



ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

AOSIS Submission

Submission by Palau on behalf of the Alliance of Small Islands States on views from Parties on the topics to be discussed as part of the Mitigation Work Programme (2025 and ongoing).

February 1st, 2025

Introduction

The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on matters related to the topics to address the overarching mandate of the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP), which is: to urgently scale up mitigation ambition and implementation in this critical decade (...) in a manner that complements the global stocktake (GST) (1/CMA.3 paragraph 27). AOSIS emphasizes the need for accelerated efforts in implementing the mitigation elements of the GST outcome, taking into account the decisions adopted at COP28 and the guidance provided in decision 1/CMA.6.

The GST outcome at COP28 reaffirmed our collective commitment to keeping the 1.5°C warming limit within reach, requiring deep, rapid, and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions of 43% by 2030 and 60% by 2035. AOSIS stresses that the MWP should support Parties in developing implementation-ready mitigation pathways that align with the GST decision, focusing on emissions reductions across critical sectors of the economy. The GST decision also highlights the urgency of our situation in the time remaining to 2030. The MWP should therefore continue to focus on sectors with the greatest mitigation potential in the short-term to put us on track with a 1.5oC pathway.

In identifying the AOSIS propriety areas for the MWP it is important to note the overall mandate of the MWP. Paragraph 4 of 4/CMA. 4 states:

Further decides that the scope of the work programme should be based on broad thematic areas relevant to urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation in this critical decade and include all sectors covered in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, thematic areas in the contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and relevant enabling conditions, technologies, just transitions and cross-cutting issues;

Furthermore, Paragraph 186 of the CMA.5 GST Decision “Invites the relevant work programmes and constituted bodies under or serving the Paris Agreement to integrate relevant outcomes of the first global stocktake in planning their future work, in line with their mandates”. The MWP is the only work programme that can follow up on the GST’s mitigation commitments.

Further, decision 1/CMA.6, highlights the key findings and barriers identified in the implementation of the mitigation work programme, particularly the role of finance, technology transfer, and capacity-building for developing countries.

AOSIS Priorities

In line with the overarching objectives of the MWP and the outcomes of COP 29, we identify the following priority areas for 2025:

1. Implementation of GST Mitigation Outcomes;

- A detailed consideration on the implementation of key mitigation elements outlines in the CMA 5. GST decision, including a tripling of renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030 (1/CMA. 5 paragraph 28(a)).
- Strengthening the link between NDC targets and net zero commitments, ensuring that national strategies align with the 1.5°C pathway.

2. Global Energy Transition to end fossil fuels;

- To maintain a 1.5 aligned pathway, there is an urgent need to address the transition away from fossil fuels in a just, orderly, and equitable manner, as highlighted in paragraph 28(d) of decision 1/CMA.5.
- Exploring pathways for reducing non-carbon dioxide emissions, including methane, across all economic sectors.

3. Parties to end fossil fuel subsidies.

- The GST decision text highlights the importance of phasing out fossil fuel subsidies, building on the COP28 decision to phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies (1/CMA.5 paragraph 28 (h)). Despite previous COP commitments, there has been a lack of implementation under the UNFCCC, and the MWP should address this issue. The Synthesis Report on the first Global Stocktake notes that removing fossil fuel subsidies can overcome structural economic barriers and boost renewable energy's cost-competitiveness. Discussions should bring together trade, climate and energy experts to explore how energy policy and legal frameworks, including in the international trade regime can change incentives for fossil fuel use through energy transition fees, levies, and charges.
- AOSIS emphasizes the need for G20 countries to lead in phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and repurposing funding for energy transition plans and policies. Encouraging Parties to implement policy frameworks that incentivize clean energy alternatives is crucial for the energy transition.

4. Link between NDC targets and net zero commitments

- To keep global warming to 1.5°C, deep and rapid reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions are needed: 43% by 2030, 60% by 2035, and net zero CO₂ emissions by 2050. AOSIS urges all Parties to submit more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies to meet these targets. The 1/CMA.5 GST decision requests the secretariat to share knowledge and best practices for NDC preparation and implementation through workshops.
- AOSIS suggests that these workshops at the Global Dialogues should discuss practical steps, best practices, and overcoming barriers for including practical implementation solutions in revised 2030 NDCs to align with 1.5°C.

5. Scaling up and partnering internationally with developing countries, including SIDS, on appropriate, locally based renewable energy solutions.

- Strengthening partnerships for appropriate, locally based renewable energy solutions tailored to the unique needs of Small Island Developing States such as appropriate technologies and targeted capacity building, using SIDS regional frameworks/mechanism where appropriate (for example, Pacific NDC Hub)
- Leveraging the MWP dialogues to identify investment opportunities and technical support for SIDS and considering convening SIDS specific events.

Procedural Considerations

AOSIS supports procedural enhancements to ensure the effectiveness of the MWP in 2025, including:

- Enhanced regional and gender balance in global dialogues and investment-focused events, as outlined in decision 1/CMA.6, with a specific dialogue for SIDS.
- Improved and simplified access to finance for project preparation, including pre-feasibility studies that take into consideration special circumstances of SIDS and LDCs.
- Timely provision of summary reports from global dialogues and investment-focused events.
- AOSIS remains committed to working with all Parties to advance the objectives of the Mitigation Work Programme and to ensure that the necessary support mechanisms are in place for Small Island Developing States to achieve their climate goals. We urge all Parties to take bold actions in implementing the COP28 outcomes and to contribute meaningfully to the discussions under the MWP in 2025.