

**Submission by Canada regarding preparations for the first global stocktake
(June 15, 2021)**

The global stocktake is at the heart of the Paris Agreement's cycle of ambition. It will serve as a regular space where science and policy will meet to accelerate the implementation of the Agreement and the achievement of its long-term goals. It will take into consideration not just the contribution of Parties, but also the critical role of non-Parties and observer organizations in advancing global climate action.

In decision 19/CMA.1, Parties already agreed to a robust set of modalities, and broad and inclusive list of inputs for the global stocktake process. Using decision 19/CMA.1 as a basis, we have also agreed to empower the Chairs of SBSTA and SBI, along with the co-facilitators of the technical dialogues, to make this important process a reality with the support of the secretariat and presiding officers from across the many constituted bodies of the Convention.

We trust that the Chairs will implement the global stocktake as originally intended when the Paris Agreement was negotiated, and in line with decision 19/CMA.1 adopted in Katowice. As Parties, our role moving forward is to engage fully in the process as laid out by the SB Chairs and we should not attempt to micromanage the process. Instead, we need only concern ourselves with getting the best possible outcome in terms of facilitating greater action. We are no longer in a mode of work where we are negotiating new or additional modalities.

Canada is grateful for the non-paper on the first global stocktake prepared under the authority of the SB Chairs. We see this non-paper as a useful tool for outlining how the many details of the process will come together as the SB Chairs move forward with their preparations. We also appreciate the SB Chairs use of the non-paper to describe their rationale behind choosing certain approaches over others.

To assist the SB Chairs in their planning and preparations for the first global stocktake, Canada wishes to submit the following points for consideration:

1. **With regard to the guiding questions – we think the examples provided in the non-paper a good starting point, and will help give direction to the many bodies, organizations and actors that will be providing inputs to the process.** We stress the need to have guiding questions that are equally thorough across all thematic areas of the global stocktake, and balanced across the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement on mitigation, adaptation, and finance flows. Overall – we encourage the SB Chairs to include additional guiding questions that are forward looking in nature. This will help facilitate inputs focused not only on progress made to date, but also with regard to options for strengthening our efforts moving forward, including by enhancing international cooperation for climate action.
2. **The non-paper should reflect a much more robust and balanced treatment of the long-term goal on finance flows contained in Article 2.1c of the Paris Agreement.** Shifting broader finance flows is essential for facilitating greater action on mitigation and adaptation, and for supporting low-carbon sustainable development. Article 2.1c is a core goal of the Paris Agreement, and should be treated on the same level as the temperature goal and goals on adaptation. We do not agree with the approach of placing finance flows in the same 'cross-cutting' category as equity and response measures. To ensure Article 2.1c is given proper

consideration, we encourage the SB Chairs to give further thought to how it can be given equal examination during the technical dialogues alongside mitigation, adaptation, and means of implementation. We also strongly suggest the SB Chairs develop more targeting guiding questions related to finance flows not just under the cross-cutting category, but also under the themes of mitigation, adaptation, and means of implementation and support as there are specific aspects of the finance flows discussion that are relevant to each. For example on mitigation, a relevant question could be “What steps are being taken to scale up private finance and investment in low-carbon sectors?”

3. **We suggest a broader approach be taken with regard to the guiding questions on mitigation to allow wider scientific inputs, including from the Working Group I report under the IPCC’s sixth assessment.** For example, in addition to information about changes in GHG concentration and emissions, and changes in global temperature, information about changes in the climate more broadly are also highly relevant, including changes in the ocean and the cryosphere.
4. **We strongly support the SB Chair’s proposed approach with regard to the scope and focus of the synthesis reports to be prepared by the constituted bodies and forums of the UNFCCC. These bodies and forums should focus solely on synthesizing the outcomes of their own work, and how they are supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals.** While the constituted bodies have considerable expertise, do avoid creating undue burden, they should not be expected to prepare reports that require them to consider or synthesize broader or more general information or research across the various topics or themes of the global stocktake. We need the subsidiary bodies to provide as clear a picture as possible of their work for our consideration. These synthesis reports will be considered alongside additional sources of input, including from the likes of the IPCC and other UN agencies, which together will provide us with broader technical and scientific information needed to assess progress both from within and outside of the UNFCCC context. While it may be useful to have these bodies and forums provide updates or addendums to their synthesis reports in advance of each technical dialogue, learning from the experience of the second Periodic Review, we also think the work of these bodies and forums could be effectively captured single reports that could be examined.

Finally, based on consultations held during this session we encourage the SB Chairs to continue to consider the best possible approach for capturing inputs from non-Parties and UNFCCC observer organizations, and to facilitate their meaningful participation in the global stocktake process. While some synthesis of information from non-Parties and observer organizations will likely be needed to ensure these inputs are efficiently captured, we think that ultimately non-Parties and observer organizations themselves are best placed to produce this synthesis, rather than the secretariat. For example, we support the idea of each non-Party input including a brief executive summary that will help the co-facilitators and secretariat draw out key messages and findings relevant to the themes of the global stocktake. We also encourage the various UNFCCC constituents to consider working together to produce synthesis reports that reflect their own important voices in this process. Having the secretariat produce a single synthesis report of all non-Party inputs risks undermining the unique and distinct contributions of this diverse set of actors.

There are many opportunities to learn from other recent processes such as the Talanoa Dialogue, and virtual structured expert dialogue under the second Periodic Review. In learning from these recent processes, we encourage the SB Chairs to consider how virtual platforms, such as a submission portal organized in accordance with the themes of global stocktake, as well as online discussion forums, could be utilized to ensure a transparent capturing of inputs, and create spaces for ongoing technical exchange and dialogue among Parties and non-Parties.

We look forward to engaging with the SB Chairs in the coming months on these matters as we rapidly approach the first global stocktake. We also greatly look forward to the eventual nomination of co-facilitators for the technical dialogues.