

Submission on Possible Elements of Textual Outline for the Identification of the Sources of Input to and Development of the Modalities for the Global Stocktake (GST)

Introduction

St. Lucia is pleased to provide further inputs on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)¹, in response to the invitation to Parties at the end of the May 2017 Bonn sessions for “*focused submissions on the possible elements of textual outline for the identification of the sources of input to and development of the modalities for the global stocktake, taking into consideration, as appropriate, the views of Parties reflected in the informal note on this agenda item.*”

This document should be read in conjunction with the CARICOM submission of September 29, 2016, which provided a comprehensive approach to the design and conduct of the Global Stocktake.

Mandate re GST

The mandate of the negotiations under Agenda Item 6 of the APA comes from the Paris Agreement and its supporting decision 1/CP.21.

Article 14 of the Paris Agreement provides for a periodic global stocktake "of the implementation of this Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals." This stocktake should be done in a "comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support, and in the light of equity and the best available science."

The first global stocktake shall be undertaken in 2023 and every five years thereafter and the outcome "shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action." The COP decision adopting the Paris Agreement calls for a decision to be adopted at CMA1 on the details of the global stocktake, viz:

- a) to identify the sources of these inputs, for adoption at CMA1; and
- b) to develop recommendations on modalities for the global stocktake for adoption at CMA.

It also requests the SBSTA to advise the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA) at its second session on how IPCC assessments can inform the global stocktake.

¹ *Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago*

Possible elements of textual outline

The purpose of the textual outline is to provide a framework for the development of a draft decision on the mandate referenced above to be presented to CMA 1 for adoption. The elements should therefore respond to the mandate that has been provided by the Paris Agreement and by 1/CP.21.

The rest of this document lists the proposed elements, with annotations explaining the content to be addressed under each element.

1. Mandate for the GST

The decisions should recall the mandate for work on the GST coming from the Paragraph 14 of the Paris Agreement (PA) and Decision 1/CP.21. This can be included as a preambular paragraph recalling these documents without repeating the full text.

2. Context and Linkages

This section should establish the role of the GST in the implementation of the PA, clearly identifying it as a part of the ambition cycle aimed at increasing the level of mitigation ambition of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

It should clearly identify the linkages between the GST and other aspects of the Paris Agreement as detailed in the Paris Agreement Articles 4, 7, 9, 10 and 13.

It should also clearly identify the need to ensure that the GST gives full consideration to the principle of equity in a cross-cutting manner and is informed by the best available science.

3. Outcomes

This section should detail the outcomes to be achieved by the GST i.e. to inform the next round of NDCs including “actions and support” and “enhancing international cooperation for climate action.”

These outcomes should be based on the results of the assessment of “the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals”.

4. Information Needs

This section should identify the information needed to enable the assessment of “the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals”.

Some of this information needs are already specified in 1/CP21, viz:

Information on:

- a) The overall effect of the nationally determined contributions communicated by Parties;

- b) The state of adaptation efforts, support, experiences and priorities from the communications referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Agreement, and reports referred to in Article 13, paragraph 8, of the Agreement;
- c) The mobilization and provision of support;
- d) The latest reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;
- e) Reports of the subsidiary bodies.

Two additional matters of interest to SIDS that are not included in this listing from 1/CP.21 are:

- a) information on regional impacts provided by agencies from the respective regions. This would be a useful complement to the information on the status of adaptation efforts et. al. that is mandated by 1/CP.21; and
- b) information on Loss and Damage.

5. Sources of Inputs

This section should identify the inputs that are required to produce the information needs identified in the previous section. These inputs and their respective sources could include:

- a) Information from Parties – through NDCs, Adaptation Communications, biennial reports, biennial update reports, greenhouse gas inventories, national Communications and party submissions.
- b) Information from the UNFCCC constituted bodies including TEC, CTCN, PCCB, LEG, AC, AFB, GCF, GEF.
- c) Report from the next Periodic Review.
- d) Information from the IPCC.
- e) Other peer-reviewed information from the scientific community that has not yet been considered by the IPCC.
- f) Reports from other international organisations e.g. UNEP Gap Report
- g) Information from regional groups and agencies.
- h) Information from civil society agencies.

6. Modalities

This section should address the modalities required to:

- a) generate, receive and process the inputs from the various sources;
- b) consider these inputs in a transparent and comprehensive manner;
- c) arrive at conclusions on “the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of this Agreement and its long-term goals”; and
- d) make recommendations for consideration of Parties.

It should specify the organisation of the work, preferably in a phased manner, with consideration of technical inputs taking place before consideration of political decision-making. (A detailed proposal to this effect is contained in an earlier submission and will not be repeated here).

This section should also address the grouping of the technical work into coherent workstreams, consistent with the thematic approach of the PA, and propose timelines for completion of the various activities.

7. Outputs

This section should specify the outputs from the GST. These outputs are the specific products that will be used by parties to generate the required outcomes i.e. inform the next round of NDCs.

It is important to define these outputs at the outset so that all parties will be clear on the end result that they are working towards. This output could take many forms, one of which could be the following:

- a) A report with key messages agreed by Parties on the collective progress and the implications for updating and enhancing their actions and support as per Article 14, para 3 of the PA; and
- b) A formal recommendation adopted by the COP covering all aspects of Article 14.