

We welcome the Climate High Level Champions new five year vision and the invitation to align voluntary action with the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake (GST). The mandate extension to 2030 and the intent to anchor work in the UAE Consensus creates a timely window to focus the GCAA on implementation, accountability and inclusion.

Delivering on NDCs, NAPs and the GST outcomes will require an unprecedented mobilisation of the private sector. Governments alone cannot achieve the rapid sectoral transitions needed without the active participation of companies and financial institutions that shape production, consumption and investment patterns worldwide. This imperative has been reinforced across the UN system, with the 2024 Pact for the Future (Action 55c) and the 2025 Seville Commitment (Paragraph 34c) committing Member States to clarify the responsibilities of the private sector and strengthen its accountability in the implementation of UN frameworks. The private sector's decisions on capital allocation, supply chain management, innovation and disclosure have a direct and measurable impact on emissions trajectories, resilience outcomes and just transition pathways.

The GCAA is uniquely positioned to serve as a bridge between Parties and NSAs, translating political commitments into tangible investments, technology development and company practices. By aligning voluntary climate action with national priorities, raising the integrity of transition plans and ensuring equitable participation from all regions and communities, the GCAA can turn the momentum from the GST into concrete progress on the ground. Furthermore, its role should extend beyond convening and amplifying voluntary action to progressively articulating what constitutes credible private sector engagement and accountability. By clarifying expectations for 1.5°C-aligned transition plans, encouraging Member States to establish explicit norms for business, and support the harmonisation of standards and regulations, the GCAA can help ensure that multilateral agreements remain ambitious, coherent and effective and can support its implementation.

In this submission, we focus on private sector engagement and accountability, where our organisation's core expertise lies. Drawing on our experience benchmarking corporate performance across the most influential 2000 companies and engaging with governments, international organisations and civil society, we outline how the GCAA can strengthen the accountability, ambition and impact of private sector action in support of global climate goals.

1) What should success look like for the GCAA in the next five years, and how can it be measured effectively?

Success in 2025-2030 means a GCAA that measurably accelerates delivery of NDCs and GST outcomes by:

- All initiatives in GCAP explicitly mapping their contributions to specific NDC measures or GST paragraphs.
- Timebound commitments on implementation with an obligation on countries to report progress at each COP to highlight domestic implementing policies to support the NDC and the stocktake as per article 4. This will inform the private sector trajectory of change and strong market signals on the implementation of the UAE consensus
- Companies disclose if they have a credible 1.5°C aligned transition plan in place and are encouraged to report and disclose information about their transition plans.
- Driving Rio Conventions coherence: working towards adopting a unified approach so that companies can align climate, biodiversity and land targets in a single, [harmonized reporting process](#).
- Making progress comparable and open, with NAZCA publishing a minimum core dataset per stakeholder group, enabling tracking of delivery over time and cross-analysis with public policy outcomes.

2) How can the GCAA facilitate direct and impactful engagement between Parties and NPS?

We suggest establishing Party / Private Sector Dialogues: structured, time bound engagement processes between governments and leading companies/financial institutions (who have a robust transition plan in place) to address specific sectoral gaps identified in the GST. These dialogues could:

- Be co-designed through national convenings facilitated by RCCs and CCT.
- Identify priority areas where policy measures and private sector action can be mutually reinforcing.
- Work towards co-developing sectoral and regional pathways that help inform transition plans.
- Encourage companies to voluntarily align investments, innovation and operational changes with national climate strategies and enabling policies.
- Share progress updates through the Yearbook, using accessible traffic light indicators to highlight momentum and lessons learned.

At the sectoral level, the Activation Groups proposed in the COP30 Action Agenda could serve as accelerators, helping to connect voluntary private sector initiatives to enabling policy environments and national targets.

Where possible, these dialogues and Activation Groups could integrate Rio Conventions linkages, for example, an agricultural dialogue that connects NDC mitigation targets with NBSAPs and LDN targets, enabling companies to design actions that deliver multiple global benefits through harmonized approaches.

3) How can the GCAA promote inclusive and equitable engagement?

Thinking concretely in the engagement and action of the private sector, we propose that:

- Capacity building pipelines are developed through RCCs to help SMEs, cooperatives and local financial institutions engage and access finance.
- There is a clear push and capacity building for gender and equity metrics to be embedded in corporate reporting, aligned with the Lima Work Programme on Gender and just transition frameworks.
- A number of co-created Just Transition indicators are embedded to NSAs reporting (continuing the work Race to Zero has done in fair share, equity and justice for non-state and subnational actors).

4) What improvements can be made to ensure better transparency, reporting and follow-up of the GCAA?

GCAP could evolve into a public accountability infrastructure for NSAs (and particularly private sector) climate action by:

- Publishing core datasets for volunteer companies, covering targets (scope 1–3), transition plan, resilience beneficiaries, just transition indicators, biodiversity and land use commitments, among others.
- Work towards interoperating with other disclosure frameworks so that companies can fulfil obligations to multiple Rio Conventions through one reporting process.
- Using the Yearbook to highlight companies and sectors delivering integrated outcomes across climate, nature and land goals.