

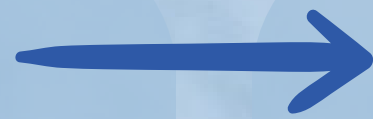
# Aiming for 1.5°C:

## Science, Law & the Global Stocktake

- *Strengthening intersecting cryosphere science & law in interpreting the Paris Agreement's temperature thresholds*
- *Emphasising the role of academic research in developing the GST as a legal process*

### The Scientific Urgency

- The current trajectory of GHG emissions will lead to **irreversible impacts** because of the cryosphere's long-term response & the potential to cross **critical thresholds** for each increment above 1.5°C.
- Thawing **permafrost emissions & sea level rise**, triggered by global warming, pose a real threat to intergenerational equity.
- **Ocean-based mitigation & adaptation** could play a big role in achieving the 1.5°C goal and addressing climate impacts to marine biodiversity & coastal communities.



### The Legal Implications

- COP/CMA decisions can constitute authentic means of **treaty interpretation** (Art. 31(3)(a) 1969 VCLT).
- COP 26 & 27 decisions emphasising the scientific urgency suggest a common understanding among Parties **that 1.5°C is the target** that should be pursued.
- Scientific evidence forms the basis of **evolving case law** that climate targets in countries taking a leadership role should be modelled in accordance with the 1.5°C target.



### Policy Alignment for 1.5°C: The Global Stocktake

- Domestic policy & law frameworks & climate targets should be **aligned with the 1.5°C temperature limit** especially in countries that take a leadership role.
- The Ocean Dialogue indicates that clear mandates & ocean-specific assessment tools & targets are needed in the GST to fully account for Parties' **ocean-based actions & needs** under NDCs.
- Interdisciplinary academic research, such as on cryospheric limits, is a **key part** of supporting the GST as a **robust international, legal process**.

### Role of Academia

- **Academia-country collaboration** should be supported & recognised as a means to develop best practices in achieving country-specific transitions to a low-carbon economy.
- **Cooperating** with academics can help provide clarity of the nature of the mechanism in operationalising the link between the GST & NDCs.

