

On key message 1 around increased adaptation and efforts on L&D, we find this uncontroversial and common sense.

- *The impacts of climate change on Australia and the Indo-Pacific region are increasing, as made clear in recent IPCC reports, as observed in floods, wildfires and heatwaves in Australia and across the world, and in impacts to natural ecosystems including coral reefs globally including to our iconic Great Barrier Reef.*
  
- *Domestically, we are taking concerted action to adapt to climate impacts and to build resilience and disaster readiness in our communities, including by undertaking an urgent risk assessment of the implications of climate change for national security, and designing a National Climate Risk Assessment which will develop a shared understanding of Australia's greatest climate risks posed by the physical impacts of climate change,*
  
- *In our region, we certainly recognise that climate change is the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of the peoples of the Pacific – and losses and damages are happening now and continuing to increase.*
  - a. *In July 2022, we joined Pacific leaders in declaring that the Pacific is facing a climate emergency, underscoring the urgency to scale-up ambition and implementation to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels.*
  
- *We are listening to the Pacific's calls for action and responding.*
  - a. *For example, we are committing \$900 million of additional development assistance to the Pacific over the next four years which will include support for strengthening climate resilience in the region, including through climate science and renewable energy*
  - b. *We are investing in climate infrastructure through the Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership*
  - c. *As we scale up efforts, we are looking to share and learn with the global community.*
  - d. *We have also heard our Pacific family when they've told us that the region's loss and damage needs are distinct from adaptation and resilience, and that there is an urgent need to mobilise support to address loss and damage.*

On key message 2 around adaptation implementation gap...

- *We acknowledge the implementation gap and a key part of our scaling up action is the active integration of adaptation across our development program where synergising efforts towards climate resilient development in the context of SDGs. Here Australia would like to also underscore the importance of informed and inclusive NAPs in systematically identifying challenges and opportunities that holistically address adaptation challenges. In our bilateral and regional work in the Pacific, we look to support NAP implementation where possible.*

### On Key message 3 on transformational adaptation...

- *We strongly agree with the view that when adaptation is informed and driven by local contexts and priorities, both the adequacy and the effectiveness of adaptation action and support can be enhanced and can promote transformational adaptation. Transformation involves systemic change and adaptations across infrastructure, institutions, and actions at all levels. NAPs that operate at this level of systemic change, supported by partners but locally led, is a strong adaptation approach we support.*
- *We also recognise that there is an urgent and immediate need for increased and predictable support to respond to loss and damage, and that the current financing architecture is not fit for purpose to meet these needs.*
- *The work of the Transitional Committee will be critical this year to effectively addressing gaps (for example, on slow onset events) but also to ensuring that the new funding arrangements for loss and damage, including the fund, support and complement existing disaster risk management, humanitarian and development architecture to promote climate-resilient development and a continuum of effective climate risk management.*
- *The scale of needs are significant and growing. We strongly agree that innovative sources of finance and a broader contributor base will need to be explored and mobilised in order to see greater progress in adaptation and more effective efforts to minimise, avert and address loss and damage.*

### NOT JUST GAPS BUT PROGRESS TOO

- *We also consider it important to note and celebrate the significant action that has been taken to advance adaptation progress and enhance efforts to minimise, avert and address loss and damage. In particular,*
- *For adaptation, in addition to the subnational, national, bilateral, regional and global efforts, of which there are too many contributors to mention, we recognise the ongoing work of the AC, NWP and LEG in providing vital technical knowledge and support. We look forward to future progress made in these areas, as part of a collective response to GST findings.*
- *Regarding the work underway as part of the GlaSS, on the issue of assessing collective progress, we see a role in GST1 for the adaptation policy cycle to provide an analytical lens through which to approach adaptation information collected from Adcoms, NAPs, and NDCs, among other inputs. As adaptation achievements and gaps are identified through the GST process, Australia continues to strengthen support, especially to our Pacific partners, and look for every opportunity to improve practice and encourage the development of enabling conditions, such as those identified in the IPCC AR 6, to maximise effectiveness.*

- *For L&D, we recognise the work of the Executive Committee of the WIM over the past 10 years to enhance knowledge on comprehensive risk management approaches, mobilise experts and practitioners in the field, and enhance capacity building and support including through the establishment of the Santiago Network. Further, the COP27 decision on loss and damage funding can be considered a milestone for catalysing support for developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.*
  
- *GST1 also provides the opportunity to draw attention to losses and damages already occurring in diverse contexts, both to demonstrate the need for rapid progress on mitigation and adaptation, and to promote tailored support for the countries and people facing the most devastating impacts of climate change. As we move beyond GST1, it will be important to look at improving data and understanding of losses and damages being experienced, and identifying and scaling up effective means of minimising, averting and addressing loss and damage .*