

Submission by Climate Analytics (CA) Caribbean and the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) on behalf of the Caribbean Climate Justice Alliance (CCJA)

March 2023

MANDATE(S) Decision 19/CMA.21: *'[The CMA] requested the Chairs of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to issue a call for the inputs referred to in paragraphs 36 and 37 of the same decision, taking into account that such inputs should be submitted at least three months before their consideration in the technical assessment.'*

Introduction

Pursuant to Decision 19/CMA.21 on matters relating to the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement¹, Climate Analytics (CA) Caribbean and the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) on behalf of the Caribbean Climate Justice Alliance (CCJA)² are pleased to provide their **[views on the approach to the consideration of outputs component of the first global stocktake (GST)], inputs for consideration at the third meeting of the technical dialogue of the first GST.**

¹ FCCC/SB/2022/L.8.

² *The Caribbean Climate Justice Alliance (CCJA) was convened on August 9, 2022 by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) and Panos Caribbean. It is supported under the project, "Amplifying local voices for a just, climate resilient COVID-19 recovery", which is being implemented by CANARI in collaboration with Panos Caribbean with funding from the Open Society Foundations (OSF). The CCJA brings together leading civil society organisations (CSOs), academia, creatives and other non-state actors and their networks working across different sectors and aspects of climate justice – economic, environmental and social justice – to build a regional coalition and grassroots movement to transform policy and practice and catalyse action on the ground.* List of Allies: Caribbean Natural Resources Institute; Climate Analytics Caribbean; Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Research Centre at University of The Bahamas; Climate Tracker; Environmental Protection in the Caribbean (EPIC); Freedom Imaginaries; GirlsCARE Jamaica; International Development Empowerment and Representation Agency (iDERA); Panos Caribbean; Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services at University of the West Indies, Cave Hill (SRC); SOLORICON for the Caribbean Climate Justice Project; The Breadfruit Collective; The Cropper Foundation; Malcom Ferdinand, Researcher, University Paris Dauphine; Simone Ganpat, Kairi Initiatives; Emma Lewis, Blogger and Activist; Danielle Nembhard, Ph.D. Researcher, James Cook University; Vanda Radzik, Gender and Environment Activist; Christianne Zakour.

The Global Stocktake (GST) is a key element in the Paris Agreement for achieving our common objective of enhancing the collective ambition of action and support towards achieving the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. Article 2 of the Paris Agreement sets long-term goals that means all Parties need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance adaptive capacity, and ensure finance flows are in line with low-emissions and climate- resilient development, while implementing the Paris Agreement to reflect equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances.

The GST's outcome pursuant to Art. 14.3 of the Paris Agreement "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", and thereby advance coherently in the achievement of the Paris Agreement's long-term goals.

In light of equity and the best available science, the GST's results should be focused on the actions, solutions, and political messages needed to spark the necessary changes in mitigation, adaptation, means of implementation and support, and loss and damage in order to keep the global average temperature increase under 1.5°C and achieve climate-resilient development.

CCJA Priorities

The CCJA is calling for an outcome that informs and urges Parties to update and enhance their actions and support, as well as to boost international cooperation for climate action, in an action-oriented and forward-looking manner. As such, the CCJA has identified five (5) priority areas under the thematic areas of the GST emphasizing the need for climate change mitigation, adaptation and finance strategies from a justice and equity viewpoint.

1. Curbing emissions to limit global temperature increase to 1.5°C

The world's top economies and emitters must take swift action and step up their pledges in order to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and address the climate issue. They must set more ambitious emissions targets for 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050. To keep the 1.5°C target within reach, all nations, but notably the G20, which is responsible for around 75% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, must demonstrate resolution and intensify their efforts beginning immediately.

The CCJA calls for real commitments to result from the outcome of the GST, not empty promises, from world leaders and large corporations to avoid catastrophic climate impacts in our Caribbean islands and other developing countries. Specifically, the CCJA advocates for ambitious targets from the G20 countries to align their 2030 Nationally Determined Contributions with the 1.5C goal and a pathway consistent with achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

2. Scaling up locally-led and ecosystem-based solutions for adaptation and resilience

The CCJA is calling for locally-led adaptation that enables local actors, such as indigenous peoples, people of African descent, and frontline communities, businesses and resource users like small-scale farmers and fisherfolk, the ability to plan and implement solutions. In order to effectively track and measure progress in line with the Principles for locally-led Adaptation and take into consideration the quantity and quality of climate finance granted, locally-led adaptation must be included in the Global

Goal on Adaptation (GGA). Frontline communities and civil society organizations must be actively involved in the Glasgow-Sharma El-Sheikh (GlaSS) work program within the framework of the Paris Agreement and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The CCJA further calls for a GST outcome that promotes:

- i. Investing in conserving, sustainably managing and restoring ecosystems with emphasis on protecting local livelihoods;
- ii. Implementation of ecosystem-based approaches with stakeholder engagement and consideration of livelihoods;
- iii. Use of local and scientific knowledge of all stakeholders involved;
- iv. Ensuring good governance;
- v. Balancing conservation and development goals for socio-economic benefits responding to local needs, especially of the most vulnerable, to achieve fair and equitable outcomes.

3. Improving access to and delivery of climate finance for frontline communities, small and microenterprises and civil society organisations as part of a 'whole of society' approach

Lack of finance has repeatedly been reported as the main factor hindering adaptation in SIDS. As these nations are collectively responsible for less than 1% of global emissions, the 'polluter pays' principle means that there is a need for developed countries to provide long-overdue support for climate action. Despite high vulnerability to climate change and high levels of external debt, middle-to-high-income Caribbean SIDS have limited access to climate finance as they are not eligible for certain funds. The COVID-19 crisis has further constrained the financial resources of Caribbean SIDS and is expected to have significant implications for adaptation. Funds previously earmarked for adaptation projects have been diverted to COVID19 responses, and rapidly changing priorities disrupt adaptation planning and implementation processes.

Debt-for-climate swaps have long been proposed as an alternative source of climate finance for developing countries. Debt cancellation, suspension or rescheduling may also be components of an overall restructuring of debt. In the Caribbean, debt-for-climate swaps have been proposed by a range of regional bodies, and there have been a few small-scale bilateral swaps, mostly focusing on broader environmental issues such as conservation.

The CCJA calls for the GST outcome to promote initiatives which reform the world of development finance in developing countries in relation to coping and adapting to climate change.

The CCJA further supports any amendments to terms and conditions of loans and interest and principal repayments to prevent developing nations spiralling into a debt crisis when borrowing is increased due to successive disasters like floods, droughts and storms. The CCJA calls upon development banks to increase their lending portfolios to focus on building climate resilience in climate-vulnerable countries and urges the private sector to set up a new mechanism for funding climate mitigation and reconstruction after a climate disaster.

The CCJA further calls for the outcome of the GST to reflect a global commitment to:

- i. Finance in the form of grants, not loans;
- ii. Streamlined and simplified application processes for improved access to finance by local level actors;

- iii. The use of and strengthening of local intermediaries at national and regional levels to effectively channel finance to vulnerable local communities, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and CSOs;
- iv. Ensuring a balance between adaptation and mitigation finance; and
- v. Strengthening local CSOs and MSMEs organisational capacity to deliver climate finance.

4. Ensuring that the loss and damage funding arrangements to be operationalised at COP28 are appropriately and efficiently directed

It is essential to ensure that there are systems in place to guarantee that financial resources for loss and damage are directed to the local level to aid people on the front lines. In this light, an urgent call is made for the inclusion of CSOs at the decision-making levels to offer their input and experiences as to the effective utilization of received funds. **The GST outputs on loss and damage should promote civil society participation in all future discussions under the Paris Agreement on funding arrangements for loss and damage.**

The CCJA also calls for **new, additional, predictable and adequate financial resources** to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change **in responding** to economic and non-economic loss and damage associated with the adverse of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, especially in the context of ongoing and **ex post** (including rehabilitation, recovery, reconstruction, resettlement and building resilience) action.³

5. Supporting a just transition for pro-poor, inclusive, sustainable and resilient development

The CCJA is calling for a just transition of the workforce and worker families, including both formal and informal workers, across a variety of economic sectors and a reorientation of development toward a model that diversifies the energy matrix and transitions to clean, renewable technologies, energy efficiency, and sustainable agri-food systems.

The CCJA notes that the outcome of the GST should persuade parties to develop sector specific policies; not only energy but also extractive, agricultural, fisheries and other specific important sectors unique to the country.

The CCJA submits that all just transition work must be participatory in its approach; from decision making to processes and policies. Collaboration among the different sectors – integrated, cross-sectoral approaches are necessary. Also, the use of contextually appropriate technologies and solutions that centre the needs of the most marginalised and promote equity in the distribution of benefits needs to be integrated into just transition policies. The CCJA further urges inclusivity and effective communication strategies especially for Indigenous communities, taking into account different world views.

The CCJA notes that the transition must be monitored and evaluated to track progress and further reported in the NDCs of countries and any just transition policy must be accompanied by

³ Submission by iGST Latin America and the Caribbean, Transforma, CDP et al. March 2023

implementation plans and external review (with national and regional experts) avoiding un-managed transitions.

Assuring open and informed civil society engagement, especially with frontline communities and businesses, in identifying priorities to define future development as well as evaluating implementation and progress made are also crucial for advancing the objectives of a just transition. To promote pro-poor, inclusive, sustainable, and resilient development and the protection of human rights, this approach should establish links with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and international human rights standards.

Conclusion

The CCJA hopes that the GST's outputs will include messages and recommendations that will align the UNFCCC's processes and work in the aforementioned direction. These outputs, in particular any political declaration should also address messages for the larger global community outside of the UNFCCC and include as part of the technical assessment a list of high-impact solutions, sectoral transformations, incentive programs and information gaps that must be boosted or closed as soon as possible in this pivotal decade. In light of justice and equity, the CCJA anticipates that the GST outputs are transformed into straightforward, useful instruments that are utilized to implement, inter alia, the best NDC-improving policies, techniques, and strategies.