

**GST October Workhop
12-14 October 2023**

Saturday, 14 October

Session 6 + 8. Reflecting on progress made during the workshop + Next steps

EIG Intervention

We thank all colleagues for the constructive engagement in the past two days. We thank you, co-chairs, for leading us and the UAE for the incredible hosting. We've appreciated that you made us work on concrete text. We are pleased to see us move towards identifying the substance of the GST Decision. With a few weeks to go until Dubai, and the eyes of the world on us, it is clear that we need to shift gears.

We expect us to work diligently in coming weeks.

Like the G77 Chair, we would welcome receiving a written output of the report, for example revised version of the bullets and having a chance to react to it, for example through a virtual informal consultation. Like the G77 Chair, we are confident in your leadership, likewise value the inclusivity of the process. We invite you to convene us as you see fit, to provide us with time to engage with one another. We recommend targeting these areas of divergence for upcoming ministerial consultations to find potential landing grounds. We invite the pairs of ministers to engage bilaterally and multilaterally with us to flesh out these points. The PreCOP would be a moment to get high-level engagement around the GST. And we need to start engaging with one another at the technical level, where there is convergence, to elaborate our common ideas further in coming weeks.

We invite the Presidency to lead us in this process. Our message is: help us help you, please reach out, make sure you understand our positions and interests, and don't be afraid to lead us as we work on producing an ambitious outcome for COP28.

Let us highlight areas of convergence and divergence, and we ask for your indulgence as we've prepared a bit of a detailed intervention, as we want to share our read back to you on the past two days:

While we saw good progress in many of the substantial elements of our discussions, we see the most work needed in building a high-level political narrative that can help us show that the UNFCCC process is up to the task to fulfil the paris agreement goals.

Moving through the different chapters:

Context in cross cutting consideration:

- Convergence around the need for a strong message on the urgency and the need for unity in our common fight against climate change.
We need a high-level recognition that while the Paris Agreement has successfully mobilized climate action, but that we are not on track to reach our objectives. Reaching the Paris Agreement will require everyone at the table.
- We see also good convergence around the centrality of best available science.
- Divergence: we were concerned to see some of us backtrack in attempts to rewrite the Paris Agreement and its relation to the Convention. This includes the treatment of differentiation.
- Another central area where further discussions are needed is the **treatment of Pre2020, and the reflection of historical emissions**. The EIG is a group of developed and developing countries. EIG remains of the view that Pre2020 is outside of the scope of the GST, as it does not relate to the Paris Agreement. However we welcome a reflection on the evolution of emissions as part of the GST outcome, that is rooted in science and evidence based. We believe our technical discussions have shown that the reality is much more complex, and that the world is much more complex, than a bifurcated view, as some of the interventions we have heard would portray. We need to reflect accurately past, current, as well as future emissions. We were concerned to see some interventions attempting to finger point as a way of getting out of obligations, and to move us back to an

GST October Workshop 12-14 October 2023

annexed world. Under the Paris Agreement, we all have to contribute to the highest possible ambition, reflecting CBDR-RC, but with a view to all bringing our highest possible ambition. We will not be able to avoid overshoot 1.5 without the full engagement of all in this room. this is the spirit with which EIG engages in this process.

- We would encourage ministerial consultations and further exchange to work out a narrative that is conducive to us as a global community, rising up to the challenge and presenting our best efforts to avoid overshoot of 1.5, in line with the best available science.
- Similarly, EIG is strongly in favor of reflecting **equity** in the GST outcome, we need more work to reflect equity in a way that captures the variety of views and concepts

In Chapter C in general, we are pleased to see convergence on having concrete, actionable recommendations throughout, that we can track, and on having a general balance between chapters.

Mitigation

- Convergence: Interest to work further on guidance for NDCs. We also see a strong interest in sending high-level signals that speak to the system transformations needed.
- Divergence: More discussions are needed to identify those **high-level recommendations**, and to identify those that work for all and most importantly, help all of us increase our ambition and implementation domestically. And we need to build a common understanding on how such recommendations can help galvanize investments.
- We saw some interventions taking us back to longstanding discussions on the **scope of NDCs**.

Adaptation

- Convergence: we were pleased to see a joint interest in raising the political profile of adaptation
- Divergence: we need more work to **identify actionable recommendations**, including integration of scientific data and information for strengthening adaptation actions, and in general, suggest treating questions related to **support** as part of the finance chapter.

C3 (Finance)

- Convergence: we are enthusiastic that this chapter can bring us forward in a lot of issues, including review of financial architecture, pointing to the business case of climate action and the cost of inaction, how to redirect investments away from areas that disserve us in the long term, like fossil fuel subsidies, and how to improve financial access for all developing countries towards areas that benefit all.
- Divergence: we would welcome further ministerial and heads of delegation engagement on how to solve our conceptual difference related to the title of this chapter: **2.1.c versus Mol/Article 9**. It is concerning to see attempts to reinterpret the Paris Agreement, on one hand. But even more concerning is that we will not be able to shift from the millions to the trillions unless we make sure that all our actions serve our objectives. And it is a matter of safeguarding the credibility of the UNFCCC process. Non-party stakeholders, in particular financial actors, are already moving in this space. So we would welcome further engagement at high level, to be able to have a Finance chapter that is truly transformative.

Efforts related to Loss and Damage

- Convergence: We see good convergence around pointing to alarming rise in impacts across the world, and need for urgent action in response, including a call for support. We also can speak to how the UNFCCC process has evolved.
- Divergence: A key point in that chapter will be ensuring that the discussions taking place in the Transitional Committee inform our decision, an issue which is transversal to all our chapters: how to deal with ongoing discussions.

Efforts related to Response Measures

- Convergence: we have heard a willingness to make sure that the GST decision speaks to the benefits of climate action, while addressing challenges that are associated with the transition. We are looking forward to engaging in this chapter to come up with concrete recommendations on how to accompany the transition in a whole of society approach.

International cooperation

**GST October Workhop
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- Convergence: the international cooperation chapter is likewise a key opportunity to reflect on how we engage with each other and with non-state actors to mutually support each other. There was interest in building visibility on the number of initiatives and partnerships and building in more accountability into the system.
- Divergence: we hear some divergence around the formats of cooperation under the international economic system / trade / unilateral vs multilateral measures.

Guidance and way forward

- Divergence: We need a **high-level engagement to rally around the call that the GST does not end at COP28** and making sure that it serves its purpose of informing Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action.
- Convergence: we have sensed interest in adding more flesh to the bone of our way forward section, speaking to what needs to happen after the conclusion of our first GST, on thinking of what process, what spaces are necessary for NDC preparation, as well as work to follow-up on the GST recommendations and informing the next GST. Also sensed interest in dedicating a space to speak to the science and the scientific community.

As mentioned, we would welcome targeting those areas of divergence for ministerial and HoDs consultations, while we progress on the technical side.