

**STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN GROUP
SB CHAIRS INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON NON-PAPER
15th JUNE 2021**

PREPARING FOR THE FIRST GLOBAL STOCKTAKE

1. Ghana speaking on behalf of the African Group.
2. We also associate ourselves with the statement by the G77 and China.
3. We thank you for preparing this Non-Paper. The guidance given covers quite a lot of important issues on the preparation for Phase 1 and how the Technical Dialogues might be organised. It's a good start and we believe we can build on this.
4. We have some initial observations to help move us in the right direction; the group will submit more detailed views shortly.
5. Firstly, the Non-Paper is right to recall the purpose/the mandate of the GST, but its objective or outcome should stand-out clearly. We have already agreed that in Article 14.3 – that the GST should strengthen the global response, and if read in conjunction with the other paragraphs of Art 14 then that global response should be informed by the findings of the stocktake underpinned by the BAS and based on the principles of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances, and in the context of sustainable development, poverty eradication and social justice.
6. Secondly, assessing the implementation of the Paris Agreement requires looking at all elements and obligations in the thematic areas. We find the Non-Paper, in some aspects a little deficient in this regard. For instance, we believe the elements on finance do not reflect the ecosystem of obligations and actions for finance across the Paris Agreement. The current draft presents an unbalanced understanding of the obligations of support to be provided and mobilized. The GST should also focus on efforts and progress made in the delivery of the obligations under Art 9.1 and 9.3 as the level of the effort has a direct impact on Art 3 and 4.5 that recognised that enhanced support for developing countries is required for effective implementation and will allow for higher ambition in their actions.
7. It is heartening to see the Question 9 (page #) on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). But we need to ask further: How can Parties enhance ambition on adaptation; both of actions to take and of support needed and provided? What work on metrics would be needed to better understand progress?
8. We also expect equity to feature a lot more prominently in the process and in substance than as you have currently outlined in the Non-Paper.
 - a. In terms of process in particular increased attention should be given to the contributions from Non-Party Stakeholders especially in the information gathering and preparation phase. The Non-Paper does well to cover this. If we want our stocktake to be enriched by the knowledge and experience of Non-Party Stakeholders like local communities and Indigenous Peoples especially in developing countries, more proactive measures should be deployed to help them generate the inputs that could feed the GST. This support could be managed by the Secretariat.

- b. In terms of reflecting equity in substance the G77 have made good suggestions on how equity could be reflected, and those reflect our views also. Another area equity should feature is through the consideration of the issue of just transition. This is also important and should be reflected in the Non-Paper especially in assessing progress made in making financial flows consistent with the pathway to low emissions and climate resilient development (LEDS and CRDP). Part of its focus should be an assessment of how support provided has enabled a just transition in all developing countries. The African Group is of the view that support for the just transition pathway is critical, and that a technical assessment of options would be beneficial and an integral component of the technical assessment in ensuring that the pathways are just and equitable.
9. Finally, in as much as the guiding questions you put fwd are general, we believe they don't address all issues adequately, especially on finance, equity, GGA and Response Measures. Our submission will propose questions on those and the other thematic issues.

Thank you!