**Submission on matters relating to the work programme for urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation**

Israel welcomes the opportunity to provide views on topics for the mitigation ambition and implementation work programme (MWP) in 2024 and beyond.

Following the successful outcomes of 2023, Israel would suggest continuing to focus on the just energy transition during the coming year. The energy sector holds the greatest potential for global greenhouse gas emissions reduction, and often for national mitigation efforts as well.

The global dialogues provide an important platform for the exchange of best practices and knowledge. Concrete solutions can be presented based on expertise and research that could be relevant for all. Parties have the opportunity to determine what is applicable for their national circumstances, keeping in mind that enhanced and ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions are to be communicated in 2025. Of course, many topics of the just energy transition were not addressed during 2023. Retaining a focus on just energy transition will increase the cumulative impact rather than diffusing efforts to broadly. The coming years will offer more opportunity for exploring solutions and expanding the exchange of experience and expertise.

The urgency for scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation in this critical decade, for which the MWP was created, was reinforced in the first Global Stocktake (GST) decision. Parties recognized the urgent need to close the existing ambition and implementation gaps in order to achieve the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. The window of opportunity is narrowing and keeping 1.50 C in reach requires international cooperation now and into the future. Focusing on the mitigation section in the GST outcome, with particular attention to paragraph 28, offers a range of potential sustainable energy directions for finding solutions leading to achieving the MWP mandate.

Israel would like to recommend holding MWP virtual or hybrid meetings and workshops during the year in order to ensure wider stakeholder participation. Regarding the global dialogues, although it is extremely beneficial to participate in person this is not always possible. Therefore, Israel would like to request more flexibility for expanding ways for Parties to be more actively involved in discussions.

Many topics could be linked to the GST outcome which could be appropriate for discussion in the MWP during 2024 and beyond. Keeping in mind the importance of examining and enhancing NDCs in the coming year, Israel would like to suggest two topics very relevant for integration into the next round of NDCs:

\* **Distributed and independent energy systems**: Moving away from fossil fuels in energy systems is essential as the world aims to achieve the overarching goal of net zero emissions by mid-century. Reliance on centralized power grids can be substantially reduced by promoting solar energy, community wind turbines, bioenergy. Solar panels, micro hydro-turbines, and microgrids with local storage can provide reliable electricity, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase employment opportunities. Decentralization enhances energy security, climate resilience through energy diversification and economic development. While this is true for urban areas, in rural areas, this can be especially valuable and beneficial. Communities that generate their own power are able to reduce transmission losses as well as their vulnerability to supply disruptions.

Israel believes that innovative solutions, such as smart grids and storage, tailored to rural areas, in particular, can transform energy landscapes by reducing dependence on the grid, promoting sustainability and GHG emissions reduction. Distributed and independent energy systems support decarbonization in various aspects, by enabling fuel switching in industry, transport and building sectors.

\***Reduction of non-carbon-dioxide emissions:** The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCCC) AR6 report clearly highlights the significant role of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) in shaping our climate trajectory. These potent gases and pollutants, with relatively short atmospheric lifetimes, contribute greatly to global warming. Concrete action taken today could significantly put the world on a faster track for closing gaps and reducing emissions, while protecting the Artic ice and improving air quality.

Israel suggests examining the reduction potential of methane and HFCs, in particular, which would allow Parties, and non-Party stakeholders, to engage in thorough discussions on concrete and widely beneficial solutions. Countries can increase mitigation ambition and enhance NDCs by addressing the urgency necessary for reducing these powerful greenhouse gases.

In summary, there are various reduction measures for methane and HFC gases and each need to be examined individually for finding the most effective solutions. Israel regards focusing on these SLCPs as a continuation of discussions within the framework of the energy transition. Energy systems will have to become more sustainable in order to meet global challenges and to close the implementation gap in this critical decade.