



**The Chair**

**THE GROUP OF 77**  
New York



L-012/2023

22 March 2023

Dear Ms. Kinuthia-Njenga,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the views of the Group of 77 and China on the Process and Substance for the Consideration of Outputs Component of the First Global Stocktake.

Please accept, Madame, the assurances of my highest consideration.,

Pedro L. Pedroso Cuesta  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of Cuba to the United Nations  
Chair of the Group of 77

Ms. Cecilia Kinuthia-Njenga  
Director, Intergovernmental Support and  
Collective Progress Division  
UNFCCC



**Views of the Group of 77 and China:  
Process and Substance for the  
Consideration of Outputs Component of the First Global Stocktake**  
11 March 2023

The Republic of Cuba has the honour, on behalf of the 134 members of the Group of 77 and China, of making this Submission on the Views of the Group of 77 and China on the Process and Substance for the Consideration of Outputs Component of the First Global Stocktake.<sup>1</sup>

**I. General Considerations**

1. The Group of 77 and China approaches all parts of the multilateral climate change negotiations held under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement as well as its Kyoto Protocol on the basis of science and equity, in accordance with equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, and in the context of sustainable development, the inalienable Right to Development and efforts to eradicate poverty.
2. The Global Stocktake (GST) as a critically important process for the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement. Our measures of success for this, the very first cycle of the GST, are that it respects its mandate under the Paris Agreement, advances progress across the board, promotes sustainable development, be realistic and achievable, and enhances international climate cooperation, consistent with the reality that this is the critical decade for climate action. It is a “learning-by-doing” process and the lessons learned from the first GST will assist with subsequent GST cycles.
3. The first GST is our opportunity take stock of where we are consistently with the full extent of the GST mandate as established in the Paris Agreement and spelled out in detail in subsequent decisions, as these lay the foundations for the forward-looking aspects of the GST and enables further necessary progression in subsequent cycles. It is equally important that the GST is enabled to function in accordance with its mandate under the Paris Agreement.
4. The GST is the main mechanism for ratcheting up implementation and ambition on all aspects of the Paris Agreement, under the Convention. The outcomes of the GST must be inclusive, balanced, comprehensive and Party-driven, with the participation of non-Party stakeholders. The outcomes shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support, , and enhance international cooperation in meeting the critical goals of the Agreement.

**II. On the Process for the Consideration of Outputs – The Joint Contact Group and the High-Level Committee**

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<sup>1</sup> This submission is without prejudice to further submissions from the Group or to the specific or individual views of the members of the Group of 77 and China or its various constituency groups.

5. The Group reiterates that for the GST to serve its purpose under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, simple, effective, and efficient implementation of the agreed modalities under decision 19/CMA.1 is important.<sup>2</sup>
6. We request the SB Chairs to publish guiding questions for the consideration of outputs as soon as possible pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision 19/CMA.1.
7. The Group of 77 and China recalls that the Katowice GST decision clearly indicated that the outputs of this component of the global stocktake should:<sup>3</sup>
  - a. Identify opportunities for and challenges in enhancing action and support for collective progress in relation to the thematic areas of the global stocktake referred to in paragraph 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1, as well as possible measures and good practices and international cooperation and related good practices;
  - b. Summarize key political messages, including recommendations arising from the events referred to in paragraph 33 of decision 19/CMA.1 for strengthening action and enhancing support;
  - c. Be referenced in a decision for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement and/or a declaration.
8. The Group highlights that discussions on approaches, elements and documents under this component of the GST should be open and transparent. Documents including reports and draft texts should be circulated as early as possible. Consultations on substantive elements and text-based negotiations should start as early as possible. The views and requests of Parties should be fully captured and reflected in a balanced manner, to ensure Party-driven and consensus-based outcomes.
9. The work of the joint contact group and the High-Level Committee should retain the same cluster of topics as mandated under decision 19/CMA.1 while ensuring integrated and holistic approaches to consider these topics in a cross-cutting manner, namely:
  - Mitigation, including response measures
  - Adaptation, including loss and damage
  - Means of implementation and support: finance, technology, and capacity-building
10. The arrangements for the consideration of outputs phase as contained in decision 19/CMA.1 provide an indication of the timeline for events and provides guidance on some of the subject areas to be addressed in this phase of the GST. However, in order to deliver on a robust outcome/set of outcomes from the GST these arrangements would need to be supplemented to address the following issues:
  - Clarification of the timeline of high-level events for the consideration of outputs
  - The format of the high-level events, their outputs and follow-up, including clarity on the process to translate the outcomes of the high-level events into a draft declaration and/or CMA decision
  - The role of the joint contact group in relation to the high-level committee
  - The role of non-Party stakeholders in the consideration of outputs

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<sup>2</sup> See Collective Input to the Global Stocktake: Submission by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China (25 May 2022), para. 37(iv), at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/202206050832---G77%20and%20China%20input%20to%20GST.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Paragraph 34, decision 19/CMA.1, at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2018\\_3\\_add2\\_new\\_advance.pdf#page=53](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2018_3_add2_new_advance.pdf#page=53)

- Follow-up process to present nationally determined contributions informed by the outcome of the global stocktake at a special event under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations as outlined in Paragraph 17 of decision 19/CMA.1.

#### **A. The Joint Contact Group**

11. The Group recalls that the GST will be conducted by the CMA with the assistance of the Subsidiary Bodies through the establishment of the joint contact group referred to in paragraph 4 of decision 19/CMA.1. The technical dialogue referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of that decision aims to support the work of the joint contact group.
12. In practical terms, Parties should develop an indicative annotated outline of a draft CMA decision in June 2023 through the joint contact group. The Group expects that over the course of 2023, the work of the joint contact group during SB58 in June 2023 and in SB59 in December 2023 will be informed by the discussions among Parties at the intersessional consultation in hybrid format in April 2023 and the intersessional in-person workshop in October 2023 referred to by the SBs57 conclusions,<sup>4</sup> leading towards the development of recommendations to the SBs on the elements<sup>5</sup> for a decision on the GST's outputs for consideration and adoption by CMA5 referred to in paragraph 34(c) of decision 19/CMA.1. Elements to be included in the draft CMA decision should be a core focus of the in-person workshop in October 2023, which should be of sufficient maturity to make it possible to consider and adopt a CMA decision at CMA5.
13. In this context, the draft CMA decision negotiated in the joint contact group should contain clear language for bridging identified implementation gaps and maximizing identified opportunities with respect to enhancing action, support and international cooperation, including, inter alia, the interlinkages between the GST outcome and other processes already underway, follow up on the GST outcome, and possible guidance to Parties in response to the GST outcome to enhance action, support and international cooperation consistently with Article 14 of the Paris Agreement.

#### **B. The High-Level Committee**

14. The Group expects that the conduct of the consideration of outputs component will respect the existing mandate given to the Presidencies of the CMA in 2023 – i.e. the incumbent CMA4 Presidency and the incoming CMA5 Presidency – together with the incumbent Chairs of the two Subsidiary Bodies to serve as the High-Level Committee referred to in paragraph 33 of decision 19/CMA.1 that will chair the high-level events to be held in 2023 where the findings of the technical assessment will be presented and their implications discussed and considered by Parties. The output of this GST component could be a declaration.
15. The substantive high-level events under the aegis of the High-Level Committee should begin after the conduct of Technical Dialogue 1.3 scheduled to take place at SB 58 and after the issuance of the final synthesis report for the technical assessment phase which should be made available well ahead of the in-person workshop in October 2023 as well as the Pre COP and COP28. The high-level events should as far as possible take multiple formats to ensure full participation of all Parties and substantive discussions focused on the mandated themes and issues.

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<sup>4</sup> SBs57, Conclusions on matters relating to the global stocktake, FCCC/SB/2022/L.8, para. 9, at <https://unfccc.int/event/sbi-57?item=8>

<sup>5</sup> These include could include, for example, a preamble identifying key principles and considerations, the criteria used during the GST to guide the outcome, substantive sections corresponding to paragraph 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1 that would take stock of progress and highlight ambition and implementation challenges and opportunities, a conclusion that summarizes key political messages and additional cross-cutting elements, and a technical annex that includes a summary of opportunities for enhanced action and support, including possible measures, good practices and international cooperation.

16. The high-level events should be discussions focused on identifying collective progress and gaps, as well as the key lessons and good practices, opportunities and challenges for Parties and non-Party stakeholders in response to the findings of the technical dialogues to enhance action, support and international cooperation. These events could also discuss how to strengthen action and the provision of support to developing countries and enhance international cooperation. The High-Level Committee could convene these events and consider reports from other official high-level climate-related events within the UN system (particularly the UNFCCC process) such as the United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Ambition Summit.
17. Furthermore, the outcomes, or interim outcomes, of the time-bound work programmes under the UNFCCC, such as the Mitigation Work Programme, the Global Goal on Adaptation, the Glasgow Dialogue on Loss and Damage, the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance, and on the Just Transition, can be key contributions to the political phase of the GST. Consideration needs to be given on how to harvest and summarize these outcomes in a manner that would be useful in the context of the high-level events.
18. The Group requests the incumbent and incoming COP Presidencies (Egypt and the UAE) and the SB Chairs to provide, before the April 2023 informal GST consultations, information on how they intend to undertake the high-level events, and encourages the High-Level Committee to provide an update during the fifty-eighth sessions of the subsidiary bodies (June 2023) on progress in planning their high-level events, as requested by the Subsidiary Bodies at their 57<sup>th</sup> sessions in Sharm El Sheikh.<sup>6</sup>
19. The Group further encourages the High-Level Committee to ensure that their high-level events will enable Parties to effectively assess collective progress and have information about relevant systemic transformations, barriers and enablers. Sufficient and balanced regional representation of Parties, in particular developing countries, in these events is important, to be realized by inviting more voices from the Global South to speak and be heard at these events, particularly from developing countries' governments, experts, and non-Party stakeholders, to share their expertise, lived experiences and realities, and proposals.

### III. Substantive Considerations for the GST's Consideration of Outputs Component

20. The Group of 77 and China would like to highlight that in developing the outputs of the consideration of outputs component of the GST under paragraph 34 of decision 19/CMA.1, certain approaches and principles are crucial:
  - It is important that the consideration of outputs faithfully implement and effectively operationalize the principles and provisions of the Convention and its Paris Agreement;
  - The identification of opportunities and challenges for enhancing action, support, and international cooperation, and the key political messages and recommendations, coming from the GST should promote sustainable development, poverty eradication and economic diversification, taking into account the needs of developing countries in terms of poverty eradication, sustainable development and just transition, including through systemic and transformational change that reflects climate justice;
  - The consideration of outputs should be comprehensive and balanced, be both backward- and forward-looking;
  - The focus, consistent with the GST mandate, should be on assessing collective progress, to be done in a manner that is not focusing on individual Parties, is non-policy-prescriptive and not intrusive, and looks to informing Parties in enhancing ambition and international cooperation in a nationally determined manner;

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<sup>6</sup> SBs57, Conclusions on matters relating to the global stocktake, FCCC/SB/2022/L.8, para. 10, at <https://unfccc.int/event/sbi-57?item=8>

- Scientific and other information assessed during the GST should be considered in a contextualized manner that takes into account national circumstances, technological and economic feasibility, and developing countries' sustainable development and poverty eradication objectives
21. The GST should enable Parties to systematically assess the progress and gaps in pre-2020 developed country ambition and implementation<sup>7</sup> and to identify the opportunities, challenges and solutions for post-2020 ambition and implementation in light of the principles and provisions of the Convention and the Paris Agreement. This includes, inter alia:
- Undertaking a meaningful stocktaking on adaptation and the provision of the means of implementation and support;
  - Evaluating the global economic and technological basis for addressing climate change and summarize economically and technologically available, feasible and affordable solutions;
  - Assessing the obstacles and challenges that hamper global climate cooperation and put forward clear suggestions to strengthen global solidarity and cooperation, including prioritizing multilateral rather than unilateral measures and avoiding unilateral barriers or sanctions that disrupt the global economy.
22. The first GST will be successful if it facilitates, through its non-punitive and non-prescriptive assessments of collective efforts, enhanced implementation of both action and support as well as international cooperation. Enhanced and balanced implementation is required across all topics referred to in paragraph 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1 (Mitigation, Adaptation and Means of Implementation, as well as Loss and Damage and Response Measures), based on equity and the best available science.
23. For the Group of 77 and China, for example, the enhanced means of implementation support, in the form of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed to developing countries, is a practical and real-world necessity to empower us to achieve our ambitious goals and further enhance our ambition. This makes the discussions held under the first GST particularly important with respect to the need for developed countries to fulfill their climate finance obligations under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, reforming the Multilateral Development Banks to make them fit-for-purpose in supporting climate action in the context of sustainable development. Climate finance should not result in increasing the debt burdens of developing countries, and the private sector will not spontaneously save us.

#### **IV. On the Overall Substance of the Assessment to be Undertaken in the GST**

24. The Group reiterates the substantive points made in its Submission of 25 May 2022<sup>8</sup> with respect to the following issues as part of the assessment of collective progress and the consideration of outcomes:
- The importance of considering the projected impacts of climate change on developing countries, as assessed by the IPCC (paragraph 11 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)
  - The projected increase in losses and damages and the adaptation gap, as assessed by the IPCC (paragraph 12 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)

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<sup>7</sup> Including relevant information from the COP27 decision on the Second Periodic Review pursuant to paragraph 21 thereof. See <https://unfccc.int/documents/624430>.

<sup>8</sup> See Collective Input to the Global Stocktake: Submission by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China (25 May 2022), at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/202206050832---G77%20and%20China%20input%20to%20GST.pdf>

- The need to address the social and economic impacts of response measures and to address loss and damage in developing countries (paragraph 13 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)
  - Assessing the collective progress of implementation on the ground, including the progress and gaps on delivery of commitments and ambitions in the pre-2020 and post-2020 periods, the progress and barriers of just transition, with a view to inform Parties in updating and enhancing their actions and support, as well as international cooperation (paragraph 15(ii) of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)
  - Identifying the good practices, lessons learned, opportunities, challenges, needs, and gaps for enhancing implementation and ambition, with respect to mitigation, adaptation, the provision of the means of implementation (finance, capacity building and technology transfer) to developing countries, addressing the consequences of response measures, and averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage as indicated in para 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1 in a balanced manner (paragraph 15(iii) of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission). These could include various approaches that holistically advance flexible and equitable emissions reduction and climate adaptation models and innovative sustainable development pathways that are implemented in a nationally driven manner and enable climate change challenges to be addressed effectively.
  - Considering equity and the best available science together will strengthen the science-policy interface represented by the IPCC and UNFCCC/Paris Agreement regime and ensure that the science-based assessments with respect to mitigation and adaptation coming from the IPCC are holistically taken into account in a systemic and integrated manner in the multilateral policy context of the GST (paragraph 20 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission).
25. The Group also highlights the importance of ensuring that in the consideration of outputs component of the GST, equity considerations are highlighted, as indicated by the Group in its 25 May 2022 Submission. This means:
- Equity in substance requires a holistic and cross-cutting collection and assessment of the information obtained for the GST from all sources of inputs in light of the purpose of the GST, so that the technical assessment and political consideration of the outcome will also have substantive equity as a key element. Doing so will help ensure that the outcome of the GST is equitable, looking backward at implementation gaps and challenges (including with respect to historical responsibility and pre-2020 implementation of the Convention and its related instruments, in particular the Kyoto Protocol), what has been done, what has not yet been done, and how these would be addressed in a forward looking and equitably ambitious manner in the various areas and related efforts under paragraph 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1, taking into account the underlying principle of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances, and in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication (paragraph 22 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)
  - Equity would also imply that a holistic, systemic and integrated understanding of the past, present, and future challenges and opportunities for action and ambition is obtained through the GST (paragraph 25 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)
26. The Group reiterates the need to ensure that the GST is based on the best available science. This requires that, together with the equity considerations above, the policy-relevant insights presented by the IPCC reports with regards to historic emissions, future scenarios, pathways, challenges, solutions, costs and enabling conditions needed to achieve them are reflected in the outputs of the Technical Assessment component, and in the final outcome of the GST itself (paragraph 28 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission). The Group has identified some of these policy-relevant insights as important, including broadening access to finance and technologies, mitigation options, scaling up financial flows for mitigation and adaptation, and international cooperation on technology development and transfer, and providing loss and damage finance,



consistently with the principles of the Convention and its Paris Agreement (paragraphs 31, 32, and 33 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission).

27. The GST must consider progress made, barriers and enablers, to provide guidance that can inform and empower Parties to consider the whole range of options relevant to updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action. (paragraph 30 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)
28. Of great importance for the Group of 77 and China would be inputs and discussions in the GST that would allow Parties to have a clearer, more holistic, and more systemic understanding of the various actions and elements that need to work together on the implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, enhance ambition, the provision of the means of implementation, and international cooperation, and support just transitions and the achievement of sustainable development in a nationally determined manner. (paragraph 36 of the G77 and China's 25 May 2022 GST Submission)

#### **V. On the Role of Non-Party Stakeholders in the Consideration of Outputs**

29. For the Group of 77 and China, it would be important for non-Party stakeholders to engage in and contribute to the GST. In line with Article 14 of the Paris Agreement and decision 19/CMA.1 the GST has been organised to support the participation of non-state actors in the process. Paragraph 10 of decision 19/CMA.1 is clear: "Further decides that the global Stocktake will be a Party-driven process conducted in a transparent manner with the participation of non-Party stakeholders..." While the consideration of outputs component of the GST is mandated to be Party-driven in nature, non-Party stakeholders could be invited to discuss and demonstrate concrete actions and form partnerships to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Convention, while recognizing the central role of Parties.