Submission on behalf of the G77 and China

On views on matters relating to the decision text on

UAE just transition work programme

<u>Subject</u>: views on the matters relating to the UAE just transition work programme for consideration and adoption by the conference of Parties serving as the meeting of the parties to the Paris Agreement at its sixth session (November 2024)

Introduction:

This submission is intended to complement the earlier submission on behalf the group regarding the 2nd dialogue under the work programmme and in response to the agreement under the SB60 conclusions on the just transition work programme to provide further inputs to guide the decision at COP29.

General Considerations that should be included in the decision text:

- 1. Equity: We emphasize the need for climate actions to be equitable and in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Developed countries, having historically contributed the most to greenhouse gas emissions, must take the lead in reducing emissions and providing financial and technological support to developing countries. This principle, as enshrined in the Convention and its Paris Agreement, should be at the core of all transition pathways to ensure "climate justice."
- 2. Anchoring the Transitions within CBDR-RC: The transition to new industries and energy models needs to be stable, sustainable, and resilient to shocks. This requires the establishment of "anchors"—critical measures and policies designed to stabilize the transitions and mitigate any adverse effects. Many developing countries may lack the institutional and financial capacity to achieve this on their own, making global partnerships and capacity-building initiatives fundamentally essential. Developed countries should take the lead in providing technical and financial support to ensure balanced and stable transitions that benefits everyone. This means CBDR-RC should be anchored as a principle in all climate related workstreams to ensure its always inclusive.
- 3. **Sustainable Development and Poverty eradication:** Climate actions and transitions strategies must align with sustainable development goals, and viceversa. Efforts to combat climate change should not hinder the development prospects of developing countries. Instead, they should support sustainable economic growth and poverty eradication, according to the development model

- that each country decides as adequate to their needs and realities ensuring the integrity and protection of Mother Earth.
- 4. Focus on Whole of Society and Economy Transition: The dialogue should focus on the transition of the entire society and economy, unpacking the full range of means of implementation (finance, technology, and capacity building) for just transition pathways. This includes exploring current approaches, opportunities, and gaps.
- 5. International Cooperation and Partnerships: While people-centric approaches are important, they are only a step towards identifying areas that require support. The G77 and China group sees a missed opportunity in fostering international cooperation and partnerships. Developed countries must meet their obligations to lead in reducing emissions timely and provide financial, technological, and capacity-building support to developing countries. Our dialogue should focus on this perspective and unpack all required solutions that support this narrative through international cooperation. Additionally, we should assess any initiatives or unilateral measures with cross boarder negative impacts that undermine international cooperation efforts.
- 6. Integration of Just Transitions Principles into key climate frameworks: integrating just transitions principles in the implementation of key climate change frameworks (i.e., the Convention, Kyoto Protocol, Paris agreement, SDG13, IPCC) can help ensure that the transition to a sustainable future is just and equitable for all.
- 7. Workforce Compartmentalization and Informal Sector Inclusion: compartmentalizing the workforce discussion into two primary categories: the formal sector (e.g., mines, industries) and the informal sector (e.g., rural and local economies). This distinction is essential, especially for developing countries, where a significant proportion of the workforce operates in the informal sector. Often, when addressing Just Energy Transition, the informal sector is overlooked. To ensure no one is left behind, the dialogues must include strategies to uplift and transition the informal workforce as well. This is a present gap in existing discussions and workstreams and must be bridged.
- 8. **Adaptation**: the work programme should focus on adaptation in the context of just transition approaches and emphasize understanding how adaptation to the impacts of climate change and broader resilience to all manner of shocks poses challenges towards just transitions of societies. Pathways of adaptation action and support should therefore adequately respond to risks and needs of developing countries.

Guidance to the work programme:

- Inclusive and Transparent Processes: Climate negotiations and decisionmaking processes must be inclusive and transparent. The voices of all countries, especially the most vulnerable, should be heard and considered in shaping global climate policies.
- 10. Just Transitions and Bottom-up Approach: "just" transition pathways are only truly just when approached from the bottom up, incorporating a whole-of-society perspective. This ensures that all societal groups—especially those at the grassroots level—are engaged in shaping the transitions. For this, we propose that any discussion on just transitions must focus on community led initiatives, driven by local needs and realities. It is essential to recognize the importance of empowering local voices to ensure equitable outcomes. This is to guarantee that just transition pathways are defined within the confines of poverty eradication and sustainable development, and are being led by people and communities, not markets and industries alone.
- 11. Guidance to the future dialogues: The group had proposed a work/action plan to guide our agreement to systematically cover the scope of the work programme through the seven elements of decision 3/CMA.5, further guidance to this plan is annexed to this submission.