

“Matters Relating to the Global Stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement”

Submission by India – On behalf of the LMDC Group

India welcomes the opportunity, on behalf of the LMDC, to make this submission to the Co-facilitators and the Climate Change Secretariat, in relation to the First Technical Dialogue of the Technical Assessment and First Joint Contact Group of the Technical Assessment of the First Global Stocktake (2023 GST), to be held at the 56th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB56) in June 2022.

I. General Observations –

Under the Convention, it is recognised that – ***“Parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Accordingly, the developed country Parties should take the lead in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof.”***– Article 3.1, UNFCCC

Also, under the Convention it is established that – ***“The extent to which developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments under the Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed country Parties of their commitments under the Convention related to financial resources and transfer of technology and will take fully into account that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of the developing country Parties.”*** – Article 4.7, UNFCCC

The above, by itself, can form the crux of the GST. From a plain reading of A.14.1 of the PA, it is clearly understood as stipulated that the GST process has to be based in Equity along with best available science. In furtherance to the goals and vision of the PA, it is important that Equity is assimilated within the GST in the context of economic and social development and poverty eradication as the overriding priorities for developing country Parties, and the developed countries taking lead; in providing means of implementation in terms of finance and technology development & transfer; to developing countries.

For a comprehensive, facilitative and inclusive GST that effectively serves its purpose, an aggregate assessment of progress has to be made based in Equity, of all climate actions i.e. mitigation, adaptation, means of implementation and support

(in terms of finance, technology transfer and development, and capacity building), and addressing the consequences of loss and damage and response measures and just transition of the workforce, in the context of impact of implementation of response measures.

The GST is to be shaped and conducted as a robust assessment that results in bridging the significant gaps in economic & social development and poverty eradication between developed and developing country Parties. How Parties move forward in addressing global climate change actions and gaps must be considered through the same comprehensive, facilitative and inclusive lens.

II. Specific Observations –

The focus areas for LMDC have been highlighted below, along with the Priority Issues that must be discussed / assessed during the 2023 GST's First Technical Dialogue –

1) Progress of actual Implementation

(a) Pre 2020 Gaps -

GST should aim to enable Parties to clearly assess where we actually stand, what progress we have achieved on the ground, and what are the implementation gaps and challenges for Parties, including with respect to how to address historical responsibility and the Pre-2020 implementation and ambition under the Convention and its related instruments, and to look forward in terms of what must be done to close the gaps to achieve our collective goals and how these actions could be delivered in a systemic and transformative way.

IPCC Assessment Report (AR4) and the most recent 1.5 degrees Special Report indicate *“significant gaps in pre-2020 action even amounting to up to 40-50% and called for emissions reductions by about 25-40% by developed countries in this period.”* – It was the IPCC that had indicated that developed countries must cut their GHGs emissions by at least 25-40% below 1990 levels by 2020; and to revisit their 2020 targets no later than 2014. Between 2008-2012, Annex I countries reduced emissions by only 5%. Thereafter, even after taking on the commitment to cut their GHGs emissions at least by 18% relative to 1990 levels between 2013 and 2020, the actual achievement is only 13% as per assessment reported by the Secretariat. It has been stated in as many words that the developed world's commitments were

significantly insufficient to respond to the call of science. To better understand the progress made National Inventory Reports of developed countries submitted by April 15th 2022 must serve as a necessary input for the First GST.

(b) Adaptation Gaps -

IPCC Sixth Assessment Report Working Group II (AR6-WG-II) report stressed that huge adaptation gaps between current levels of adaptation and levels needed to respond to impacts and to reduce climate risks are evident. However, lack of a comprehensive recognition and elaboration of adaptation gaps; assessment of progress in adaptation actions; defining the Global Goal on Adaptation quantitatively and qualitatively; present challenges to accelerate adaptation actions. It is vital to take stock of gaps and progress on adaptation in the technical dialogues of GST, and precipitate the establishment of the GGA.

(c) Finance Gaps -

The “Glasgow Climate Pact” urges the developed country Parties to fully deliver on the USD 100 billion goal urgently and through till 2025, and emphasizes the importance of transparency in the implementation of their pledges. It urges developed countries to at least double adaptation finance to developing countries from 2019 levels by 2025. Further, it emphasises the need to significantly increase financial support to developing countries. The decision welcomed initiation of structured deliberations on a new collective quantified goal on climate finance, and looked forward to the ad-hoc work program established under the CMA3 from 2022 to 2024 towards this goal. In addition, the Standing Committee on Finance has been mandated to work towards arriving at definitions of Climate Finance.

Priority Areas: The Technical Dialogue of GST must also highlight the non-fulfillment of the Pre 2020 climate finance goal, discuss gaps between funding scale and needs of developing countries in terms of public funding, and new and additional funding.

The GST must produce synthesis report on the actual progress and gaps in implementation, including good practices and lessons to inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support, as well as international cooperation for climate action.

2) Ambition

The outcome of the Global Stocktake, as per Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, is to inform parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions **and support**. With the commencement of the first GST, a number of developed country Parties expressed their lack of intention to raise their emissions reduction targets in the short-term. The reluctance puts the PA's ambition mechanism at risk.

The GST should be used to understand ambition and implementation priorities in their entirety, relying on the best available science in a forward-looking and non-biased way.

Priority Area: The Technical Dialogue must explain Ambition in a comprehensive manner, by clearly bringing out leadership of developed countries towards more ambitious climate change actions (in relation to implementation and support provided towards finance; technology development and transfer; and capacity building). This is vital for the following reasons –

- i. to allow developing countries the carbon space to meet their development needs;
- ii. to reflect the equitable sharing of the global carbon budget (in line with the historical responsibilities of the developed countries);
- iii. to ensure ambition and inform the next cycle of actions and support,
- iv. to operationalize Equity;
- v. to promote global climate change actions, in context of poverty eradication, sustainable development, economic diversification efforts, and elimination of gaps in social & economic development between developed and developing countries; and
- vi. attain the just and equitable transition of the workforce alongside sustainable development.

3) Leadership

The Technical Dialogue must discuss progress as follows, *inter alia*, in context of leadership of the Developed Country Parties –

- Since the Developed countries continue to lead in their current and historical levels of carbon emissions, therefore they must lead in their efforts to address issues arising from and pertaining to climate change.
- Keeping in view the differentiated responsibilities identified within the provisions of the PA, an assessment of gaps in the efforts of the Developed Country Parties in controlling and mitigating their emissions must be provided.
- In addition to the aggregate support provided by the Developed countries to the Developing countries, in areas of aggregate financial support and proof of support in technology transfer and development, a review of the support provided for meeting adaptation goals must also be made.

4) Equity

Equity, as provisioned under A. 2.2 of the PA, is an important aspect of the GST. The operationalization of Equity and CBDR therefore needs to be understood in the following light, especially with respect to GST –

- First, Equity and CBDR-RC must be the basis for all climate change actions, i.e. mitigation, adaptation, and means of implementation and support in terms of finance, technology development and transfer and capacity building.
- Second, such efforts at protecting the climate and combating issues pertaining to and arising from climate change must be in accordance with common but differentiated responsibilities.
- Third, the efforts of individual Parties will depend on their national circumstances and respective capabilities.

Priority Area: Co-facilitators must develop benchmarks and indicators to ensure that Equity is not only deemed to have been considered but is actually operationalized from the commencement till the outcome of the GST; whatever form the output may take.

A concrete operationalization of Equity may be understood in the context of –

- **Equity of individual** – outcome to affect all individuals.
- **Equitable outcome for nations** – All countries are entitled to equitable access to development. However, nations which have enjoyed benefits of

development have limited the available carbon space for those nations that were not on a high development trajectory. Equity is essential to help the latter attain their developmental goals.

- **Inter-Generational Equity** – This is a fundamental requirement and is the foundation of sustainable development. However, we emphasise that efforts at poverty eradication, the ramping up of the provision of basic services and assuring well-being of all are also an integral part of intergenerational equity.
- **Equitable distribution of the carbon space** – This is essential to operationalize the concept of equity, and is an essential part of low-carbon development that will eventually lead to a just transition, while allowing all developing countries to achieve their over-riding priorities of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

5) Ensuring a comprehensive and facilitative GST

GST cannot meet the same fate as the Talanoa Dialogue and other similar processes of review. The activities being planned under GST must be inventive in approach so as to help Parties reach their maximum effective participation potential. Co-facilitators may consider thinking beyond round tables and presentations and may plan activities which ensure more interaction between Experts, Parties and all other stakeholders. Co-facilitators must ensure adequate time is given to actual stocktaking instead of mere presentations and Q & A.

Priority Area: 2023 GST must assess the gaps in all Pre 2020 actions and commitments, including the means of implementation and support provided. GST may pose as the frontline, lending considerable focus on Adaptation and Means of Implementation and Support, consequences of Loss & Damage and Response Measures.
