

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

**on**

**matters relating to the work programme for urgently scaling up mitigation  
ambition and implementation (MWP) and in response to the call for  
submission under paragraph 12 of CMA4 decision**

**FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/L.17**

**Background**

In spite of the efforts of countries to address climate change, the prospects of achieving the Paris Agreement goals in this century still remain faint. The Glasgow Climate Pact (GCP) recognizes that limiting global average temperatures to 1.5 °C requires a rapid, deep, and sustained reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions including a reduction of global carbon dioxide emission by 45% by 2030 relative to 2010 levels. The GCP also recognizes the need for accelerated action to address climate change on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge and equity, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances. Even though Africa has contributed less than 4% to the total global greenhouse gas emission, the continent is the most affected by the impacts of climate change. Hence, limiting global warming to 1.5°C is expected to substantially minimize the impact on African economies, agriculture, human health, and ecosystems. However, adaptation is a key priority for Africa. As the adverse impacts of climate change is already evident in the continent. Additionally, the science is clear: four-fifths of the Global Carbon Budget (GCB), consistent with a 50:50 chance of limiting global warming to 1.5 °C, has already been spent ( $2400 \pm 240$  Gt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq from 1850 to 2019), which is why only 500 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq of CO<sub>2</sub>, representing an additional 0.43° C, can be emitted before 1.5 °C would be overshoot (based on the current level of 1.07 °C increase). It is also known that most of the historical GCB was used by developed countries, and must also accept that we all have responsibility for the future.

The mitigation work programme was established through paragraph 27 of UNFCCC decision 1/CMA.3. Furthermore, the Sharm-Sheikh Implementation Plan, through decision 4/CMA.4, adopted the work programme with the objective of scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation in this critical decade in a manner that complements the Global Stocktake (GST). As part of the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP), Parties decided to hold at least two global dialogues each year, with one to be held prior to the first regular sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the year, starting at their fifty-eighth sessions and one prior to the second regular sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the year, starting at their fifty-ninth sessions (November–December 2023). Paragraph 11 of 4/CMA.4 requested the secretariat to organize investment-focused events on the margins of the dialogues with a view to unlocking finance, including for just transitions, overcoming barriers to access to finance, and identifying investment opportunities and actionable solutions informed by nationally determined contributions. Paragraph 12 of the same decision invited Parties, observers, and other non-Party stakeholders to submit suggested topics by 1 February 2023 and, every year thereafter, in line with the scope of the work programme.

It is important to highlight that according to UNFCCC decisions 1/CMA.3, paragraph 27, the MWP should complement the global stocktake and not duplicate it. Additionally, according to decision 1/CMA.4, paragraph 52, the MWP and the work programme on just transition should complement each other to discuss pathways to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement outlined in Article 2, paragraph 1, in the context of Article 2, paragraph 2.

### **Topics for the 2023 Global Dialogues**

The Topic of the 2023 Global dialogues was “Accelerating just energy transition”, which was explored through different subtopics under each of the two dialogues. For the first global dialogue held prior to SB58, the topic was explored through the following subtopics:

- i. Renewable energy;
- ii. Grid and energy storage;
- iii. CCU and CCS;
- iv. Energy efficiency

The second Global dialogue focused on accelerating just energy transition in transport systems and was explored through the following subtopics:

- i. Deploying and shifting to collective and non-motorized modes of transport (rail, urban public transit, cycling, etc.);
- ii. Energy and resource efficiency in the transport sector (design improvements, circular economy and material changes, vehicle vintage, carpooling, etc.);
- iii. Electrification of vehicles (infrastructure, batteries, and minerals);
- iv. Shifting to low- or zero-carbon fuels (hydrogen, biofuels, biogas, compressed natural gas).

### **Reflections on the topics in the context of the dialogues**

The energy sector presents the largest source of CO<sub>2</sub> emission, and therefore, accelerating the energy transition presents a huge opportunity for the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions. While the African Group acknowledged the relevance of these topics, the discussions were not on the same wavelength due to the disparity in the global energy access by Parties. It is important to highlight that energy access is still a major challenge for the African continent, and therefore, just the transition of energy is as important to Africa. For Africa, energy access is critical as 600 million people lack access to electricity, and 970 million people do not have access to clean energy technologies. Africa presents a huge potential for renewable energy exploits, yet less than 2% of the global investments in renewable energy have been made in Africa in the last two decades.

The African Group celebrates the success achieved by the 2023 dialogues through focused exchanges of views, ideas, and information and hopes that future topics and discussions will reflect the Parties' common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances.

### **Proposed Topics for 2024 Global Dialogues**

Following the rich exchange of views, ideas and information under the 2023 global dialogues, the African group strongly contend that subsequent topics should facilitate and build on the previous discussions. In view of this, we would like to suggest the following topics for consideration by the Co-chairs of the MWP.

#### **1. Addressing regional and country-specific barriers and challenges in renewable energy development, deployment and dissemination**

This will include overcoming research barriers, patents, and infrastructure.

## **2. Financing just (energy) transitions**

Renewable energy presents a huge potential for emission reduction for many developing countries while at the same time creating jobs. Yet renewable energy remains highly concentrated in developed countries. Financing just transitions is critical to ambition in mitigation and must reflect increased ambition in relation to finance as well.

## **3. Innovative financing for Implementation for Nationally Determined Contributions, including through international cooperation.**

## **4. Green and sustainable cities**

This topic should be explored in the context of building resilience in urban infrastructure to deliver environmental, social, and economic benefits.

## **5. Circular Economy in the context of transforming waste to energy.**

This topic presents an opportunity to address both carbon and non-carbon greenhouse gas emissions and, at the same time, will contribute to addressing energy poverty in developing countries through investment in innovations and technology deployment.

## **6. Assessment of international support for conditional NDCs**

This topic will show how far international support has been provided quantitatively and qualitatively for conditional NDCs, in accordance with countries' expressed needs. Such assessment will allow better understanding and a clear perspective on how NDCs will be implemented, particularly the new ones that are expected to be submitted by 2025, building on lessons learned, if any.