



**Submission by the Republic of the Maldives
on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States
30 September 2016**

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; and (b) development of the modalities of the global stocktake”, noting the work under Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice agenda item 6(b), “Matters relating to science and review: advice on how the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change can inform the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement.

On behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), the Republic of the Maldives welcomes this opportunity to provide its views to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) in response to the call for submissions contained in paragraph 8(d) of the draft conclusions contained in FCCC/APA/2016/L.3 on: *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; and (b) development of the modalities of the global stocktake”, noting the work under Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice agenda item 6(b), “Matters relating to science and review: advice on how the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change can inform the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement.*

I. Mandate of the global stocktake

1. Article 14(1) of the Paris Agreement sets out the mandate of the global stocktake to 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.
2. Article 14(1) also mandates the global stocktake be comprehensive and facilitative.
3. Comprehensiveness of the global stocktake will be achieved by a consideration of mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support, in the light of equity and the best available science.
4. Facilitation will be achieved through analysis of whether aggregate national efforts are in line with meeting collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement.
5. Discussions on adaptation should focus on efforts underway or planned in the most vulnerable countries and regions.
6. Both discussions should feed into the discussions on the means of implementation, and provide recommendations for enhancement where needed.
7. Based on this mandate, the APA should address the following questions:
 - a. What inputs can support the assessment of progress made in the implementation of the Agreement?
 - b. What modalities can support the facilitative nature of the global stocktake, ensuring that the stocktake is informed by equity and the best available science?

- c. What outputs can support Parties in updating and enhancing global ambition, action and support as well as international cooperation to this end? How can the outputs of the global stocktake drive further global ambition?

II. General

1. AOSIS sees the global stocktake as a critical component of the Paris Agreement and essential to develop a big picture of our collective progress to understand where we are and what more we can do together collectively, towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement over time.
2. The global stocktake should be designed to be implemented in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support, and in the light of equity and the best available science.
3. The output of the global stocktake will inform Parties' preparations of NDCs, including identifying new opportunities for climate action and international cooperation to enable Parties to undertake their climate policies more effectively.
4. Management of data can be done via a web-based platform.
5. Inputs for the global stocktake should draw on existing sources of information generated under the UNFCCC as well as information to be generated under the Paris Agreement itself (e.g. in the case of the ex-ante and ex post information to be provided pursuant to Article 9 thereof). It will be important also to consider where there are gaps in information and various options for bridging those gaps. The UNFCCC Secretariat may be able to aid this effort by providing a comprehensive listing of sources of information under the Convention and the Agreement for the information and comments of Parties.
6. The global stocktake should consider inputs from the pre-2020 work program, as appropriate.
7. Other inputs from the United Nations system may also be of relevance. These can include for instance relevant inputs from the United Nations Environment Programme, the Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report and the Global Sustainable Development Report. In addition, reports from the multilateral financial institutions could also be useful.
8. External inputs from civil society and the private sector should also be encouraged in the global stocktake.
9. Because reliable quality data will be important for purposes of the global stocktake, AOSIS underscores the importance for continued support to SIDS in improving and strengthening their data generating systems including their national statistical offices. AOSIS also emphasizes the need for the scientific community to take into account the gaps in data relevant to SIDS.
10. The global stocktake will have to bring all these inputs together in a multilateral platform that is open, transparent and inclusive, and that builds understanding on how Parties are working towards implementation.
11. In this regard, Parties should be able to share their experiences, good practices and identify challenges. One example of a platform of this nature is the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the global platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is an inclusive platform bringing together States, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders. It is likewise intended to be comprehensive (covering all sustainable development goals) and facilitative (supporting implementation).

12. The design of the global stocktake can be informed by existing models that could be catered to address the particular expectations as set out in the Paris Agreement, for example, the Structured Expert Dialogue under the 2013-2015 Review work programme.
13. The outputs of the global stocktake can identify barriers to implementation and opportunities for dislodging those barriers. It can also facilitate partnerships, and inform the delivery of support including through the Financial Mechanism, the Technology Mechanism, the Paris Committee on Capacity Building and the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage.

III. Mitigation

1. The mitigation mandate of the global stocktake is to assess our progress towards meeting the aggregate global goal contained in Article 2(1)(a) of the Paris Agreement to pursue *efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5C above preindustrial levels*.
2. The global stocktake must facilitate an in-depth assessment of (i) the aggregate adequacy of the NDCs, and (ii) the aggregate progress towards achievement of the NDCs by Parties.
3. The adequacy of progress is to be assessed not only against achieving the temperature goal under Article 2 but also the mitigation goal under Article 4 to peak global emissions as soon as possible and to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHG in the second half of this century.
4. The special report of the IPCC on 1.5C, due to be published in 2018, will be an essential input into the global stocktake. Other sources of information should include, but not be limited to, the latest peer-reviewed scientific publications.
5. Special effort should be made to ensure that substantial input from the scientific community from developing countries is obtained. In particular, data should be sourced on the current and projected impacts of climate change on SIDS.
6. It is noted, with concern, that many mitigation models, currently being used, assume (i) that there will be an “overshoot” of the temperature goal in Article 2 and (ii) that there will be significant “negative emissions” in the future. The input data for the global stocktake should clearly identify and quantify any anticipated overshoot and the corresponding impacts. The input data should also include scenarios that do not rely on negative emissions in the future to meet either the temperature goals in Article 2 or the peaking of emissions goal in Article 4.

IV. Adaptation

1. The adaptation mandate of the global stocktake includes measuring progress on building resilience to climate change. It would be useful to disaggregate adaptation progress by assessing progress in various categories of adaptation actions where possible (e.g. coastal defence, agriculture, water security, etc.).
2. While global in nature, the global stocktake should be mindful of regional differences in the impacts of climate change and the resilience of regions, as well as capacity constraints and capabilities to access resources.
3. AOSIS supports consistent guidelines for adaptation communications to provide a useful input to the global stocktake, building on existing processes such as National Communications, NAPAs and NAPs, as well as other equivalent national processes, in line with differing national circumstances.

V. Means of implementation

1. The mandate of the global stocktake is to also assess whether adequate resources are being provided to meet the adaptation objectives, mitigation ambitions and reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement.
2. To achieve this mandate, it will be essential for the Parties to have an agreed means of identifying and tracking the provision of finance and other MOI specifically earmarked to facilitate low carbon and climate resilient development.
3. While scientific research and systematic observation is improving in many regions, there is still a lot of work needed for enabling comprehensive adaptation assessments to be carried out, and this requires financial and technical assistance. Independent assessments would be welcomed on this aspect of the global stocktake, and should also be mindful of regional differences, particularly in capacity to access. Information should be disaggregated as much as possible in order to allow a qualitative as well as quantitative analysis.

VI. Participation of non-Party stakeholders

1. The global stocktake should endeavor to include significant participation of researchers and authors from SIDS in the science and in its reporting, as well as research conducted on vulnerable regions and groups, such as SIDS.
2. It would be important to call for submissions from other relevant stakeholders, such as scientific bodies and research institutions on inputs and modalities for the global stocktake.