

SBSTA 9 Sources of input for the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement

European Union intervention

(7 June 2021)

This intervention on the sources of input for the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement, as mandated in paragraph 38 of the decision 19/CMA.1 is made on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.

The European Union considers that the global stocktake is at the heart of the ambition mechanism of the Paris Agreement, and we recognize that the global stocktake is key for enhancing the collective ambition of action and support towards achieving the purpose and long term goals of the Paris Agreement.

The sources of input for the GST must allow for the submission of all the relevant information required to truly assess whether we are on track to implement the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement, and if not what is needed to enhance collective action and ambition.

The EU is of the view that the non-exhaustive list in paras 36 and 37 of decision 19/CMA.1 provides a comprehensive and solid basis for the first global stocktake.

Also bearing in mind that the formulation in 37 sub f) to i) has openness to consider a wide range of inputs from Parties, regional groups and institutions, international organisations and non-Party stakeholders, we see no need to complement the list of sources of input at this point in time and focus on the list we currently have.

In our view, it will be more relevant to come back to this question after we all have the experience of conducting the first GST, in line with the mandate of para 38 in decision 19/CMA.1.

The EU would also like to thank the SBSTA Chair for the opportunity to share our views on how to consider efficiently the submissions from non-party stakeholders and UNFCCC observer organizations, referred to in para 37 of decision 19/CMA.1.

We do see that non-Party stakeholder action and achievements will be a substantial part of the Global Stocktake. We believe their contributions have an important role to play in order to take stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement on the ground and to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose and its long-term goals.

From our perspective, contributions from non-Party stakeholders will also be crucial in understanding the opportunities and evidence for enhanced action and support, including on enhancing international cooperation for climate action.

Nevertheless, we recognize the possible challenges associated with the need to consider very high numbers of different individual inputs.

While emphasizing that every non-party stakeholder and UNFCCC observer organization should be able to contribute relevant information to this process, we see a need to explore ways to consider these inputs more effectively, for instance, by making summaries and holding webinars where inputs could be discussed. Furthermore, we encourage SBI/SBSTA together with COP presidencies to consult the views of non-party stakeholders and observer organizations on their ideas how their inputs could be considered most effectively, while ensuring the needed visibility.

We would see a role of the co-facilitators of the technical dialogue to think on how the inputs from non-Party stakeholders could be handled most effectively.

We have different tools in our hands to guide the process efficiently, e.g. communication tools, to encourage non-party stakeholders in combining their inputs where possible. Fewer inputs coming from a broad constituency would be helpful in handling the submissions.

In this context, the European Union has also noted the proposal by the SBSTA and SBI chairs in their non-paper on preparations for the first global stocktake. There can be a possible role for the nine constituencies of the observer organizations accredited under the UNFCCC in the consolidation and provision of inputs provided, as well as through the Yearbook of global climate action.

However, before deciding to do so, the constituencies should at least be consulted on their ability to provide this consolidation, and inputs from non-party stakeholders and observer organizations should not be restricted exclusively to the channel of the constituencies.

We encourage SB Chairs and Secretariat to continue elaborating the proposal and provide clear guidance on the timeline and format for these inputs. Finally, we note that the High-Level Champions, in their note on Improving the Marrakech Partnership and its proposed design, are planning further work in support of the global stocktake. We encourage the Champions to continue this work.

We look forward to hearing other Parties views on both issues.