



## ICC Submission to First Global Stocktake

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) – as the official UNFCCC Focal Point for Business and Industry and as institutional representative of 45 million companies of all sizes, sectors and in over 170 countries – is deeply committed to the Global Stocktake (GST) process.

We express our sincere appreciation to the Subsidiary Bodies (SB) Chairs, the Co-Facilitators, the UNFCCC Secretariat for their hard work and dedication and providing the opportunity to business and other non-Party stakeholders to actively participate and contribute in the first meeting of the First Technical Dialogue in Bonn in June 2022. We consider this first meeting as an encouraging start with many successful elements and some important key messages that need to be built upon in further GST sessions.

We particularly appreciated efforts of the Co-facilitators to design and develop an innovative and engaging dialogue that encouraged an open, transparent exchange between all stakeholders. The World Café gave supportive and fertile ground for the generation of ideas and suggestions ready for cross-fertilisation, while the roundtables provided a needed formal space and strengthened sense of collaboration between all participants, bringing the essential issues to light. The alternation between interventions from Parties and Observers in the opening and closing plenaries found a good resonance and should be replicated for all future sessions.

The inclusive, multilateral and multilevel nature of the GST process has the immense potential to inform upcoming Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and therefore, can shape global progress towards the Paris Agreement climate objectives. There is an essential and dynamic role to play by the private sector and other non-Party stakeholders in providing inputs and engaging in the GST according to needs of the global climate policy community.

Against the backdrop of scientific evidence presented by the IPCC over the past month, and in the course of the first meeting of the Technical Dialogue in Bonn, we are reminded of the fundamental importance of the science/policy/non-State-actors interface as we move into implementation mode. Business, in particular, in all its diversity is essential to bridge the gap between ambition and implementation at the needed scale and pace – and therefore to successfully deliver collective and focused action.

Over 7,000 businesses and 500 of the biggest investors have joined the UN Race to Zero, and financial leaders managing \$130 trillion in assets are committed to 1.5°C. Over 1800 businesses have pledged to become net zero by 2030. SMEs are also rising to the climate change challenge in a number of ways. An increasing amount of initiatives and commitments registered on the NAZCA portal and the growing participation of business and industry representatives at the annual Conference Of the Parties (COP) as well as intersessional technical meetings demonstrates the ever-sharpening focus of business on climate change action.

While we welcome the areas identified for contributions from the private sector, we recommend beginning to explore how the GST can reflect and include private sector and non-State actor expertise more formally and substantively to proportionally reflect and thereby strengthen the scope and envisioned outcomes of the GST.

The private sector is particularly well placed to advance implementation, bringing real-world experiences from companies of all sizes, sectors and regions in a way that can inform on cutting-edge mitigation, adaptation, climate finance and investment, technology innovation and deployment, sustainable economic growth and just transition.

Nurturing the relationship between business, other civil society groups, governments, the scientific community with the UNFCCC and COP processes can and will lead to further commitments and more ambitious actions in the run-up to, and beyond COP27.

As we move further in our implementation process, we would like to offer the following concrete suggestions for consideration for the second meeting of the First Technical Dialogue and GST process going forward:

- **Enhance engagement of regional actors, in particular from developing countries:** Cities, regions, businesses, financial institutions, academia and local communities will play a crucial role in the implementation of the Paris Agreement in the coming years. ICC believes that the GST process can help to further connect the international process and Party representatives with these key stakeholders to catalyse implementation, gather relevant expertise, capacity and technology and bring climate action to the next level. Further leveraging the opportunity of the UNFCCC Regional Climate Weeks and holding local, national, regional technical meetings to promote broader participation and input from developing country experts could be explored in this regard and we are pleased to hear from different stakeholder groups that there is broader support for such regional events to be hosted in support of the GST. Guidance and suggestions from the UNFCCC Secretariat and the Co-Facilitators on how these regional events could be structured, be made visible and branded and how outcomes could be captured in the official UNFCCC GST process could be helpful.
- **Couple regional GST meetings with focused technical sectoral discussions:** ICC encourages regional technical expert meetings to be aligned with sector-specific sessions to draw on the knowledge, experience and best practices of businesses and other actors engaged in climate action in the relevant sectors, in particular in developing countries. Sectorial discussions can support Parties in the GST process, in enhancing their understanding of the overall effects and impacts of countries' NDCs on different economic sectors and inform them about gaps and opportunities that may be relevant when revising their NDCs. These regional and sectoral technical dialogues can further facilitate the development and implementation of clear national decarbonisation and net zero strategies and effective and supportive climate policies that are based on the latest available science. Such regional discussions will be of particularly importance when translating outcomes from GST into concrete practical actions. Seeking input from regional organisations and experts groups and also closely involving UNFCCC Constituted Bodies and operating entities that provide advice, technical input and expertise to

advance the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement in the GST process would be of particular value.

- **Build on and strengthen the critical role of the High-Level Climate Champions, the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and the UNFCCC Constituencies** in providing insights, expertise and best practices to the UNFCCC and COP process and the GST. In particular, focus should be concentrated upon how to enhance implementation through the provision of information non-State-actors actions/achievements, relevant data, barriers and opportunities for implementation and the impacts of existing policy measures as well as developing concrete solutions and actions that emerge from the GST.
- **Focus on action and practical solutions:** We look to the co-facilitators and UNFCCC Secretariat to translate the outcomes of this first Technical Meeting and present the main messages as a basis for further GST sessions. While the GST is an important moment to assess progress made across all pillars of the Paris Agreement, business sees the GST also as a critical process to identify concrete actions and solutions that can be acted upon by Parties, business and other non-Party stakeholders, with a particular focus on actions for governments to undertake with regards to their domestic technical and policy work in order to enhance their NDCs action and ambition. We therefore believe that future sessions could focus more prominently on concrete actions on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support that could be diffused and taken collectively.

Business sees the GST as a key instrument of the Paris Agreement to collectively assess the progress made towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement across mitigation, adaptation, finance and all means of implementation, but also as a key building block in raising not only the ambition but also increasing the chances of successfully delivering collective action and most importantly strengthened collaboration between government, businesses and other non-Party stakeholders.

ICC and the UNFCCC Business and Industry Constituency stands ready to actively contribute and engage in the second meeting of the First Global Stocktake in Sharm el-Sheikh and work with the Co-Facilitators, the SB Chairs, governments and all stakeholders to ensure its success.