

**Submission by the Republic of Mali on behalf of the African Group of
Negotiators
on
Matters Related to the Global Stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris
Agreement
30 September 2016**

The Republic of Mali, through this submission, has the honor to respond on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), to the invitation made by the Ad hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) to Parties to submit their views on the APA agenda item 6, “Matters relating to the Global Stocktake (GST) referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement” by 30 September 2016.

Context

Article 14 of the Paris Agreement established the GST to periodically take stock of the implementation of the Agreement by assessing the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals. The purpose of the GST is also to inform the enhancement/update of actions and support as well as international cooperation.

The Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the,

- (a) APA to identify the sources of input for the GST referred to in Article 14 of the Agreement and to report to the COP, with a view to the COP making a recommendation to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) for consideration and adoption at its first session;
- (b) Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to provide advice on how the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) can inform the GST of the implementation of the Agreement pursuant to its Article 14 and to report on this matter to the APA at its second session (November 2016); and
- (c) APA to develop modalities for the GST referred to in Article 14 of the Agreement and to report to the COP, with a view to making a recommendation to the CMA for consideration and adoption at its first session.

Submission

The African Group regards Article 14 as a vital tool in reviewing Parties collective efforts towards the achievement of the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. It ought to provide outcomes that, when taken into account, ensure that subsequent contributions are better informed and more responsive to the challenge of attaining those goals, particularly in respect of the temperature goal, mitigation, adaptation, and finance, in the context of Article 2 of the Agreement.

Specifically, the GST should inform on the extent of the gap between what has been achieved and the long-term goals, as well as what has been pledged as the long-term goals. It should

therefore identify areas where adequate progress is being made, what the barriers to and opportunities for raising ambition are, lessons learned, and areas where more effort is needed in the implementation of the Agreement.

In consideration of this submission, the African Group takes note of relevant Articles of the Agreement and the implementing decisions of 1/CP.21.

(a) Identification of the Sources of Input for the Global Stocktake

The African Group proposes the following key sources of inputs to include, *inter alia*:

- Outputs from the transparency framework on various elements such as reviews of greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories of Annex 1 countries, the International Analysis and Review (IAR) and International Consultation and Analysis (ICA) to assess progress in implementation of mitigation commitments;
- The synthesis report of Parties' submissions of NDCs in Article 4.2 of the Paris Agreement for mitigation; submission of a-NDC as envisaged in Article 7.10, including other vehicles used for adaptation communications such as National Adaptation Plans and National Communications; and Biennial Communications of Indicative Support (BCIS) envisaged in Article 9.5;
- Reports from Convention mechanisms such as the Technology Executive Committee, synthesis report from the Technology Mechanisms on actions implemented and needs expressed; Standing Committee on Finance synthesis report, building their Biennial Assessments on support provided under the operational mechanism of the Convention and other vehicles such as the Global Environment Facility; capacity-building mechanisms such as the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building; and the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage;
- Relevant inputs from non-state actors including UN agencies, multilateral institutions, regional and sub-regional bodies, and academic and research institutions; and
- Scientific inputs from IPCC reports, particularly on temperature in relation to emissions, reports on cost implication of adaptation as well as on required support.

(b) Development of the Modalities of the Global Stocktake, noting the work under the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, agenda item 6(b), "Matters relating to Science and Review: Advice on how the Assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change can inform the Global Stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement"

The first GST will take place in 2023 and every five years thereafter, unless otherwise decided by the CMA (Article 14.2). The adopting decision also decided to convene a facilitative dialogue among countries in 2018, to take stock of the collective progress and assess the adequacy of current efforts to inform the preparation of future NDCs, of which Parties are expected to communicate their NDCs in 2020.

The African Group proposes a process that would be conducted in an interactive, transparent, and effective manner, which enhances accountability and builds trust among Parties. Such a process should first review the scientific and technical data of the inputs to ensure the integrity of the review and its recommendations. This would include the interrogation of synthesis reports from the transparency framework on progress on implementation, and aggregate impacts of the NDCs for an upcoming commitment period to improve on assumptions made, followed by an in-session workshop to finalise such reports. The consideration of scientific inputs and equity aspects shall be included in this technical phase. The outcomes of this phase would be considered with the policy and political aspects in the next phase.

The Group further proposes a model similar to the 2013-2015 review, which involved a joint working group of the Subsidiary Bodies and several “structured expert dialogues” that featured experts from academia and non-state entities. The dialogue will be responsible for the articulation of both the past and expected performance in relation to the IPCC reports, in the form of mitigation, adaptation, finance gaps, as well as required effort on technology, capacity-building, loss and damage and cooperative approaches. Gaps identified, if any, should be translated into recommendations to be taken up for consideration during the second phase, where Parties can collectively make decisions on appropriate measures to enhance/update actions and support, taking into account equity (including recognition of adaptation efforts of developing countries).

For the 2023 GST, all inputs (transparency framework synthesis report; m-NDC, a-NDC, BCIS synthesis reports; reports from the operational mechanisms; IPCC Reports) should be availed to the Secretariat by or before 30th June, 2022 to give the Secretariat adequate time to review and take stock of available information, with draft reports that can begin to go through the ‘technical process’ during the 2022 COP. With the review of assumptions and methodologies open for the first half of 2023 through web-based Q&A culminating in an in-session workshop, a joint contact group should be established to consider scientific and technical inputs and reports in June 2023.

Since the assessment of the collective effort will be undertaken to also inform the update and enhancement of NDCs, and encourage international cooperation to enhance ambition, the group has specific proposals. The African Group proposes that in formulating the matrix for assessing the consideration of Parties in updating their undertakings, Parties should take into account the equity reference framework it proposed in 2015, which assesses total contribution by a group of Parties (i.e. developed vs. developing) in respect of climate action (mitigation, adaptation, support), relative to the fair efforts each group of Parties should undertake. Parties can therefore self-apply defined indicators, which in our view should include contribution to emissions, capability, development needs.

Key principles for an effective GST should include:

- Timeframes adopted in the context Article 4.10 should allow for communications that would present information for a given period in the immediate future;

- Undertakings should provide a reasonable opportunity for, and a common time-frame for updating/enhancing undertakings;
- The outcomes of the GST should include international cooperative initiatives, which allow for flexibility for more action without additional commitment.

(c) How the assessments of the IPCC inform the Global Stocktake

The IPCC Assessments have an instructive role to play in setting the benchmark performance against emission trajectories, and impacts consistent with temperature scenarios. Their assessments could also contribute to understanding the necessary finance flows for low carbon climate resilient development.

The IPCC reports should therefore:

- Provide information on approaches and methodologies for reporting in the case of mitigation and adaptation, as such minimum information for communicating undertakings facilitates the aggregation of the synthesis reports;
- Provide benchmark information on emission pathways, adaptation impacts and needs consistent with temperature scenarios, against which synthesis reports of implementation and undertakings are assessed;
- Synchronize its cycles with the GST in the publication of Assessment Reports and/or Special Reports;
- Inform about the adequate cost of adaptation associated with different temperature scenarios, as well as tracking vulnerability metrics across the globe; and
- Establish a UNFCCC and IPCC ad hoc committee that should be open-ended to allow the IPCC working group chairs to participate on issues relevant to them with a view to informing products.