

**AOSIS Statement**  
**Closing Plenary Technical Dialogue**  
**13 June 2023**

Trinidad and Tobago associates itself with the statement made by Cuba on behalf of the G77 and China and has the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of AOSIS.

- We express appreciation to the co-facilitators with the support of the secretariat for the organisation and arrangements for the technical dialogue for the first GST. Your creativity in the process was well-received and has kept parties fully engaged in the process over the past two years.
- We underscore the importance of it being a learning by doing exercise and appreciated the co-facilitators responsiveness to Party requests for changes and tweaks to the formatting.
- We look forward to the final summary report from this technical dialogue as well as the synthesis report from the entire technical assessment phase. We hope that both reports will be made available as soon as possible to facilitate parties' preparation for the consideration of outputs phase.

In terms of the final synthesis report:

- The synthesis report should be organised in such a manner that it corresponds to the mandate of the GST, not only in terms of issues to be covered but also to ensure that its main messages can be easily understood and taken up in the context of other outputs from the GST;
- In this sense, the synthesis report should clearly include *findings*, *opportunities* and *challenges* as well as *best practice* for enhancing action and support in relation to implementation of the Paris Agreement;
- On this point, let me stress that it is not the intention of AOSIS to undermine the mandate of the co-facilitators to prepare the report of the technical dialogue. The group only humbly wishes to ensure that the report will be organised in a manner that gives it the best chance of supporting our work in the consideration of outputs phase and beyond.

Finally, there are six key messages that we heard during the technical dialogue that AOSIS expects to see reflected in the final synthesis report:

- The message of **urgency** was clear across all of the themes discussed in the technical dialogue. The report should strongly highlight that we are in the midst of a climate crisis that requires an urgent, decisive and appropriate response within this critical decade. This is additional to the existing GST mandate for informing NDCs in the post 2030 period;
- **Unique challenges facing the SIDS and LDCs** that are pertinent to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and require assessment and consideration of a response;
- Letting the **science** lead. We are approaching dangerous tipping points especially in the oceans and cryosphere. We heard the warnings about the melting ice caps and the impact this will have on sea-level rise and the fates of SIDS and low-lying coastal states. The technical dialogue report should emphasise this as an emerging problem to be addressed, noting recommendations from 1/CP.27 on oceans, for “parties to consider, as appropriate, ocean-based action in their national climate goals and in the implementation of these goals, including but not limited to nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies and adaptation communications”. In this sense we also note the critical role that **nature-based solutions** can play in aiding climate change mitigation in the context of rapid emissions reductions in energy production, transportation, agriculture, building and industrial sectors.
- **Equity needs to be operationalised** in the framing of opportunities and the identification of best practice in the synthesis report. We see equity operating at three levels:

- *Between* countries to ensure that no country is left behind. SIDS are dangerously close to being left behind in the global transition;
  - *Intergenerationally*, the IPCC is clear that every decision we make in the next few years will have serious impacts on present and future generations;
  - *Within countries* to ensure that there is a whole-of-society approach that integrates the needs, views and traditional knowledge of all groups, especially those that have at times been left at the margins such as indigenous peoples and local communities.
- Centrality of **means of implementation** for ensuring continuity and progress in designing an integrated, whole of society approach and response to climate change in line with the IPCC findings. Even in instances where the support is available, challenges in relation to nature, access, and reporting requirements remain. This was very well illustrated by the examples from Tonga and Vanuatu at the last session of this technical dialogue. SIDS are not in a position to fund resilience measures if we are stuck in a cycle of re-building and responding to increasingly destructive extreme events. The international financial system needs to be realigned to assist SIDS to overcome these challenges.
  - The need to enhance **international cooperation** and create platforms/opportunities/methodologies for parties, businesses and non-party stakeholders to work together to enhance climate action.

We look forward to continuing the work of the GST during the intersessional period to ensure the best chance of a successful outcome at COP28. We will send our statement to you in writing. Thank you.