

G77 and China
Statement for GST Informal Consultations:
Modalities for Consideration of Submissions under Paragraph 37(i), Decision 19/CMA.1
8 June 2021

1. The Republic of Guinea is speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. We would like to recall and reiterate some overarching considerations that are important to the Group with respect to the consideration of submissions by non-Party Stakeholders and UNFCCC observer organizations under paragraph 37(i) of decision 19/CMA.1 for the GST. First, it is important that in the preparation of synthesis reports by the Secretariat, the specificity of relevant information coming from regional reports from regional organizations should be maintained to provide the GST with region-specific informational granularity. Second, to promote comprehensiveness in the information to be considered during the GST, there should be balance in terms of considering both backward-looking and forward-looking information in all the thematic areas referred to in paragraph 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1, without prejudging or limiting the content of such information. For the G77, we stress that there should not be any imbalance in terms of focus on any thematic area. Third, as stated in paragraph 14 of decision 19/CMA.1, the focus is on taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement to assess collective progress and have no individual Party focus. Fourth, for the GST to serve its purpose under Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, simple, effective, and efficient implementation of the agreed modalities under decision 19/CMA.1 would be important.
3. As the Group stated in its intervention yesterday, with respect to the consideration of submissions from non-Party stakeholders and UNFCCC observation organizations under para 37(i) of decision 19/CMA.1, these could be assessed and considered as part of the technical assessment component through the technical dialogue. The information could be organized according to the areas referred to in para 6(b), decision 19/CMA.1, and cross-referenced to information in various areas that may be relevant to each other; cross-cutting groupings may also be relevant, reflecting the analytical approach to be followed for the Technical Assessment. The organization of such information could be done first through a compilation according to topic or area that would be made available to Parties for their consideration through the technical dialogue. Such information could be the subject of dedicated in-session roundtables, workshops or other activities to be engaged in by Parties during the technical dialogue.
4. In terms of specific operational actions that can be taken to facilitate the consideration of information and inputs coming under paragraph 37(i), the G77 and China would like to suggest the following:
5. The Secretariat should prepare a synthesis report on such inputs, with the synthesized information to be organized according to each of the topics referred to in paragraph 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1. Information and inputs that are cross-cutting in nature across two or more of the various topics should also be treated accordingly, rather than be subsumed under specific topics, in order to avoid the creation of information silos and ensure a holistic approach. To prepare such synthesis report, the Secretariat should allocate and be provided with additional resources to engage external independent experts from developed and developing countries, taking into account regional balance, to assist Secretariat staff.

6. There should be a dedicated Secretariat support team tasked to help Parties and non-Party stakeholders and UNFCCC observer organizations wishing to make submissions under paragraphs 37(g) and (i) of decision 19/CMA.1, particularly with respect to document translation, electronic document formatting, and technical support for the submissions. This will ensure that there is equity not only with respect to the substance of the information and inputs for the GST but also equity with respect to the process of submitting such information and inputs by ensuring that less capacitated Parties and non-Party stakeholders and UNFCCC observer organizations, especially from developing countries, are not prevented from contributing to the GST due to technical capacity, technology, or language barriers.
7. There should be clear and simple submission guidelines to be developed by the SB Chairs, with the assistance of the co-facilitators for the Technical Dialogue and the Secretariat, to be applied to inputs under paragraph 37(i) of decision 19/CMA.1. These would include:
 - (i) Inputs can be made in any language, in any format, and without any limit as to length, provided that each input is submitted together with an executive summary written in English following a specific standardized format and of not more than 4,000 words;
 - (ii) Contributors of such inputs should indicate the particular area or areas referred to under paragraph 6(b) of decision 19/CMA.1 that their input should be placed under, or whether such input is of a cross-cutting nature across two or more such areas. This will enable Parties to check that there is balance in terms of the inputs for each area rather than an imbalanced focus on a particular area and could encourage Parties and other sources of inputs referred to in paragraph 37 of decision 19/CMA.1 to provide additional inputs. There should not, however, be any quantitative caps on the number of submissions that can be made under each area;
 - (iii) Such inputs should be submitted through a simple online submission portal on the UNFCCC website using an online submission form.
8. Finally, the Group recommends that non-Party stakeholders and UNFCCC observer organizations should be encouraged to make joint submissions under paragraph 37(i) whenever possible and appropriate.