The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the Mitigation Work Programme

provided in line with the mandate given in November 2022¹

August 2025



Submission on content of the sixth Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event

The UK welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the content and modalities of the sixth Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event and looks forward to participating in discussions in September.

The UK would also like to express its gratitude to the government of Panama for having hosted the fifth Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event, and to the Secretariat for its support.

Focus of discussions at the Sixth Global Dialogue

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group III report, <u>Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of climate change</u>, highlights the crucial role of waste management in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It emphasises that efficient materials management, including reuse, recycling, and waste reduction, is essential for mitigating climate change. The report also identifies the waste sector as a significant source of methane emissions, particularly from landfills, and stresses the need for strategies like source separation and alternative treatments (e.g., composting) to reduce these emissions.

The UK is keen to support multilateral efforts to achieve global circularity and join an ever-growing global community in adopting more resource efficient and circular approaches. Transitioning to a circular economy will support in the achievement of wider international objectives on sustainable consumption and production, such as target 12 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Products and materials need not become waste with good design, systems and services, and data. Reducing waste decreases emissions across the whole product lifecycle, increases resource security, safeguards our natural environment, creates jobs in value retention activities such as remanufacturing, and helps us to achieve net zero.

The UK is currently developing the first ever Circular Economy Strategy for England, informed by a Circular Economy Taskforce of experts which will initially focus on six sectors

that have the greatest potential to grow the economy: agri-food; built environment; chemicals and plastics; electrical and electronic equipment; textiles; and transport. The strategy will be published for consultation later this year. We are actively looking for opportunities to learn from and build on international best practices to explore what levers and interventions could work in the UK, and exchange our own experiences.

The UK would therefore welcome the opportunity to exchange on:

- 1. Waste reduction/prevention, including consumer behaviour and product design;
- 2. **Waste recycling,** including experiences in enabling and incentivising green infrastructure investment to minimise environmental harms and maximise the economic and social value of resources and material;
- 3. **Waste treatment,** including diverting biodegradable waste from landfill, introducing and maximising methane capture and destruction at landfill sites, and the introduction and expansion of carbon capture utilisation and storage at energy from waste facilities; and
- 4. **Cross-cutting issues,** including national policy frameworks and international cooperation on issues like improved resource efficiency, waste reduction and increased repair, reuse and recycling.

Improvements to the modalities of the Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event

The UK has previously submitted views on improvements that could be made to the structure and operation of the MWP for consideration by the co-chairs. Key among these are:

- 1) A proposal that the co-chairs provide follow-up to the Global Dialogues that would support clear and actionable outcomes in the reports. The value of the MWP is its provision of a space to allow discussion between and amongst parties, and so this would provide another opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the Dialogues, and allow parties to provide views. Co-chairs should therefore consider, for example, informal discussions between the co-chairs and parties to clarify/reiterate key messages from the Dialogues as they write the reports.
- 2) The co-chairs should also consider organising consultations with parties and non-party stakeholders after the publication of a report on a Dialogue and ahead of the next Dialogue to further inform the design and outputs of subsequent MWP activities, drawing on the inclusive approach that has been applied by other UNFCCC processes such as the Global Stocktake. This could be done through the other inperson or hybrid dialogues mentioned in paragraph 9 of Decision 4/CMA.4.
- 3) Ensuring that the reports of the co-chairs following the Dialogues are published in time to inform both intersessional and COP negotiations.

Ahead of the sixth Global Dialogue and Investment-Focused Event, we would also like to propose some specific improvements.

On the Global Dialogue, we propose that:

- 1) There should be more interactions between parties and non-party stakeholders, through breakout groups on the solutions and opportunities for international cooperation, moving beyond a question-and-answer format;
- 2) More direct engagement between national experts should be supported through the design of more interactive sessions, for example roundtables and question-and-answer sessions on the sub-topics, allowing participants to move beyond simply making statements; and
- 3) The concerns expressed by some parties that the content of the Global Dialogues have not always met their needs and expectations should be addressed by the cochairs. We propose that this should include regional and virtual dialogues on relevant regional concerns and interests, reflecting the agreement at COP29 to tailor solutions to sociocultural and economic contexts, noting that there is no 'one size fits all' approach owing to the diversity of national and local circumstances.

On the Investment-Focused Event:

- 1) We welcome the return of the pitch hub as was requested by parties, as well as the clarity of the proposal from co-chairs; and
- 2) We also support the proposal made by other parties to tie the IFEs more closely to existing investment events to secure participation by as wide a variety of financiers, governments, private sector, multilateral developments banks and others as possible, and invite the co-chairs to consider how this could be implemented.