Submission by Belgium and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

Brussels, 30 January 2024

Subject: EU’s views on the 2024 work plan for the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance

Decision 8/CMA. 5 invites Parties to submit views on issues to be addressed as part of the 2024 work plan for the New Collective Quantified Goal (“NCQG”) on climate finance by 31 January 2024.

The content of this submission takes into account the updated mode of work as agreed in the above-mentioned decision, adding to the technical expert dialogues (“TEDs”) back-to-back meetings under the ad hoc work programme (AHWP) with a view to enabling Parties to engage in developing the substantive framework for a draft negotiating text capturing progress made. In this context, the European Union and its Member States recall that views on key elements of the new goal have already been expressed in previous submissions in 2022 and 2023, respectively.

On the process, the European Union and its Member States are encouraged by and appreciative of the continuation of the current co-chairs to continue to guide deliberations under the ad hoc work programme in 2024, recognizing the invaluable amount of work and dedication that they, and the 2022 co-chairs, have put into the process already.

We consider it important to continue and further strengthen innovative, open and inclusive discussions on the NCQG, including through the following actions:

1. In the organization of the TEDs, encouraging participation of representatives of finance ministries, non-state actors, multilateral development banks, private sector, financial sector (including investors, central and commercial banks and financial regulators), philanthropy, civil society, youth, indigenous peoples, academia, and external technical experts, with special consideration to gender and the most vulnerable and less represented groups.
2. Ensuring that speakers, facilitators, and moderators that are invited for these roles are new with respect to the former TEDs, acknowledging the value of new and different perspectives in deliberations, and representative in terms of gender and represented sectors, including giving consideration to input from non-English speakers.

3. In regard to the organization of the TEDs and the AHWP, we would encourage to limit overall duration of the meetings, being cumulatively not longer than in previous years and sequence the work by organising the TED prior to the AHWP meeting.

In addition to the deliberations under the AHWP, we consider it important to further improve the modalities of political engagement in the AHWP throughout 2024. We are pleased that the high-level ministerial dialogue (HLMD) in 2024 will be convened well before CMA6 but more has to be undertaken to turn this ministerial deliberation into an interactive discussion that will eventually provide clear guidance to the technical level. We look forward to concrete proposals from the co-chairs in this regard. In line with the above-mentioned decision, we also look forward to concrete proposals on how to improve effective, inclusive and meaningful political engagement in addition to the already foreseen HLMD, and how the input will be taken into account in the technical discussions. To the EU, increased ministerial engagement will be indispensable to arrive at an ambitious outcome at CMA6.

On the content of the 2024 work plan, the European Union and its Member States acknowledge the progress made in deliberations throughout 2022 and 2023 and underscore the need to discuss some of these elements in conjunction, identifying the interlinkages between potential elements of the new goal, including the options laid out in the co-chairs report.

From the EU perspective, in order to come to an effective outcome at CMA6, the 2024 meetings under the AHWP would need to produce draft packages of texts for consideration by CMA6 organised by clusters. In order to achieve this, the EU proposes to classify the options into different clusters, by moving from a list of options to clusters of options and from there to produce draft packages of texts for consideration by the CMA6. The TEDs will deliver the technical input on options, interlinkages and clustering for the AHWP to take forward into the production of the draft packages of text.
To enable the above-mentioned process, we would suggest framing discussions around the following four clusters: 1) Scope; 2) Structure, 3) Quantum and 4) Expected Outcomes.

Such clustering should be under the guidance of the Co-Chairs during the meetings of the AHWP and could be organized as follows (listed elements are examples to illustrate the suggested approach and are not exhaustive):
This kind of clustering would in our view help steer discussions and ease the identification and consideration of implications resulting from interlinkages across different features.

The identification of interlinkages should be a core element of this exercise in order to define synergies and trade-offs and avoid inconsistencies within and between the different elements of the options.

Further, within the above suggested framework of discussions and without prejudice to other elements, the European Union and its Member States believe that work under the ad hoc work programme of 2024 should focus on:

- How the new goal could reflect the global effort as set out in Article 9.3 of the Paris Agreement, taking into account the evolving capacities of countries to contribute to the provision and mobilization of climate finance (namely, layers and contributors);

- How the goal can contribute to making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development;

- How the goal can contribute to leverage currently untapped or "undertapped" sources of climate finance by exploring a wide range of opportunities;

- How to make climate finance better fit for purpose and increase impacts, more streamlined, effective, accessible and less bureaucratic, gender-responsive, and especially how public financial flows could better target the most vulnerable countries and communities.