
Submission by the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group on possible elements of textual outline for the identification of the sources of input to and development of the modalities for the global stocktake

The Least Developed Countries Group (LDC Group) welcomes the opportunity to submit its views 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 (GST), taking into consideration, as appropriate, the views of Parties reflected in the informal note on this agenda item.”

Draft elements of textual outline:

Mandate for the GST

1. Article 14 of the Paris Agreement provides that:
 - (a) The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement shall periodically take stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals (referred to as the “Global Stocktake”). It shall do so 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.
 - (b) The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement shall undertake its first GST in 2023 and every five years thereafter unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.
 - (c) The outcome of the GST shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action.

Linkages and context relevant for the modalities and sources of input for the GST

2. As required by Art. 14, the GST must take stock of implementation of the Paris Agreement to assess collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals. As such, the context in which the modalities of the GST must be developed include:
 - (a) The purpose of the Paris Agreement, as set out in Art. 2, which includes:
 - i. Enhancing implementation of the Convention, including its objective; and
 - ii. Strengthening the global response to climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.
 - (b) The long term goals of the Paris Agreement, which are:

- i. Strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change under Art. 2, including the long-term temperature goal, increasing the ability to adapt and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.
 - ii. A global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century (Art 4.1);
 - iii. Enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Art 2 (Art 7.1);
 - iv. Averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage under Art. 8.1, in light of the collective obligation on Parties to ‘enhance understanding, action and support’ with respect to loss and damage in Art 8.3;
 - v. Achieving a collective mobilization of climate finance from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels, noting the importance of public funds, with a view to scaling upwards from a floor of USD 100 billion per year, as reflected in Art. 9.3 and paragraph 53 of decision 1/CP.21.
 - vi. Fully realising technology development and transfer as reflected in Art. 10.1. Enhance the capacity and ability of developing country parties, particularly those with the least capacity and those that are particularly vulnerable such as the least developed countries and small island states, to take effective climate change action (Art. 11).
- (c) The modalities of the GST will be guided by core principles underlying the Paris Agreement and the Convention, including:
- i. Equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances (Art 2.2);
 - ii. Take stock of implementation in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, and in light of equity and the best available science (Art 14.1);
 - iii. Operationalize “no backsliding”;
 - iv. Party driven;
 - v. Transparent;
 - vi. Balanced and holistic;
 - vii. Ensuring gender balance in all functional elements of the Paris Agreement.
- (d) The GST shall have the following characteristics:

- i. comprehensive, encompassing all elements of the Paris Agreement to provide a clear and accurate picture of collective progress towards implementation of the Agreement;
- ii. Positive, with a focus on exchanging best practice, motivating action and mutual encouragement;
- iii. Durable, a process which will effectively continue to take stock of implementation with successive rounds of commitments and actions under the Paris Agreement;
- iv. Action-oriented, with a focus on informing and facilitating parties to take actions that fulfil the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement;
- v. Adaptive over time, learning from each successive round;
- vi. Nationally determined, drawing on inputs relating to the nationally determined commitments of Parties;
- vii. Timely, taking stock of implementation with sufficient time for Parties to incorporate information from the GST into their actions and support under the Paris Agreement;
- viii. Tailored to fulfil the mandate of the GST and holistic in its implementation, taking into account all of the long-term goals and elements of the Paris Agreement;
- ix. Cost effective and concise, without compromising the quality of information gathered and analysed;
- x. Enabling of Party ownership over the process.

3. Linkages

- (a) Article 14.1 provides that the GST will take stock of implementation of the Paris Agreement. Linkages can therefore be derived from explicit references to Article 14 in other articles of the Agreement, as well as obligations to be implemented throughout the Agreement.
- (b) To take stock of implementation of the Paris Agreement, the GST shall review all elements of the Agreement. The GST should be an assessment of the action elements in all provisions of the Agreement and take stock of implementation of each of these actions, including action elements for mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, transparency, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity building, and other elements of the Paris Agreement.
- (c) Due to the linkages between the GST and the elements of the Paris Agreement outlined in paragraph 2.3(b) above, development of modalities under other APA agenda items and the Paris Agreement work programme should take into account the development

of modalities under APA agenda item 6 relating to the GST, and consider how these modalities can contribute to the effectiveness of the GST.

Outcome of the GST

4. Art. 14 of the Paris Agreement, provides that the outcome of the GST will inform Parties in:
 - (a) Updating and enhancing their actions and support; and
 - (b) Enhancing international cooperation for climate action.
5. This outcome should be a holistic assessment of collective progress towards the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals based on taking stock of the implementation of the Agreement.
 - (a) This involves taking stock of implementation on all elements of the Paris Agreement, including:
 - i. Mitigation, to inform the communication of enhanced ambition in mitigation component of NDCs;
 - ii. Adaptation:
 - Recognizing adaptation efforts of developing country Parties;
 - Enhancing the implementation of adaptation action taking into account the adaptation communication referred to in 7.10;
 - Reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support provided for adaptation; and
 - Reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation referred to in A7.1.
 - iii. Loss and damage, including taking stock of implementation of the collective obligation to enhance understanding, action and support on loss and damage;
 - iv. Finance, taking into account the relevant information provided by developed country Parties and/or Agreement bodies on efforts related to climate finance;
 - v. Technology development and transfer, taking into account available information on efforts related to support on technology development and transfer for developing country Parties; and
 - vi. Capacity building, taking stock of efforts to enhance the capacity and ability of developing country parties to take effective climate change action.
 - (b) These assessments should be aggregated and evaluated against the purpose of the Agreement, as set out in Art. 2, and its long-term goals to provide the assessment of collective progress.
6. The outcomes of the GST should, in doing so:

- (a) Provide relevant information to determine whether efforts to implement the Paris Agreement are ambitious and fair, reflecting the greater capacity and responsibility of many countries;
- (b) Represent an evaluation against equity and best available science, in a balanced manner;
- (c) Identify opportunities of enhancing international cooperation;
- (d) Identify gaps in terms of action and support;
- (e) Encourage parties to raise ambition in all areas with enhanced NDCs, including enhanced mitigation ambition in the context of Article 4.11;
- (f) Be communicated in a clear and straightforward way, which makes taking action to fill any gaps identified under the GST easier.

Modalities of the GST

7. The CMA shall undertake its first GST in 2023 and every five years thereafter unless otherwise decided, consistent with Art. 14.2.
8. The CMA will oversee the overall conduct of the GST, with support from subsidiary bodies, constituted bodies, secretariat, and other relevant bodies.
9. The GST process should be facilitative; open and transparent; inclusive; efficient; effective; balanced and holistic; and party-driven.
10. Developed country Parties should mobilise capacity-building support for effective participation by LDCs, SIDS and other developing countries.
11. A common format to capture the information provided for the GST is required. This will be based on all elements of the Paris Agreement. The guidance for reporting should be robust and fit-for-purpose with outputs based on good, reliable, complete, comparable data. The common format should be developed to ensure synergies with reporting under the transparency framework, to enable greater efficiency, prevent duplication of work and ensure the inputs into the GST are familiar to, and can be understood by, all Parties.
12. The GST will go through a series of phases, with dynamic interaction between each phase. These phases are:
 - (a) Information gathering and call for inputs
 - i. The CMA will make a general call for inputs from Parties, constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, UN Agencies, IPCC and other scientific bodies, civil society organizations and other identified sources of input.
 - ii. Information gathered will include inputs across all elements of the Paris Agreement in accordance with the GST's mandate to take stock of

implementation of the Agreement, including mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity building.

(b) Compilation and synthesis

- i. Information shall be collated by the Secretariat into an agreed format, which shall be developed as outlined in paragraph 4.11 above.
- ii. The Secretariat should be invited to undertake a synthesis of the information in a manner which is concise and facilitates the ability of Parties and the technical review committee to understand the information without compromising the quality or comprehensiveness of the information gathered.

(c) Technical phase

- i. The technical phase should include a review of information from the compilation and synthesis process including underlying assumptions and methodologies that have been applied, and a subsequent assessment of inputs.
- ii. A technical review committee should be established by the CMA to review the information.
- iii. The CMA should conduct a technical expert meeting to review, and subsequently assess, the information provided and to make recommendations for appropriate responses.

(d) Facilitative progression/high-level phase

- i. Once all the inputs have been reviewed and assessed, the CMA should establish a high-level process to make recommendations to further enhance action under the Agreement.
- ii. In addition, the CMA should provide the opportunity for Parties and Civil Society Organizations to ask questions regarding the outcomes of the GST and provide inputs and recommendations for future GST rounds.

13. The CMA shall establish a subsidiary body similar to the Structured Expert Dialogue which shall be responsible for conducting the procedures outlined under the four phases in paragraph 4.12 above and shall report back to the CMA.

14. The overall duration of the GST shall allow adequate time for each phase to be undertaken in a comprehensive manner, with fixed milestones along the way to ensure the timely completion of each GST.

15. Equity should be considered throughout the GST. Outputs of the body responsible for conducting the GST should outline how the principle of equity was incorporated.

Sources of input

16. Sources of input shall reflect the comprehensive and balanced nature of the GST, encompassing all elements of the Paris Agreement through a holistic approach.

17. Paragraph 99 of decision 1/CP.21 outlines an initial, non-exhaustive list of sources of input, including:
- (a) Information on:
 - i. the overall effect of NDCs, covering all elements of the Paris Agreement;
 - ii. the state of adaptation efforts, support, experiences and priorities;
 - iii. the mobilisation and provision of support;
 - (b) The latest reports of the IPCC; and
 - (c) Reports of the Subsidiary Bodies.
18. Additional sources of input to those outlined in Paragraph 99 of decision 1/CP.21 should include, but are not limited to:
- (a) Inputs from technical expert review and facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress under the Paris Agreement;
 - (b) National communications under the Convention;
 - (c) Biennial reports of Parties;
 - (d) National inventory reports of Parties;
 - (e) Reports from constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, such as the Adaptation Committee, the CTCN, the Warsaw Mechanism on Loss and Damage, the Least Developed Country Expert Group, etc;
 - (f) Reports from UN bodies (e.g. UNEP gap reports);
 - (g) Information from regional groups and institutions;
 - (h) Information from civil society; and
 - (i) Synthesis report by Secretariat on aggregate effect of NDCs undertaken after the review in 2019.
19. These sources and additional sources should enable the taking stock of implementation, in a comprehensive and balanced manner, across all elements of the Paris Agreement, including:
- (a) Generic/overarching elements relating to fulfilling the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement;
 - (b) Mitigation-specific elements;
 - (c) Adaptation-specific elements;
 - (d) Loss and damage-specific elements;
 - (e) Finance-specific elements (including support needed, provided and received);

- (f) Technology development and transfer-specific elements (including support needed provided and received);
- (g) Capacity building-specific elements (including support needed, provided and received); and
- (h) Sources of input relating to other elements as relevant.

20. Approach for identifying additional sources of input:

- (a) A range of inputs will be provided from the sources identified and these will evolve over time with the Paris Agreement. The holistic nature of GST means the scope of inputs should not be constrained and a durable structure should be developed that is broad and fluid enough to give a true assessment of collective progress.
- (b) The CMA shall build a non-exhaustive list of sources of input that is durable, ensuring the GST can effectively continue to take stock of implementation with successive rounds of commitments and actions under the Paris Agreement into the future, taking into account:
 - i. Balance between mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, and means of implementation and support, and between IPCC and non-IPCC (inputs that derive from the UNFCCC processes and are not explicitly mandated to the IPCC).
 - ii. Prioritize official inputs from Parties (also allow inputs from NPS, where appropriate).
 - iii. Include sources of input on equity, and other topics.
 - iv. Be linked to purpose and information needs.
- (c) The CMA shall update the non-exhaustive list of sources of input prior to each GST as appropriate, to ensure a dynamic process that can adapt over time. Any updates to this list should ensure the GST remains robust and effective in meeting its objectives and takes into account:
 - i. The best available science, particularly findings and outputs of the IPCC;
 - ii. The importance of leveraging national level reporting; and
 - iii. The value of authoritative third-Party analysis.