

## Input from South Africa

# Equity in the GST

Assoc with G77 and Africa

Thanks for time to discuss, and very interesting interventions.

Equity is important in order to reach agreement. Equity is an enabler of ambition. If countries consider the others are also doing their relative fair share, we will be willing to also do more. To all collectively raise of level of ambition, we need to be know that others are also doing more. So we need to explain to each other how our efforts are fair – and how together, they will be enough. And as a matter of fairness, those with greater capacity need to assist those with less to bridge the gap and adapt to the rapidly intensifying impacts of climate change.

In Lima, Parties were invited to include information on how their INDCs are “fair and ambitious”. Most addressed equity to some extent, referring to a limited set of indicators (about 11 – to Marianne: not agree a single indicator, but look at several used by Parties, and range across those; Adriano: includes global average temperature increase – HR is one of the indicators, but the only one). There is much more literature on ambition (e.g. UNEP gap report), so additional analysis and guidance on equity is necessary. [Equity is referenced repeatedly in Convention; and PA – preamble, Articles 2.2, 4.1, 14.1 – but no explicit mention in adaptation.]

Explain what equity in GST is about, and what it is not about. Then some initial ideas on how to operationalize.

- 1) Equity in GST applies to mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation.
  - a) In relation to mitigation, there are concepts such as effort-sharing, as well as opportunity-sharing.
  - b) In relation to adaptation, the lack of mitigation ambition means that climate change impacts will be greater (than with higher ambition). Poorer countries will suffer more from the same impacts than richer countries, which is not fair. Therefore the funding of adaptation is a matter of equity.
  - c) Means of implementation therefore need to address the question ‘who pays’ to bridge the emissions gap and to support adaptation.
- 2) What equity in the GST is not about
  - a) Not about any Party accepting the results of a mathematical formula.
  - b) Equity in GST will not prescribe to any country its subsequent NDC, that will be nationally determined, this is agreed in Art 14.3
- 3) Equity reference framework (ERF) - ‘reference’ relevant to GST in two ways
  - a) Reference to NDCs: How Parties have referred to what is “fair”
  - b) Analysis of a range of indicators – to provide context for discussion
- 4) To operationalize in template – cross-cutting
  - a) Across mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support (Art 14.1)
  - b) Across building blocks: Through the collection of information, technical consideration and input to political consideration (but the outcome will not make finding on any individual party; but each Party shall take into account the outcome, in a nationally determined

manner set its future contributions.

- 5) Relating this to the template ((version of 9 November 2017 <sup>1</sup>)
  - a) Overall activities/phases/adjustment of modalities relevant to all building blocks
    - i) Seek reassurance that placing equity in this section will not marginalize it as a preambular recitation.
    - ii) Further elaborate the bullet: Cross-cutting means a) across the GST process; b) across mitigation; adaptation; and means of implementation and support
  - b) Activity A - Preparatory phase/Information gathering and compilation/Technical input
    - i) In calling for inputs: Include call for analyses of equity in relation to M, A and MOI; on a range of indicators (see para 27 of FCCC/CP/2016/2), benchmarks on each metric (min, max, average), drawing on analyses with due regard to geographical balance
    - ii) In compilation and synthesis: include in the request to the Secretariat to collate information and publish on web-site: a synthesis and aggregation of information on equity in mitigation NDCs; equity in relation to adaptation to adaptation NDCs or other adaptation communications; and equity in relation to information on support. The information should continue to report the limited range of indicators used by Parties and give the range of values across countries (benchmarks - min, max, avg). This could be done separately, or as part of updating the synthesis report on aggregate effects.
  - c) Activity B - Technical phase/Technical consideration of inputs, take stock, assess collective progress and prepare outputs/Technical Consideration
    - i) Present synthesised and aggregated information from Activity A (limited range of indicators; value across countries (benchmarks – min, max, average)
    - ii) Consideration by Parties (in joint SB session), in context of implementation of Paris Agreement and assessing collective progress towards achieving its purpose and long-term goals. (thereby operationalizing “in the light of equity and best available science”
    - iii) Outputs, or rather desired outcome: Parties understand where they fit in the range of an indicator of equity they have used in their NDC; and the relative fair shares of other NDCs – without any judgement on individual NDCs
  - d) Activity C - Political phase/Consideration of outputs/Closure of the GST – Outcome
    - i) Information on equity is part of information presented
    - ii) Ministers consider relative fair shares, based on the output presented. However, there is no output on individual NDCs, but the output of the GST “shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support”. In other words, countries take these into their domestic processes to prepare successive contributions.
    - iii) Parties may wish to take “ into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities,” (preamble of PA)
  - e) Sources of input
    - i) IPCC: Sixth Assessment Report across Working Group I, II and III; IPCC special reports (e.g. 1.5 °C; future SRs) Russia – agree add to IPCC. More information on ambition than equity
    - ii) Other analyses of equity in mitigation: adaptation; and means of implementation and support (see also call for inputs). Others – Canada and others – SCF reports addressing financial pathways and distributional issues

Happy to provide in writing; expect to see in next e

We expect during 2018 to further elaborate and fully operationalize equity, as we develop the source of inputs, modalities and outcome of the global stocktake