GST Statement of the Russian Federation (Plenary Session)

The Russian Federation considers the Global Stocktake (GST) as the most important precondition for assessment of the progress towards achieving the long-term goals as formulated in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement. In our view, outcomes of the Global Stocktake contribute to better understanding of the tasks that stand in front of the Parties to Paris Agreement and that will be addressed in nationally determined contributions that the Parties are encouraged to communicate in 2025 in accordance with Decision 3/CMA.3.

It is our view that taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement as referred to in its paragraph 1 of the Article 14, shall equally consider mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support.

We presume that the GST should be comprehensive and that its results should not affect the revision of the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Within the consideration of mitigation issues, the goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, as specified in paragraph 1(a), Article 2 of the Paris Agreement, was substituted with limiting the temperature increase to 1.5°C, thus breaking the integrity of balanced language of Paris Agreement as a whole.

We further encourage to avoid narrowing the Global Stocktake topics to selective conclusions of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report that deal with intensity of global temperature growth. Such approach results in politization of efforts of the IPCC as a community of scientists. The Russian Federation believes that it is necessary to avoid this politization. We stand for objective and unbiased scientific assessment that could be achieved owing to inter alia accounting for different viewpoints and enhanced participation in the IPCC activities of scientists and experts from different regions of the world as well as improved utilization of scientific information, data and knowledge available on all official UN languages.

The GST should be also focus on an outcome that will facilitate the achievement of a just transition for all countries, taking into account the diversity of decarbonisation plans and measures. We stand for a consistent just energy transition, taking into account national characteristics of countries and socio-economic consequences of climate measures.

In particular, the social and economic effects of fossil fuels phase-out at different rates of transition from the most carbon-intensive energy sources and the choice of alternatives, energy shock risks and impact on emissions on the current decade should be carefully considered.

It is significant that the GST outcomes reflect the principle of equivalence of mitigation and adaptation measures. It is important to assess the availability and adequacy of means of implementation and support. Easy access to scientific evidence, technologies and finance is a

key to the success of climate policy in all countries. The removal of unilateral barriers would help to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and strengthen international cooperation.

The Russian Federation supports the broadening of adaptation agenda, so far as adaptation to climate change has become an urgent necessity for all countries. In light of this, it is important to note that consideration of global adaptation goal must not be limited to provision of financial support to adaptation efforts in developing countries.

We recognize importance of account for differences in natural and geography conditions and social and economic development in particular countries that inevitably affect both their national adaptation targets and identification of financial consequences of adaptation measures.

Regarding mitigation, consideration should be given to any low-emission solutions and technologies that contribute to the reduction and/or absorption of greenhouse gas emissions. There should not be any provisions that discriminate or call for the abandonment of certain energy sources, for example, gas, atom, hydropower.

Regarding means of implementation, free access to technology, finance and investment should be reflected as one of the key conditions for the implementation of climate policy in all countries. Investments in low-emission and sustainable technologies are crucial to achieve global climate goals.

Furthermore, we would like to emphasize that the Russian Federation is a country that undertakes transition to market economy, and it has no commitments on provision financial assistance and support to developing countries to combat climate change. Nevertheless, the Russian Federation provides assistance on a voluntary basis through a number of international platforms including the Green Climate Fund and through bilateral cooperation in the area of adaptation to climate change.

We want to emphasize that the Russian Federation is against such measures as artificial limitations and restrictions on delivery of products and services that may result in discrimination of international trade. The stated measures worsen economic position and negatively affect sustainable development of other countries. These measures inevitably affect countries' ability to develop and implement efficient actions for mitigation and adaptation to climate change. We consider artificial limitations and restrictions are to be counterproductive and contradictory to provisions of the Paris Agreement.

In conclusion, the Russian Federation considers the Global Stocktake as an important element in assessing progress in achieving the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement. We are ready to be actively engaged in the process together with other stakeholders on all aspects of climate change.