

Informal note by the co-facilitators

on

SBSTA agenda item 9 / SBI agenda item 8

Matters relating to the work programme on just transition pathways referred to in decision
1/CMA.4, paragraphs 50–52

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The draft elements contained in this note have been prepared by the co-facilitators under their own responsibility. The structure, including headings, of this note and the elements contained therein are preliminary, not agreed and not exhaustive and have no formal status. In addition, the order of the information contained in the note does not correspond to any hierarchy or sequencing of proposals according to convergence or importance. This note is intended to assist Parties in advancing discussions on this matter and does not prejudge further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time.

Overarching considerations related to the work programme

- Be based on the principles and provisions of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, reflecting equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances;
- Acknowledge that, as climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity;
- Acknowledge opportunities and common challenges related to implementing the Paris Agreement and that no new targets or goals will be imposed, and recognize that there is no ‘one-size-fits-all’ solution.
- Acknowledge that Parties have different starting points and various just transition pathways, different timelines and development priorities, and that each Party will pursue its own just transition pathway in the light of its national context and development pathways;
- Recognize that the work programme will be non-prescriptive, non-punitive, practical, pragmatic, flexible, facilitative and respectful of national sovereignty, taking into account nationally determined contributions and leave no one behind;
- Recognize the different dimensions and just aspects of transition pathways to low-emission, climate-resilient economies, at both the international and the national level / at the national level;
- Recall Article 2, paragraph 1(a-c) of the Paris Agreement and decision 1/CMA.4, paragraphs 15–16;
- Acknowledge that a transition to a low-emission economy that results in the same structural inequalities as those seen today will not have been just;
- Highlight the NDC as the main driver for climate action and implementation of the goals of the Paris Agreement outlined in its Article 2, paragraph 1, in the context of its Article 2, paragraph 2;
- Acknowledge that a transition to a low-emission, climate-resilient economy should reduce structural, socioeconomic and technological inequalities within countries and between developed and developing countries, while ensuring that such transition pathways do not widen existing gaps between countries or hamper developmental pathways;

- Recognize that just transition pathways provide opportunities and challenges for all countries, and take into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities;
- Note the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans, and the protection of biodiversity, recognized by some cultures as Mother Earth, and the importance for some of the concept of ‘climate justice’, when taking action to address climate change;
- Recognize the social, economic and environmental impacts that developing countries will endure during transitions, and the importance of having different pathways for just transition, and take into account the needs of Parties, especially developing country Parties, in relation to the achievement of sustainable development and national priorities, the eradication of poverty, the achievement of well-being, the right to development, the ending of hunger and the ensuring of food security;
- Take into consideration the concerns of Parties with economies most affected by the impacts of response measures, particularly developing country Parties;
- Recognize that just transition pathways have a global dimension, wherein developed countries must take the lead in demonstrating such transitions within their jurisdictions in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement and help to mobilize financing for achieving such pathways in developing countries and scaled-up public grants for Parties that are particularly vulnerable, in particular the least developed countries, in accordance with Article 9, paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 / without Article 9, paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 of the Paris Agreement;
- Emphasize the urgency of scaling up action and support, including in relation to finance, capacity-building and technology transfer, for developing countries to promote just transition pathways towards the achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement;
- This section is not necessary.

Objectives

- Enhance understanding of just transition pathways and action to facilitate implementation, including identifying and selecting pilot projects;
- Share knowledge, best practices, lessons learned and experience relevant to just transition pathways;
- Identify and support just transition pathways / (Support just transition), to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement outlined in its Article 2, paragraph 1, in the context of its Article 2, paragraph 2;
- Promote just transition pathways so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty and taking into account national priorities, needs and challenges;
- Address gaps, barriers and challenges with a view to unlocking or facilitating enhanced mitigation ambition / no focus on unlocking ambition;
- Promote pathways that strive towards just transitions, including in relation to the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs, as well as skills development, practical education and training opportunities, especially for young people and the most vulnerable communities;
- Facilitate the achievement of sustainable development in its three dimensions (economic, social and environmental), as well as poverty eradication, ensuring food security, ending hunger and protecting Mother Earth, taking into account different dimensions, including intergenerational justice;

- Ensure that just transition pathways can be pursued in an inclusive, affordable and sustainable manner, particularly for vulnerable groups such as local communities and Indigenous Peoples, and are based on meaningful and effective social dialogue;
- Help to identify and unlock appropriate and available opportunities, resources and means of implementation support (finance, technology and capacity-building);
- Provide support to developing country Parties pursuing just transition pathways in accordance with Articles 9–11 of the Paris Agreement/ No reference to Articles 9 – 11 of the Paris Agreement;
- Enhance understanding of and promote action in relation to just transition pathways towards net zero emissions in accordance with nationally determined contributions and long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, and climate-resilient development;
- Promote the alignment of existing domestic financial flows, while ensuring there is a fiscal space to incentivize structural transformation / No reference to fiscal space and structural transformation;
- Support energy transition, enhance energy access and security, economic development and climate action (and treat all of these elements equally);
- Enhance adaptation action in supporting the GGA, with a view to increasing the ability of countries to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, and achievement of the long-term temperature goals of the Paris Agreement;
- Identify mitigation co-benefits from adaptation and economic diversifications, and strengthen the interlinkages between mitigation and adaptation.

Scope

- Discussion of just transition pathways to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement outlined in Article 2, paragraph 1, in the context of Article 2, paragraph 2.
- Taking into account paragraph(s) 50-52 /52 of decision 1/CMA.4, be implemented in a manner that builds on and complements the relevant workstreams under the Convention and the Paris Agreement;
- Cover the full scope of the Paris Agreement;
- Affirm that sustainable and just solutions to the climate crisis must be founded on meaningful and effective social dialogue and participation of all stakeholders, and note that the global transition to low emissions provides opportunities and challenges for sustainable economic development and poverty eradication;
- Emphasize that just and equitable transition encompasses pathways that include energy, socioeconomic, workforce and other dimensions, all of which must be based on nationally defined development priorities and include social protection so as to mitigate potential impacts associated with the transition and highlight the important role of the instruments related to social solidarity and protection in mitigating the impacts of measures taken.
- Recognize the need to ensure just transitions that promote sustainable development and eradication of poverty, and the creation of decent work and quality jobs, including by making financial flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emission and climate-resilient development, including through deployment and transfer of technology, and provision of support to developing country Parties;
- Focus on socioeconomic opportunities and challenges related to all goals of the Paris Agreement;
- Account for social and economic consequences in concerned economic sectors, budgetary implications, international trade and technology availability;

- Support and encourage private sector entities, including SMEs, that usually have limited capacity and experience related to energy and other transitions, especially those in vulnerable countries;
- Cover the following themes/clusters, among others:
 - Just transition pathways in the context of economic sectors, including among others energy, industry and construction, agriculture, land use and forestry, and waste with a view to promoting sustainable development and eradicating poverty;
 - Just transition pathways for the benefit of people in the context of different groups of people, including communities (local, Indigenous, vulnerable and low-income and otherwise marginalized communities) and in-between generations (elderly, youth and future) and gender;
 - Just transition pathways for the workforce, including the potential to create decent work and quality jobs, and the importance of education and the challenges of skilling, re-skilling, upskilling, reschooling and retooling;
 - Enablers in terms of means of implementation, including technology and innovation, for just transition pathways.

Institutional arrangements

- Establishing a joint contact group under the subsidiary bodies;
- The Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures or a new executive or technical committee serving as an expert body;
- Too early to decide on the institutional arrangements.

Modalities

- Implementation of the work programme will continue until CMA 9 (2027) with a view to feeding into the second global stocktake and subsequent global stocktakes, a review process in 2027 and an annual decision by the CMA;
- Implementation of the work programme will continue until CMA 9 (2027) with a view to adopting a decision on the continuation of the work programme at that session:
 - with annual decisions by the CMA / no annual decisions;
 - with one report requesting the subsidiary bodies to consider opportunities and challenges with a view to recommending a draft decision for consideration and adoption at CMA 9 (2027), when the work programme is scheduled to end;
- Implementation of the work programme will continue until CMA 6/7/8/ at least until CMA10 (2024 / 2025 / 2026 / at least until 2028) with a view to adopting a decision on the continuation of the work programme at that session;
- Hybrid in-session or intersessional workshops (including at regional climate weeks) with inclusive participation;
- A high-level ministerial round table at every session of the CMA starting with CMA 5 (November–December 2023) to consider a summary of the activities of the work programme and to provide direction for the next steps for the work programme;
- The work programme is to be implemented in an inclusive manner that builds on and complements both the relevant workstreams under the Convention and the Paris - Agreement, and processes outside the UNFCCC on just transition pathways, including under relevant international and regional organizations working on just transition (e.g. the International Labour Organization).

Inputs, outputs/outcomes

- **Inputs:**

- Submissions from Parties;
- Submissions from non-Party stakeholders;
- NDC synthesis report;
- Reports under other relevant workstreams and by UNFCCC constituted bodies;
- Work on just transition pathways under processes outside the UNFCCC.

- **Outputs/outcomes:**

- Summary / workshop/annual report(s);
- Technical papers /reports;
- General guidance for developing methodologies and tools including a toolbox for just transition;
- Guidance on the multilateral process on socioeconomic safeguards associated with just transition;
- Inputs to other relevant workstreams and constituted bodies;
- Online platform for sharing knowledge, best practices and experience pertaining to just transition pathways;
- Frameworks for financing just transition pathways across the global climate finance architecture;
- Establishment of the International Tribunal of Climate Justice and Mother Earth to address issues regarding just transition activities under the Convention.