

Arab Group Submission – On “the Global Goal on Adaptation”

Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group appreciates the opportunity to submit its views and inputs on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) for the first technical dialogue. The Arab Group reserves the right to make additional submissions and present further views in the future or during the sessions.

General Considerations:

- **Recalling Article 7.1 of the Paris Agreement**, establishing the Global Goal of Adaptation with a view to **enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability** to climate change. The GGA needs to be defined both qualitatively and quantitatively. Therefore, there needs to be a clear outlining of the definition and scope for the GGA, to avoid any derailing of efforts towards developing country parties’ achieving their adaptation related ambitions and goals.
- **Any work established under the Paris Agreement, shall be done in accordance with the principles of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement**, and in particular, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. It should also consider the specific needs and different national circumstances of developing country Parties, different socio-economic contexts, and shall not burden developing country Parties with any further commitments.
- Work done towards achieving and defining the GGA should take into account national circumstances, need and priorities, in the context of sustainable development.

1. What is the collective progress made towards achieving Article 2.1(b) of the Paris Agreement, in the light of equity and the best available science?

- As one of the main pillars of the Paris Agreement, adaptation action serves as a top priority for developing countries. Progress has been made ever since the establishment of the National communication in 1992, to report on climate change impacts, and to assess risks and vulnerabilities.
- Ever since many programs have followed, for example on sharing knowledge & lessons learned; the Nairobi work program was established to further enhance adaptation knowledge in vulnerable regions.
- On finance, Decision 10/CP.7 establishing the Adaptation fund to finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing country parties that are parties to the Kyoto Protocol. Through decisions 13/CMA.1 and 1/CMP.14, it was decided that the Adaptation fund shall serve the Paris agreement.
- Solutions to adapt to the effects of climate change take many shapes and forms, depending on the unique context of a country, community, city, business, or organization, country, region etc., and the specific impacts of climate change. There is no "one-size-fits-all-solution" when it comes to climate change adaptation.
- As we recall, article 2.1(b), we must recall article 2.2 **“This Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances”**

2. What is the overall progress in achieving the global goal on adaptation, in the context of climate impacts, risks and vulnerabilities (Article 7.14 (d) Paris Agreement)?

- Progress made towards achieving the Global goal on Adaptation has not yet been fulfilled as mandated by the Paris Agreement Article 7.1

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- **The Arab group is of the view that the Global Goal on Adaptation needs to be concise, it shall see further implementation of Adaptation plans and measures; to address climate change impacts and reduce the risk emanating from the temperature goal as stipulated in article of the Paris agreement aiming to hold the global average temperature below 2 and pursuing efforts to limit temperature increase to 1.5c above pre-industrial levels.**
- The Arab Group believes that to fully achieve the GGA, we must enhance the means of implementation, including finance, technology transfer, and capacity building. Currently, support for means of implementation is insufficient and without adequate support and enhancement of the means of implementation, it would be difficult to fulfill the obligations towards achieving the GGA or make any needed progress towards achieving our climate goals and ambitions.
- The GGA must be a global goal in nature, and not designed to fit a certain region or country. In addition, it shall also acknowledge and maintain flexibility to developing countries, and takes into account the different national circumstances of countries, while stressing on the commitment of Developed Countries in providing support to the means of implementation.

3. How adequate and effective are current adaptation efforts and support provided for adaptation (Article 7.14 (c) Paris Agreement)?

- Access to adaptation finance and support hasn't been an easy journey for developing countries; As prolonged processes towards adaptation projects in particular, are delaying much needed and time sensitive support.
- Support must provide to enable developing countries to report their respective adaptation action; To fully reflect our goals and ambitions, we must acknowledge reporting of adaptation actions in the Nationally Determined Contributions; and provide support to countries to enhance their abilities to report on such actions through the existing mechanisms.

Reflecting on the Global Goal on Adaptation:

the GGA must be a global goal in nature, and not designed to fit a certain region or country. In addition, it shall also acknowledge and maintain flexibility to developing countries, and considers the different national circumstances of countries, while stressing on the commitment of Developed Countries in providing support to the means of implementation.

As for the qualitative and quantitative indicators of adaptation actions, the Arab Group is of the view that the such indicators **could exist in many forms, including but not limited to** the number of projects implemented, studies published, emission reduction, and socioeconomic factors or indicators.

Adaptation actions can have many mitigation co-benefits. For example, the use of clean energy sources and technologies, undertaken by the developing countries to adapt to climate change. However, the transfer of technology and financial support will be necessary to enable, such adaptation actions as our countries embark on our respective transition pathways.

The Arab Group is looking forward to working with all parties and groups towards fully establishing the GGA, and towards the full implementation of the Paris Agreement.