

Global Stocktake

First Technical Dialogue Opening Plenary – Australian Intervention

Thank you and good afternoon colleagues.

Australia is very pleased to participate in the first Technical Dialogue of the Global Stocktake. We see the Stocktake as a crucial part of the Paris Agreement – designed to increase the ambition of all parties towards meeting the ambitious goals we set.

This week, members of my delegation have participated in several important events hosted by the IPCC which have underlined that we are not on track to meet our goals.

The messages of the IPCC are clear.

Climate change is making extreme events more frequent and more severe. It is a grave and mounting threat to our wellbeing and to a healthy planet.

In our region, the Pacific, it is the single greatest threat to livelihoods, security and wellbeing.

But the IPCC has also identified that there is increased evidence that climate action is having an impact. And there are options in all sectors that can significantly reduce emissions, including by 2030.

These Technical Dialogues are an important opportunity to address the ‘how’ questions – how can we work together to close the emissions gap, how can we better adapt to the changing climate, and how can we align financial flows to support low emissions development.

We look to the Global Stocktake to help us identify practical and concrete solutions that can help get the world on track to meeting our commitments, including ways to urgently scale up ambition and implementation to keep 1.5 alive. This will be particularly relevant as parties look to start work on their next NDC submissions.

We welcome the important role non-party stakeholders are playing in the Technical Dialogue. As parties we should recognise that in many cases it is non-party stakeholders whose interests are most directly impacted by the goals we set and that will be doing the heavy lifting to meet them. And I know Australia’s experts are looking forward to hearing from non-party stakeholders, including youth, indigenous people, the private sector and others, about the practical, concrete actions that can be taken.

Australia underlines the importance of equity in this process. Our actions should have a strong focus on the most vulnerable. We look forward to hearing practical approaches that ensure that support reaches those most vulnerable to the impacts of the changing climate in all of our countries.

We are grateful to all the work that has taken place so far to get us to this point in the process, including from you, the cofacilitators of the Technical Dialogue, the secretariat and all those who have provided valuable inputs into this process.

Thank you.