

My name is Victor Menotti, speaking on behalf of Global Campaign to Demand Climate Justice.

Answering GST's Guiding Question #5 (What further action is required? b) What are the barriers and challenges, and how can they be addressed at national, regional and international levels?):

1. Delivering on long-overdue commitments from the Paris Agreement (and previously), particularly the wealthiest polluters must contribute their “fair share” to addressing the crisis by equitably cutting emissions deeper and faster than others, while cooperating with less wealthy nations by providing climate finance, including for adaptation and loss and damage, as well as providing technology transfer and other forms of international collaboration.

2. Recognizing fossil fuels as the key contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions, and creating new pathways and international platforms to urgently and equitably end expansion, phase down production, and fast-track just transitions for all countries and communities;

3. Prioritizing international cooperation by providing resources for renewable energy systems, workers’ and communities’ just transitions, as well as broader economic diversification and transformation; Governments can help finance these measures by immediate steps to end all types of subsidies and support for the fossil fuel industry.

4. Acknowledging the latest climate science detailed in the IPCC WGII report, Parties should take stock of their current NDCS and climate plans. Many countries are aligning themselves with "net zero by 2050 pathways" and offering only loose promises with little detail about where, how and on what timeline they will actually reduce emissions. This is way too little, way too late. Climate science and equity evidences the urgent need for strengthened and clarified climate action plans from countries, particularly developed countries, that involve rapidly and equitably reducing emissions to Real Zero as quickly as possible by stopping emissions at source, not betting on the deployment of risky and unproven technologies to aim to account for them later). We have no remaining time or atmospheric space for risky and unproven schemes.