Submission by the Russian Federation on the inputs referred to in paragraph 19 of decision 19/CMA.1 in relation to the Global Stocktake

February 2023

The Russian Federation welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the first Global Stocktake (GST). In anticipation of the third technical dialogue, the Russian Federation is providing information on the inputs in each of the three GST thematic areas –mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support.

Mitigation

In 2020, the Russian Federation submitted its first NDC that sets a target to **achieve a 70% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels**, taking into account the maximum possible absorptive capacity of forests and other ecosystems, and subject to sustainable and balanced socio-economic development of the Russian Federation. The NDC covers all sectors of the economy and all greenhouse gases and complies with the emissions reduction target set in the **Presidential Decree of the Russian Federation № 666 dated November 4, 2020**.

In June 2021, **Federal Law № 296 on limiting greenhouse gas emissions** was adopted, which defines the basis for the legal regulation of relations in areas of activity that are accompanied by greenhouse gas emissions. The law establishes a system for accounting for greenhouse gas emissions and introduces mandatory reporting from 2023 for companies with annual emissions of more than 150 thousand tons of CO_2-eq., from 2025 - from 50 thousand tons of CO_2-eq.. The reports will be accumulated in the national registry of greenhouse gas emissions. The law establishes a **national system of carbon offsets**, which includes legal procedures for the development and implementation of projects to reduce and (or) absorb greenhouse gas emissions, their verification and registration, as well as the issuance of carbon units and their circulation. In 2021, the **Strategy of socio-economic development of the Russian Federation with low greenhouse gas emissions** until 2050 was approved and then submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat. The Strategy provides for the achieving carbon neutrality of the Russian economy, this intention to be fulfilled by no later than 2060 as announced by the President of the Russian Federation.

In 2022, Russia adopted a **Law № 34 on pilot experiment to limit greenhouse gas emissions in certain region** of the Russian Federation. The pilot region of the experiment was the Sakhalin region. The aim of the experiment is to achieve carbon neutrality in the region by early 2026. As part of the experiment on Sakhalin, **greenhouse gas emission caps** are set for companies. Regional entities have to annually report if their caps are met and pay a fee for the excess emissions. To comply with the caps, it is allowed to use national offsets obtained as a result of project activities and trading in emission units. In the future, the law provides for the inclusion of other regions in the experiment.

When developing **measures in response to climate change**, Russia proceeds from the aim of ensuring economic growth in the context of global energy transition, taking into account the risks and opportunities of decarbonization. When developing the national regulation, the risks are taken into account that forced abandonment of traditional energy sources can considerably increase the costs for energy suppliers and the financial burden on the end consumer. Besides, the need to ensure the sustainable development of the national economy should be met.

When implementing the Strategy for the Socio-economic Development of the Russian Federation with Low Greenhouse Gas Emissions, the Russian Federation relies on scientific research data. The Russian Academy of Sciences has studied the socio-economic effects of the implementation of decarbonization measures. Approaches are being developed to optimize the development of energy sector, taking into account economic, technological, and environmental characteristics of the regions; the specifics of the extraction, supply and export of fuel and energy resources, structure of generating capacities (taking into account isolated power systems) and fuel and energy balance; and coal mining and its supply to consumers; specifics of gas supply for entities and gasification of settlements; environmental features of generating facilities and their contribution to the carbon balance.

Russian business is also actively involved in the decarbonization of the economy. Emission reduction targets are being incorporated into corporate development strategies, and a number of companies are adopting plans to achieve carbon neutrality.

Russian companies have experience in applying technologies characterized by low greenhouse gas emissions Priority importance in Russia in the implementation of the energy transition is given to nuclear and hydropower, as well as the use of natural gas as a transitional fuel. Almost 40% of electricity generation in Russia is provided by low-carbon nuclear power plants and hydroelectric power plants. Russia is among the world leaders in the development of new technologies for generating electricity at nuclear power plants and is a leader in the number of power units built abroad. Russian companies are historically active in the export of equipment and engineering services for hydroelectric power plants. Besides, they are actively expanding the use of natural gas, which is a rational solution to the problem of reducing pollutants and greenhouse gases emissions. In addition, they are active in expanding the use of natural gas, which is a rational solution to the problem of reducing emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases.

Climate policy contributes to the transition to efficient technologies for the use of coal. The technological base of coal -fired thermal power plants (CHP) is under modernization, systems for waste-free coal combustion with minimal environmental impact are under development. CHPPs operating in the mode of combined heat and power generation (cogeneration) have become widespread, which makes it possible to achieve high fuel efficiency and leads to a reduction in specific greenhouse gas emissions.

Priority areas for the decarbonization of metallurgical industry include the modernization of equipment and production. Companies are introducing steel, aluminum and nickel production with a low carbon footprint.

Russian companies are introducing natural gas motor fuel and electric transport, production and use of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). Measures are being taken to reduce methane emissions and utilize associated petroleum gas during the extraction of fossil fuels. In agriculture and forestry, best practices for reducing greenhouse gas emissions are being implemented, such as the use of mineral fertilizers with urease and nitrification inhibitors, monitoring and control of forest management and forest restoration.

Adaptation

Between 1976 and 2020 the near-surface temperature in Russia increased by an average of 0.51ºC per decade[1], which is 2.8 times higher than the world average (0.18ºC/decade). An increase in average annual temperature leads to an increase in natural disasters and adverse weather events, loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. In Russia the following dangerous natural and climatic phenomena are recorded: fires, droughts, storm winds, permafrost degradation and extreme precipitation. Their manifestations and associated risks are unevenly distributed due to differences in geographical and climatic conditions of the country's regions.

In 2020, Russia submitted its first **Adaptation Communication** in conjunction with the first NDC. Information on adaptation to climate change is included in the 8th National Communication and the latest Biennial Report submitted by the Russian Federation in December 2022.

In order to effectively adapt to climate change in Russia, **a multi-stage system of adaptation planning** has been formed. It includes: regularly updated national plans; sectoral plans that take into account climate risks and the adaptation needs of economic sectors; regional plans reflecting the specifics of the regions of the Russian Federation. In 2021, the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation approved **common methodological recommendations and indicators** on climate change adaptation, while the regions of the country and the industry may vary the significance of risks and the priority of adaptation measures for their own needs. It allows, on the one hand, to create a holistic system and ensure comparability of data, on the other hand, to take into account the specifics of adaptation for different conditions in order to effectively allocate resources. To monitor the implementation of national adaptation plans and to analyze the effectiveness of adaptation actions adaptation, indicators have been developed to use at federal, sectoral and regional levels. Groups of indicators contain more detailed data at the industry and regional level. For example, differentiation of costs by sources of financing of adaptation measures and areas of their use, differentiation by and categories of damage. This approach allows for different levels of detail and aggregation of quantitative indicators of the results of adaptation activities and can be scaled if a quantitative component of assessing progress towards the achievement of the Global Adaptation Goal is used.

The **National Action Plan for the first stage of adaptation to climate change is implemented** (2020-2022) was adopted, the implementation of which made it possible to form the regulatory and methodological framework for adaptation measures at the national, regional and sectoral levels. The development of the national plan for the second stage of adaptation to climate change (2023-2025) is being finalized. The formation of methodological recommendations and national standards in the field of adaptation, analysis and identification of the most effective Russian and international practices, as well as monitoring the effectiveness of measures already being implemented to adjust the approved plans will continue.

10 sectoral plans have been approved that contain operational and long-term measures to adapt the transport industry, the fuel and energy complex, construction and housing and communal services, the agro-industrial complex and fisheries, environmental management,

[1] RosHydromet. The 3rd Assessment report on climate change and its impacts on the territory of the Russian Federation. Summary (Saint-Petersburg: Naukoyemkiye technologii, 2022), 124.

healthcare and sanitary and epidemiological welfare of the population, industry and foreign trade, civil defense and emergency situations, as well as activities in the Arctic zone. **Regional adaptation plans** have been approved in 48 subjects of the Russian Federation.

Strong dependence on the specific conditions of the territory requires taking into account adaptation measures at the stages of design, creation and operation of industrial, transport, energy and social infrastructure. At the same time, the role of **responsible behavior of the corporate sector towards the adaptation to climate change** is increasing. Based on existing practices in Russia, three **main** areas of activity **of the private sector of the private sector for the purpose of adaptation** can be distinguished.

- Facilitating adaptation, for example, development and production of fertilizers and plant protection products that increase resistance to adverse climatic and environmental conditions, building materials with increased resistance to extreme weather conditions (weather-resistant steel, thermoplastic elastomers, polymers, etc.), products to increase sustainability of physical infrastructure (coastal fortifications, power transmission line supports, transport infrastructure), construction of power plants on low-emission and renewable energy sources for hard-to-reach regions (small hydroelectric power plants, floating nuclear power plants);
- Introduction of adaptation measures in production – introduction of monitoring and early warning systems, water treatment and waste recycling, low-emission production technologies (hydrogen metallurgy, products with a low carbon footprint), energy efficiency and transition to the principles of a circular economy.
- Social responsibility of business - charity, promotion and organization of scientific research in the field of climate change and the development of low-emission technologies, participation in the development of cities and territories of presence.

At the same time, it is essential to maintain dialogue between government and private sector in order to establish the priority areas for adaptation actions and coordination efforts.

Means of implementation and support

Strengthening the climate agenda contributes to the implementation in Russia of measures that encourage investing in "green" initiatives that have a beneficial effect on the environment in Russia. In 2021, the **national taxonomy of criteria for sustainable projects, including green development** as well as the requirements for their verification system were approved, which became an important stage in the establishment of the Russian green finance instruments market.

The Russian Federation is a country with an economy in transition, and it has no commitments on provision financial assistance and support to developing countries to combat climate change. Nevertheless, Russia, realizing its responsibility for climate protection and ensuring sustainable development, is **actively involved in achieving the SDGs**, including through the provision of financial and technological assistance to developing countries. The Russian Federation allocates financial resources for climate change mitigation and adaptation. The main cooperation in this area is carried out with the **UNDP and UNEP**. Information on support measures provided by the Russian Federation is published in national communications and biennial reports submitted to the UNFCCC.

Conclusion

The Russian Federation supports the holding of intersessional consultations and workshops on the review of the results of the first Global Stocktake and is ready to participate in them together with other stakeholders in all thematic areas.