

## **Key elements for a submission on the Mitigation Work Programme Mandate FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/L.17, para. 12**

### ***General remarks***

AILAC countries welcomes the opportunity to provide its reflections on the topics in line with the scope of the work programme as referred in paragraph 4 of the Sharm El Sheikh decision.

AILAC is of the view that the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP) responds to the original mandate coming from the 1/CP.26 decision, *especially* that its main objective is to close the ambition gap in this critical decade. This implies that the Work Programme measure of success is no other than accelerating the global mitigation effort in a manner that matches the 1,5° C trajectories as described by the IPCC.

Following Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan decision, Parties came together again and emphasised their resolve to keeping average global temperatures below 1.5° C and reiterated the need for accelerated action in this critical decade, as well as the invitation to consider further actions to reduce by 2030 noncarbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions, including methane.

Therefore, AILAC presents its views within the basis of equity and the best available scientific knowledge, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.

### ***Expectations for the Mitigation Working Programme (MWP)***

It is vital that MWP outcomes are set in a context of limiting warming to 1.5 C° and rapid, deep, and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions.

AILAC countries find it fundamental to consider the best scientific knowledge contribution to the MWP process. Therefore, it should be based on the IPCC relevant reports, including the WG III Report as well as the 6<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report to be adopted later in the year, namely its concrete findings and recommendations, particularly specific systems transformations and mitigation strategies, enabling conditions and opportunities in sectors (SPM.C.4), including cost-effectiveness of actions to address the 2030 ambition gap. Also, it should see the value in the IPCC Inventory Guidelines as a possible way of structuring the discussion and identifying opportunities for more ambition in NDCs.

The MWP should be solution and action-oriented, bringing together the most relevant stakeholders and expertise on climate solutions with those responsible for domestic implementation. This should include the experience and activities of relevant sectoral initiatives.

At the same time, MWP needs to bring attention to identifying the main international cooperative initiatives that are enhancing mitigation ambition and implementation,

particularly to target and implement activities in developing countries. These initiatives are a major feature of international climate governance ever since the UNFCCC started recording them in 2013. These partnerships should help to engage a wide range of nonstate and subnational actors, including businesses, investors, civil society, national governments, and international organizations.

The MWP should consider and project itself as an open and inclusive space for Parties and Non-State Actors to create common understanding on wide-ranging, large-scale, rapid and systemic transformation pathways as an essential element to achieve the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement, to stimulate investment that enhance mitigation ambition and implementation action for current NDCs.

To facilitate transparency and accountability to the Parties, the MWP should include annual reports prepared by the Secretariat, under the guidance of the co-chairs. They could provide reflections of the main results and relevance of dialogues for achieving the objective of the work programme, including a view to unlocking finance as referred to in paragraph 11 of CMA.4 decision.

The outcomes of the MWP and the concepts, solutions, actions, guidelines, and other elements that are to be captured in the dialogues, should be complementary to the functional purpose of the Global Stocktake in driving acceleration across this decade to keep 1.5° C alive and achieve the Paris Agreement temperature goal.

The MWP process should articulate efforts with other meetings in the UNFCCC regime, such as the GCF Global and Regional Programming Conferences, Innovate4Climate and others. Linking the MWP with other meetings should boost the opportunities for Parties to secure cooperation arrangements aiming at increasing mitigation ambition in NDC commitments.

Work under the MWP should be launched rapidly in spring 2023, taking advantage of the fact that less international meetings are usually taking place. We suggest a minimum of three (3) global dialogues understanding that they could be organised in parallel with other multilateral events, beyond SB59 and COP28, such as the Clean Energy Ministerial, the UN Secretary General's 2023 Climate Ambition Summit and the IRENA General Assembly.

Global dialogues should include Regional Dialogues under the *Regional Climate Week*, focusing on issues of regional relevance and placing an emphasis on (but not limiting the participation to) key actors from the region.

### ***Topic suggestions***

NDCs vary widely and have different circumstances and priorities. In this respect, the MWP should be inclusive for those Parties that bring ideas and initiatives, as well as expressions of priority and challenges to achieve higher ambition, that can be addressed, in part or fully, in the context of the dialogue.

In this regard, the dialogue and particularly the global dialogues mandated in Sharm-el Sheikh should have overarching topics that can guide its work, but that should not limit the capacity of Parties to present ideas or opportunities to increase ambition in their NDCs.

Indeed, the mandate from the MWP decision in COP27 indicates that it should be in line with paragraph 4, which specifies that thematic areas should be broad, and include all sectors of

the IPCC Inventory Guidelines, as well as thematic areas of the WGIII 2022 IPCC report, and “*relevant enabling conditions, technologies, just transitions and cross-cutting issues*”. AILAC is of the view that this broad mandate aims at including all possible opportunities to increase ambition, while allowing for focused discussions as per the interests and priorities of Parties.

In order to achieve *all possible opportunities to increase ambition*, two conditions should be met in the definition of topics. There should be an appropriate flexibility in the topics to cover, both in the global dialogues as well as in other dialogues that co-chairs can organize in line with paragraphs 8-9 of the decision. At the same time, the mode of interactions in all the dialogues should be flexible, dynamic and conducive to facilitate exchange among Parties, as well as among Parties and stakeholders, experts and providers of support.

These criteria should not be an impediment for co-chairs to find overarching topics and general guidance to conduct the dialogues, which are to remain inclusive and broad.

AILAC is of the view that the MWP dialogues should be framed around systemic transformations, tailored to specific context of sectors and cross cutting issues, particularly: (i) avoiding lock-in of new fossil fuel intensive infrastructure; (ii) enabling the transition by further advancing zero-carbon technologies, markets structures and plans for a just transformation; (iii) applying zero-emissions technologies and promoting behavioural change to sustain and deepen reductions to reach zero emissions.

Within this frame, and in light of the ultimate objective of the MWP (to close the ambition gap in this critical decade), a broad topic for this year could be “*Cost-effective mitigation policies in the context of just transition and fossil – fuel global phase out, taking in to account the national circumstances*”.

Considering the above framework, possible “action-oriented” elements to consider for global dialogues around the energy sector include:

- Remove fossil fuel subsidies based on just transition processes and clear timelines;
- Remove barriers to expansion of renewables, including regulatory barriers;
- Stop expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure;
- Plan and strategies for a just fossil fuel phase-out;
- Adapt market rules of electricity system for high shares of renewables;
- International and subnational cooperation and investment on a just coal phase-out, and support for initiatives on emissions-free electricity, renewable targets, power system flexibility and interconnection solutions;
- Strategies and measures to address non-CO<sub>2</sub> gases, including methane leaks, taking in to account the national circumstances.
- Shifting our efforts towards low-emission energy systems;

It would also be welcome to consider the energy sector solutions identified in the IPCC’s Sixth Assessment Report Working Group III report, such as:

- a substantial reduction in overall fossil fuel use, minimal use of unabated fossil fuels, deep reduction of methane emissions by 2030 and use of CCS in the remaining fossil fuel system through decommissioning and reduced utilisation of existing fossil fuel-based power sector infrastructure, retrofitting existing installations with CCS, switches to low-carbon fuels, and cancellation of new coal installations without CCS;

- electricity systems that emit no net CO<sub>2</sub> through deployment of solar energy, wind energy, lithium-ion batteries and other energy storage;
- widespread electrification of the energy system including end uses;
- development of energy carriers such as sustainable biofuels, low-emissions hydrogen, and derivatives in applications less amenable to electrification;
- energy conservation and efficiency;
- greater physical, institutional, and operational integration across the energy system
- policy packages tailored to national contexts and technological characteristics and comprehensive policies addressing innovation systems
- public R&D, funding for demonstration and pilot projects, and demand pull instruments such as deployment subsidies to attain scale
- digital technologies and barriers such as weaker enabling conditions in developing countries, including limited finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity.

These sector solutions are provided as examples of actions that Parties might consider in the context of the MWP, which must be respectful of national circumstances and priorities.

In order to unlock the potential of these options, it is crucial to have appropriate technical considerations, and match these cost-effective policies to the specific national contexts.

Clear identification of sources of funding is also central to this goal, and for this reason, it would be extremely important that the MWP includes providers of funding, such as appropriate public agencies of developed countries, as well as MDBs, private sector and others.

### **Conclusions**

AILAC believes that in the spirit of flexibility and respecting national circumstances, the first global dialogues should be centred on *“Cost-effective mitigation policies in the context of just transition and fossil – fuel global phase out, taking in to account the national circumstances”*.

Following the findings of the IPCC WGIII Report and the IPCC Guidelines for GHG inventories, AILAC suggests that the global dialogue look closely at the energy sector, as the area of the inventories that offer the most immediate cost-effective measures and policies to increase ambition.

This does not preclude that the energy sector is again revisited in future global dialogues. Closing the ambition gap in this critical decade will require having a constant consideration of the sources of emissions, of which the energy sector is central.