take into account the unique nature of each element should be developed. The use of these modalities, which must be appropriate for each element, would facilitate a credible stocktaking process that is science-based and guided by equity principles.
- The African Group sees the GST as consisting of preparatory, technical and political assessment phases, taking place sequentially. The technical and political assessment processes will have both a backward-looking component (“take stock of the implementation” – Article 14.1) and a forward-looking component (“updating and enhancing” – Article 14.3) that would inform Parties on what has been achieved and what is required to further strengthen the global response to climate change.
- It ought to be a Party-driven process, conducted in three Phases by the CMA, over a 1.5-year schedule, beginning in July 2022 with the preparatory phase, and ending with the political phase that would coincide with the CMA in 2023.

#### Phase 1 – Preparatory Phase

- June 2022 deadline for the submission of inputs for aggregation
- Review and selection of inputs based on agreed guidelines by an expert panel that is geographically representative of Parties
- Mandate the Secretariat to distil inputs into synthesis reports for assessment
- Workshop to review inputs and interrogate assumptions behind synthesis and aggregation
- Output: Synthesized reports for assessment for all workstreams

#### Phase 2 – Technical Phase

- Assessment of scientific and technical inputs by the Subsidiary Bodies or ad-hoc working groups, in-session, and in a workshop format with the convening of a Joint Contact-Group at the end to finalise the report.
- Workstreams for Mitigation, Adaptation, Finance, Capacity-Building and Technology Development and Transfer.
- The tools for implementation, namely finance, capacity-building and technology development and transfer should be assessed separately so they can be effectively reviewed and assessed. The highest importance must also be given to assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support provided for adaptation; and the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation.
- To achieve comprehensiveness, the GST must also assess elements set out in the Paris Agreement that are not explicitly mentioned in the scope of the GST but form an integral part of it, such as loss and damage and response measures.

- Furthermore, the nature of the GST should reflect the element of inclusivity in line with the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action with regards to the participation of Non-State Actors.
- Output: The outcomes of the technical assessment could be in a report format with recommendations, produced by the co-chairs or facilitators and rapporteurs from each of the regional groupings.

### Phase 3 – Political Phase

- This assessment should be held during the CMA in 2023 and should involve consideration of the outcomes of the technical phase.
- Again, this would involve the assessment of the policy and political aspects of the inputs and outcomes of the technical assessment by the Subsidiary Bodies or ad-hoc working groups, in-session, and also in a workshop format with a joint Contact Group, meeting to finalise the report.
- The outcomes could then be forwarded to the high-level for consideration
- A high-level process to consider the outcomes during the CMA would be necessary in securing political commitment to the GST, and ensure that its outcomes inform the next round of NDCs. The high-level involvement should at the minimum, be held at the Ministerial level.

### **Output/Final Product**

- Findings or outcomes from the GST should be in the form of a CMA Decision that is adopted and therefore owned by Parties to the Agreement. It should:
  - (1) Provide account of progress, including recognition of adaptation efforts;
  - (2) Identify the gaps; and
  - (3) Opportunities for updating contributions and enhancing international cooperation for climate action, including enhancing the implementation of adaptation action.
- A political declaration from the high-level segment, particularly if it is at the Heads of State level would be desirable.

### **Sources Of Input**

Beyond the non-exhaustive list in Decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 99, the inputs should originate from a variety of sources that are regionally representative. These would include inputs from the:

- IPCC
- Subsidiary Bodies
- Enhanced Transparency Framework
- Various adaptation communications
- Party submissions; and
- Reports from operational mechanisms and other bodies established by the Convention.

Inputs from non-state actors that shed additional light on collective actions and support should also be considered. A transparent process for determining which information would be relevant for consideration at the GST should be developed. This could include an expert panel that is geographically representative to assess the information and provide an independent assessment to the CMA for consideration.

It should be guided by criteria that should ensure:

- Balance and comprehensive coverage of all elements
- Give priority to nationally reported/communicated information
- Provide clear guidance on which additional sources of inputs can be included
- Adequate ex-post information (synthesized from the Transparency Framework) and Ex-ante information (e.g. NDCs and other adaptation communications and Biennial Communications of Indicative financial Support from developed countries)