

Dear Executive Secretary, COP Presidencies and SBs Chairs,

In accordance with Rule 10(d) of the draft Rules of Procedure of the UNFCCC, Brazil hereby submits a request to include the following agenda item in the provisional agendas of SBI/SBSTA, COP28 and CMA5:

“Mission 1.5: positive incentives for accelerating early-actions and policies that are nationally-determined”

Based on the 2014 IPCC 5th Assessment Report (AR5), the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC was adopted in 2015 “in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aim[ed at] strengthen[ing] the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change”.

Before Paris, the 2°C temperature goal had been recognized at the 2010 Cancun COP16, under decision 1/CP.16 (paragraph 4), accompanied by the commitment by developed countries to the “goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion per year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries” (paragraph 98). This finance commitment has not been achieved multilaterally, though the overview of needs of developing countries now indicates almost USD 6 trillion are needed to implement their NDCs.

Years after the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the IPCC concluded in AR6 - that “for any given future warming level, many climate-related risks are higher than assessed in AR5 (high confidence).”¹ The most recent IPCC conclusions thus suggest that the 2°C temperature goal may no longer be aligned with the ultimate objective of the Convention “to achieve the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.” The international community must seek to keep the 1.5°C goal alive.

As the USD 100 billion commitment was adopted in 2010 eyeing the 2°C temperature goal, “keeping the 1.5°C goal alive” in this critical decade will depend on exponentially higher levels of actual deployment of new and additional financial, technology and capacity-building resources to enable action by all countries, at speed and scale, before the end of both the current and the next NDC cycles. This will entail developed countries to deliver much deeper emission cuts prior to 2030, and developing countries to count with easy and fast access to resources towards the implementation of current policies as well as early-actions to anticipate mitigation results.

*In parallel, expediting and scaling-up climate action must necessarily contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (**SDGs**), in order to abide by both equity and the best available science. AR6 similarly concludes that tradeoffs between climate response and the SDGs could constrain individual and collective actions - a scenario the world cannot afford.² Moreover, the September 2023 Political*

¹ https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf.

² AR6 Synthesis Report, Summary for Policymakers, Figure SPM6, page 25.
https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf.

Declaration of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) recognized that “eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development”.³ At the same time climate change can impair sustainable development, no transition that is just, equitable and scientifically-sound can put at risk our combat against poverty.

Achieving the SDGs and the 1.5°C goal is a daunting task which many consider impossible. But not pursuing such a mission would not be a tolerable alternative for humanity. The international community must come together in a united front to fight climate change as our common enemy. Climate change has already been affecting our societies. We cannot wait the emergence of the first tipping-point until we genuinely put the 1.5°C mission as our topmost priority, alongside sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty. Achieving the SDGs and the 1.5°C goal must come before geopolitical, economic and technological competitions. The world must shift priorities now.

Beyond framing the climate challenge as either a mitigation or a finance issue, Brazil proposes humanity to join hands around a mission to keep the 1.5°C alive, through a shared sense of purpose, in which our societies are united in diversity, mutually-supporting each other. Such a mission should preserve countries’ policy space and safeguard SDGs priorities, and equally provide the much needed signals for other stakeholders to join governments.

Humility must be at the very core of our mission: we must recognize that solutions are not always universally applicable and that international cooperation should bend to developing countries’ priorities and needs, instead of the other way around. Developing countries have legitimate concerns about tradeoffs with the SDGs arising from negative incentives to tackle climate change, including from potential targets at the global level and from policies and regulations by third parties.

Positive incentives, on the other hand, if aimed at voluntary early-actions and policies that are nationally-determined, can serve to catalyze climate action in developing countries. Combining finance and mitigation, in a “hybrid approach”, positive incentives can provide scale and speed, by moving cooperation from project-based approaches to voluntary nationally-determined programs and actions covering entire national jurisdictions, while seeking to circumvent bottlenecks in finance access, cost and bureaucratic delays, including within MDBs, and fostering bottom-up experimentation and learning.

As we deliver the first GST under the Paris Agreement for informing international cooperation and the next round of NDCs, “Mission 1.5” can pave the way from COP28 to COP30 for immediately responding to the sense of urgency and gravity alerted by AR6 – on the basis of hope and trust, instead of dismay and polarization. “Mission 1.5” can bring countries to work together on the ground with a view to immediate implementation that can trigger unity, ambition and action, whilst acknowledging national circumstances of developed and developing countries alike.

³ <https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/A%20HLPF%202023%20L1.pdf>.