

STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN GROUP
GST INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
8th JUNE 2021

Modalities For Considering Inputs from para 37(i) of Dec 19/CMA.1

1. Ghana speaking on behalf of the African Group.
2. We also associate ourselves with the statement by the G77&China and our intervention will address “Stage 1” (providing information).
3. For the AGN, some of the challenges that observer organisations and stakeholders from our end would have faced have already been addressed:
 - a. They are eligible to provide inputs to the GST;
 - b. Inputs to the GST are not required to be peer-reviewed or from peer-reviewed sources; and
 - c. Inputs could also come from regional institutions and bodies, UN agencies and other international organisations.
4. Uganda made a point yesterday about the relevance and value of “informal information” that local communities or indigenous peoples who were also engaged in their own climate action could provide as inputs to the GST. The African Group believes it is important to hear from these constituencies.
5. Paragraph 11 of Decision 19/CMA.1 seeks to ensure the provision of adequate support for participation by developing country parties. While we’re trying to address the concern about how to handle voluminous inputs, we believe that there are certain constituencies, namely Local Communities, Indigenous Peoples, academia, thinktanks in some developing countries who historically have faced challenges preparing the sort of relevant material this process would find useful because of inadequate means. One proactive and practical way to highlight the value of their knowledge and contributions would be through the provision of support to prepare the sort inputs that we believe would enrich the GST.
6. Again, to promote comprehensiveness, inclusivity and also apply equity, we believe this idea of support or an initiative to non-party stakeholders from developing countries should be pursued.

Thank you, Co-Facilitators!