

STATEMENT BY ARGENTINA ON BEHALF OF ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND URUGUAY (ABU)

31st May 2021

Mr/Mme. Chair,

Argentina has the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. Our countries would like to begin by thanking the Chilean and British Presidencies for their hard work during these difficult times. We also wish to express our sincere appreciation to the UNFCCC Secretariat for their dedication and efforts to assist us in moving this process forward despite the ever challenging context upon us.

Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay align themselves with the statement made by Guinea on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr/Mme. Chair,

As I have just mentioned, we are facing as humankind one of the hardest moments in recent history. The COVID Pandemic has altered every aspect of our lives worldwide, adding complexity to the imminent climate change crisis we are working with our hearts and souls to prevent. The discussions that reunite us here remotely are no exception to this. Despite our most dedicated efforts to move forward with the climate change agenda and the progress we managed to achieve in 2020, we must accept we are still far from our pressing objectives.

For this reason, we acknowledge the importance of this round of virtual meetings taking place, which provide us with the opportunity of meeting from afar in order to advance on key pending issues and bring our positions closer. However, it is our view that any formal decisions will necessarily have to be made in person, as will have to be the adoption of final documents.

We are deeply concerned with the lack of proper coordination between UN agencies that are holding comparable discussions, so as to avoid clashes related to double booking of virtual meetings. Such meetings require not only a great effort in terms of preparation, but also of great domestic coordination between different bodies and agencies. Simultaneous meetings have the potential to significantly reduce the capacity of countries with smaller delegations to prepare and react to the discussions.

Mr/Mme. Chair, we have three weeks of hard work ahead of us, and the world is watching. It is imperative that we move forward with the Paris Agreement's implementation and that we honour our commitments, as we take into consideration the needs and circumstances of developing country parties and the difficulties that virtuality may bring under the rule of leaving no one behind.

Mr/Mme. Chair, please let me express some of ABU's strongest expectations for the following negotiation rounds.

With regards to climate finance, it is our view that this agenda is key to the full implementation of the Paris Agreement and scaled up ambition in a post COVID 19 context.

We are disappointed that little substantive progress has been made on these issues, and that many of them will only be addressed at COP 26. However, we reiterate some of our key concerns.

ABU looks forward to initiating as soon as possible the discussions on how to establish and achieve a new collective finance goal by 2025. The multilateral process to determine this collective quantified goal should draw from the lessons and experience relating to meeting the USD 100 billion pledge and be informed by the needs of developing countries. In this vein, we believe a compiled report of the achievement of the USD 100 billion dollar goal already set will provide clarity and enhance transparency.

Also, the Long Term Finance (LTF) Work Programme should continue its deliberations as a COP item agenda, as this is the only process under the UNFCCC where Parties can deliberate on the issue of climate finance at a macro level, both technically and politically, thus bringing transparency to the process and strengthening confidence in it.

It is also our view that there should be no further differentiation of countries in this process, other than the ones already established under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. COVID 19 has affected us all, and all developing country parties will need assistance in their sustainable recovery.

We also expect to see substantive progress under the transparency negotiations. Although progress was made during COP 25, no decision could be adopted. These discussions will need to advance if we are to fully operationalize the enhanced transparency framework on time.

In this line, we believe Parties shall work to consolidate and implement the reporting and review requirements agreed to in COP 24, without introducing additional reporting and/or review requirements, since these risks reopening the Katowice accords and would not be acceptable. In doing so, Parties shall fully respect and support the implementation of the "flexibility provisions" under the transparency framework and pay particular attention to the interlinkages between these issues and other decisions of the Katowice Package.

With regards to adaptation, some progress has been made since 2015. We have agreed on the guidelines Parties will follow to submit their Adaptation Communications and have

provided for a basis for information on impacts and adaptation to be reported under the Enhanced Transparency Framework.

However, we still need to make substantial progress on important issues under this agenda.

Enabling adaptation action requires enhanced ambition in the provision of climate finance. This is also related to the need to improve the accessibility and previsibility of financial flows, particularly finance for adaptation action.

We need to strive to achieve access to climate finance in a balanced manner for adaptation and mitigation action.

In this sense, the Adaptation Fund can play an important role in upscaling adaptation finance. The Fund has shown to be very useful in addressing the needs of developing countries. Therefore, we expect Article 6 negotiations to include provisions to make funds available to the Adaptation Fund.

We have, in our hands, the opportunity to strengthen the role of the Adaptation Fund. Furthermore, it is our expectation that the current representation of Board Members will be maintained.

Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay believe that new and additional financial resources should be made available to address the loss and damage resulting from the adverse impacts of climate change. This, in our view, could be done by creating a new window of climate finance in the Green Climate Fund.

We also would like to see adaptation to be addressed in a balanced manner under the process that will lead to the first Global Stocktake in 2023.

On the remaining items of the Paris Agreement Work Programme, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay would like to arrive at COP26 to a successful and balanced outcome, as a result of a transparent and Party-driven process, especially with regards to Article 6 and common timeframes. These pending issues are critical to allow the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

A decision on Article 6 should address pending issues such as the transition from the Kyoto Protocol flexibility mechanisms. In light of the text of the Paris Agreement itself, we regard it as paramount to ensure that both article 6.2 and 6.4 contribute to increase the overall ambition of Parties' NDCs and underpin the environmental integrity of the whole scheme.

On common time frames, we are disappointed we could not adopt a decision on COP 25, but hope to come to an agreement as soon as possible, in order to have sufficient, appropriate inputs for the Global Stocktake.

We will also continue to engage with Parties in the structured expert dialogue under the second periodic review, continuing with the work initiated in 2020, and expect a constructive dialogue during the first part of the workshop under the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture.

Mr/Mme. Chair,

I would like to conclude this statement on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay by emphasizing our group's commitment to this process and its success. Rest assured, Mr/Mme Chair, ABU will continue to build bridges among parties and serve to the progress of the negotiations ahead of us with a view of celebrating a successful COP 26 in November.

Thank you.