

Submission by the Republic of Zambia on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN)

on

Views and information on matters relating to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement – 6.8 [FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/L.20 Para. 6(a) – (d)]:

General:

The African Group welcomes the adoption of the rules and modalities governing international cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement in Glasgow. Indeed, the effective implementation of this Article in an inclusive manner while ensuring environmental integrity should facilitate the achievement of Parties' NDCs and enhance ambition in mitigation and adaptation through a wider contribution of diverse actors.

The framework of non-market-based approaches, which is one of the components of this Article, is of utmost importance for developing countries and particularly African countries.

Indeed, it promotes cooperation for the implementation of NDCs that does not involve the international transfer of mitigation outcomes (ITMOs) while promoting synergy between financial mechanisms, technology transfer, mitigation and adaptation.

Although the final decision adopted in Glasgow on this framework do not meet all our expectations, we hope that it can be a starting point and will be strengthened by additional rules and provisions under the SBSTA negotiations to enable this framework to play the important role we expect it to under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

It is worth noting that consultations have been taking place for many years in the Technical Examination Processes - Mitigation and Adaptation - to raise the pre-2020 ambition. During these regional and global consultations very interesting initiatives - inside and outside the UNFCCC - were presented and fruitful exchanges and sharing of experiences took place.

In addition, many other UNFCCC processes address mitigation and adaptation issues to enhance international cooperation and synergies between different instruments (financial, technology transfer and capacity building) to achieve the objective of the Convention and its instruments through the implementation of TNAs, PNAs, NAMAs, REDD+ activities, etc...

Unfortunately, we must admit that the results of these consultations have not been translated into concrete actions on the ground to help close the pre-2020 ambition gap.

We believe, however, that lessons can be learned from these experiences and can be useful in the development and implementation of the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches.

Questions /Answers:

To answer the specific questions, which are the subject of this call for submissions:

1. *Existing relevant non-market approaches that may be facilitated under the framework in the initial focus areas of the work programme activities:*

The three initial focus areas that were selected in Glasgow bring together a significant number of approaches and initiatives presented in the above processes in the areas of :

- a. *Adaptation, resilience and sustainability; including research and development into technologies that will increase adaptation ambition*
- b. *Mitigation measures to address climate change and contribute to sustainable development; including research and development into technologies that will increase mitigation ambition and*
- c. *Development of clean energy sources and effective means of implementation.*

Some examples were mentioned in the Glasgow decision, but the present consultations should allow all stakeholders to propose any initiatives or approaches like the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL), they consider suitable for inclusion in those initial focus areas.

The proponents of these initiatives and approaches should, in addition to presenting them, demonstrate how they contribute to raising the ambition in mitigation and/or adaptation and facilitating synergy between different instruments of the Convention and the Paris Agreement and avoid duplication.

Presentations could take the form of submissions followed by discussions in the interactive workshops foreseen in the work programme.

Nevertheless, selection and prioritisation criteria will have to be defined for their integration in order to allow the framework to be operationalised without delay. We also believe, that this platform will provide for implementation of concrete actions, and not be merely an additional platform for exchanging of views only.

2. *Examples of potential additional focus areas of non-market approaches that may be facilitated under the framework (e.g. social inclusivity, financial policies and measures, circular economy, blue carbon, just transition of the workforce, adaptation benefit mechanism) and existing relevant non-market approaches that may be facilitated under the framework in the potential additional focus areas:*

Apart from the three focus areas identified in Glasgow, there are many areas that have already been identified in our previous exchanges on non-market based approaches that could, in the immediate future, contribute to the implementation of NDCs in the Glasgow Committee :

- Economic and fiscal instruments and implementation of specific regulations (feeding tariffs, carbon pricing, EE, etc...);
- Voluntary agreements without ITMOs (bilateral, regional and multilateral);
- Information, education and awareness programmes;
- Research and development (Innovation and technology transfer - implementation of TAPs from developing countries' TNAs, etc.);
- Regional and international cooperation in specific sectors or areas (Adaptation, renewable energies, reducing specific gases, technology transfer, corporate cooperation and initiatives, etc...)
- Approaches to, and best practice for a Just Transition
- Etc.

3. *The UNFCCC web-based platform referred to in paragraph 8 (b)(i) of the annex, including how to operationalize it (e.g. functions, form, target users, information to be contained thereon, timeline for development and implementation, and lessons learned from existing relevant tools, including under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement):*

We need to learn from past experiences, both positive and negative. Although we agreed in Glasgow that the Glasgow Committee should function as a contact group for the SBSTA, the platform should not be limited to presenting initiatives and approaches as well as sharing experiences and displaying requests for support for the effective implementation of NDCs. In order not to overload the platform, links should be provided to other sites for more details on the initiatives.

In its form and administration, the platform should enable the committee to facilitate effective networking between actors by a managing entity, provide advice and guidance to those who wish to do so, and finally report to the CMA on achievements within its mandate after an annual evaluation.

The platform needs to be user friendly, easy to navigate with logical search functions. Furthermore the “front-end” must be simple to use.

This platform needs also to be linked to the Centralized Accounting and Reporting Platform of Article 6 to ensure there will not be an international transfer of the mitigation outcomes generated by the activities under the non market-based approaches.

4. *The schedule for implementing the work programme activities:*

The Committee's work programme foresees submissions by Parties and observers, synthesis of these by the secretariat and the organisation of workshops followed by negotiations within the SBSTA during the current year.

We believe that it would be realistic to carry out during the current year:

- Development of a robust schedule of work for the year, with defined milestones – e.g. workshops with defined timelines; etc
- The definition of criteria for the integration of initiatives into the Framework;
- Decision on the functions, form, target users of the platform and its mode of administration;
- Initial exchanges for the effective implementation of certain approaches; and
- have an operational platform in the course of the next year.