

# **Submission by the Russian Federation on the outputs components of the Global Stocktake**

*February 2023*

Article 14 of the Paris Agreement implies 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 (referred to as the "Global Stocktake", GST). Pursuant to paragraph 8 of the decision of the 57<sup>th</sup> sessions of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and Subsidiary Body for Implementation (FCCC/SB/2022/L.8), the Russian Federation is providing its proposals for outputs components of the first GST.

## **I. Mandate and key components of the Global Stocktake**

We believe that the first GST shall do so in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, and its outputs should not involve an assessment, revision or update of the Paris Agreement goals. They should inform countries in updating their nationally determined contributions and support their actions, as well as facilitate international cooperation to jointly combat climate change.

The thematic blocks of the GST should consider the following main components:

- Progress towards achieving the Paris Agreement goals;
- Identification of key gaps and barriers to the achievement the goals of the Agreement, as well as the nationally determined contributions;
- Possible ways to overcome obstacles and fill gaps.

## **II. Russia's proposals for the GST outputs components**

We present the proposals of the Russian Federation on approaches to the GST outputs in relation to each of the 3 main areas – mitigation, adaptation, means of implementation and support.

### **Mitigation**

**Overview of the progress towards achieving the temperature goal.** It is necessary to analyze the progress towards the long-term goal formulated in paragraph 1(a) of Article 2 of the Paris Agreement that implies holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels. The Russian Federation considers it unacceptable to violate the integrity of the provisions of the Paris Agreement, including through the substitution of the analysis of progress towards the long-term goal of the Agreement by discussion of the goal manifested as limiting the temperature rise to 1.5°C.

The analysis of progress towards the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement should be based on a compilation and analysis of the emission reduction targets set in the nationally determined contributions, and progress towards them, highlighted in the biennial transparency reports, national greenhouse gas inventory reports and national communications of the Parties to the Agreement. The assessment of the progress achieved in the field of mitigation and its comparison with the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement should be made on the basis of data from the

IPCC and other authoritative international organizations. We stand for objective and unbiased scientific assessment ensured through inter alia different viewpoints and enhanced participation in the IPCC activities of scientists and experts from different regions of the world as well as wider use of scientific data and knowledge in all official UN languages. The progress assessment should be carried out taking into account the following parameters:

***Progress in the context of the sustainable development goals (SDGs).*** The Paris Agreement aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change in the context of sustainable development. Therefore, the assessment of progress in achieving the goal of the Agreement should take into account the progress towards the goals of sustainable development, as well as monitoring the risks of barriers to their achievement.

***Use of all available technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*** The GST outputs should reflect the principle that all technologies and solutions that ensure reduction and removal of GHGs can be employed to achieve mitigation objectives, that implies that in addition to renewable energy natural gas as a transitional fuel, low-emissions solutions in the use of fossil fuels, nuclear, hydrogen and hydropower, capture and carbon storage can be used for mitigation purposes. It is also necessary to take into account the contribution of nature- and ecosystem-based solutions to the removals of greenhouse gases and the achievement of carbon neutrality, as well as the conservation of biodiversity and combat against desertification as co-benefits. No restrictions on access to technologies that facilitate climate change mitigation can be acceptable.

***Implementation of the principle of a just transition.*** The GST outputs should include an assessment of the effects and consequences of a just transition. Particular attention should be paid to the socio-economic consequences of the transition, associated with direct and indirect risks for the well-being of the population and the economies of countries. We propose to specifically consider the socio-economic risks and negative consequences of an accelerated phase-out of fossil fuels, including rising electricity prices, unemployment and capital expenditures for re-equipment of facilities.

**The identification of key gaps and barriers** to achieving the objective of the Agreement, as well as the targets set in the nationally determined contributions, should be carried out in the context of considering the availability of technologies for greenhouse gas emissions reduction and climate change mitigation. The GST outputs should provide an overview of the technological pathways and mitigation options that Parties to the Paris Agreement could use at the national level and in international cooperation, in accordance with their national circumstances and minimizing negative consequences for socio-economic development. The review should include an analysis of the availability of identified technologies and the identification of economic and political barriers and restrictions to their use by those countries that need them.

**Possible ways to overcome obstacles** should contain proposals for a set of measures and good practices to be included in the GST outputs. The proposed measures and practices should not be restrictive or binding and should not be punitive. In addition, they must respect the national sovereignty of countries and the prerogatives of sustainable development.

## **Adaptation**

**Overview of the progress towards the adaptation goal.** The adaptation reports and national communications of the countries of the Paris Agreement should guide the process. It should also consider the assessments of the IPCC and other authoritative international organizations, which ensure the participation of the scientific and expert community from different regions of the world and use scientific information and data in all official UN languages. The GST outputs should reflect progress in the development and adoption of national adaptation plans, as well as sectoral, regional and local adaptation planning. The evaluation of progress should take into account the following parameters:

***Parity between and synergy of mitigation and adaptation measures.*** The outputs of the GST should emphasize the equivalence of the tasks of mitigation and adaptation. The importance of adapting the economic and social infrastructure to the ongoing and future climate changes, projected in any scenarios even those with the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement achieved, should be pointed out. Attention should also be paid to measures that provide synergy between adaptation and mitigation, including measures to improve the stability and efficiency of energy systems, ecosystem adaptation, forest and water protection, and cropland management.

***Adaptation to a just transition.*** The GST outputs should include an analysis of the progress made in the just transition, including the development and exchange of technologies, cross-border investments in transition projects and projects to reduce emissions through energy efficiency and utilization of greenhouse gas emitted from fossil fuel combustion. In addition, attention should be paid to measures that reduce health risks (increase in morbidity and mortality) in various social groups; response to the increase in dangerous hydrometeorological phenomena; prevention of permafrost degradation in the northern regions and prevention of damage to buildings, utilities and other infrastructure; counteracting the spread of infectious and parasitic diseases.

***The contribution of the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work program on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA).*** The GST should take into account the assessment of progress towards the adaptation goal, including the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work program on the global goal on adaptation (GlaSS). We consider it appropriate to align the assessment of progress in the GGA with the cycle of the Global Stocktake. The GST outputs should reflect the progress of Parties in development and adoption of adaptation methodologies, metrics and indicators, as well as their comparability.

**Identification of major gaps and barriers.** When identifying the main gaps and barriers to achieving adaptation goals, we propose to focus on the availability of technologies, as well as cross-border risks of a just transition and its consequences. The GST outputs should include an overview of the problems associated with a lack of information and scientific knowledge, which are an obstacle to the correct assessment of risks and the choice of the most effective adaptation solutions, as well as the lack of necessary technologies and financial resources.

**A possible way to overcome obstacles** could be to develop proposals within the GST framework to facilitate access to information and data, as well as to ensure their free exchange between countries. Since the tasks of adaptation are both global and national and even regional in nature, within the GST framework it is advisable to consider the comparability of methodologies,

metrics and indicators in the field of adaptation. The solution of these tasks can also be envisaged within the framework of the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work program.

### **Means of implementation and support**

**Progress in access to the means of implementation.** Free access to technology, finance and investment is one of the key conditions for the implementation of climate policy in all countries. Investments in low-emission and sustainable technologies are crucial to achieve global climate goals. Information on the availability of means of implementation and support is included in biennial transparency reports, national communications and other submissions by countries to UNFCCC bodies. Therefore, the GST outputs should contain an analysis of information on the availability and sufficiency of means to implement and support climate change activities for all countries that need them. It should be borne in mind that the needs for means of implementation and support may vary from country to country. Their definition depends on the social, economic and technological development of the countries concerned.

**Contribution of the private sector.** Separate consideration should be given to the contributions of the state and the private sector in providing means of implementation and support. The GST outputs should reflect the best practices and business efforts undertaken to address the challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

**Identification of major gaps and barriers.** In reflecting gaps and barriers in accessing means of implementation and support in the GST outputs, differences in the socio-economic development and technological capacity of the countries concerned should also be taken into account. It is important to emphasize that policies and measures to combat climate change must be cost-effective, and climate technologies and financing must be affordable and adequate.

**Possible ways to overcome obstacles.** The GST outputs should preclude any political and other limitations, restrictions and barriers to technology transfer, investment and other means of implementation and support to any country that may be interested in obtaining financial resources, as well as technological and innovative solutions for the transition to low-carbon development.

### **III. Conclusion**

The Russian Federation considers the Global Stocktake as an important element in assessing progress in achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. We believe that the Global Stocktake outputs contribute to a better understanding of the challenges facing the countries participating in the Agreement and will be reflected in the nationally determined contributions proposed to be presented in 2025 in accordance with the decision 3/CMA.3. We supports holding intersessional consultations and workshops during the review of the results of the first Global Stocktake and is ready to be actively engaged in the process together with other stakeholders on all aspects of climate change.