

## **Remarks of Republic of Vanuatu**

### **GST Roundtable on Intersection (Integrated and Holistic Approach)**

**3:00pm 10 June 2023**

Thank you, Co-facilitators, for giving me the opportunity to share Vanuatu's experiences as we deliberate around the Global Stocktake.

Vanuatu aligns with the views expressed by Trinidad and Tobago on behalf of AOSIS and the Pacific Small Island Developing States in this session.

Like many other Pacific SIDS, Vanuatu is very proud of the many efforts towards integrating and mainstreaming climate change considerations into all our government sectors' plans and policies, which sets a good governance and coordination mechanism from national to provincial government level.

With this national coordination mechanism, our government sectors have incorporated and mainstreamed climate change adaptation and mitigation activities into their sectors' plans and policies.

However, our main challenge is the means for implementation, meaning we need more capacity and finance for effective implementation across government sectors.

The last point I want to share is around institutional capacity and human resources – for the last 8 years, we are faced with numerous category 5 and 4 tropical cyclones, which happened almost every two years apart. With this frequency of Tropical Cyclones, the only few human resources we have across government institutions, are focussing more and almost full

time on disaster response efforts, than fully implementing our planned CC initiatives amongst their different sectors, and this is becoming a working norm now for these Government ministries.

Even coming to Bonn for these two weeks is a big ask to the government to allow us to come, as we are still responding to the twin Category 4 TCs Judy and Kevin from February this year.

So, how do we deal or address such situation, when we are taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement in an integrated and holistic approach?

Finally, the course correction is urgent and existential for us, and the solutions are many and implementable. But unless we all decide to work together for global transformation, we will continue to see short-sighted national priorities take us to even further dangerous impacts that are far beyond the capacity of adaptation to minimize.

Therefore, our ambition this year will determine the number of human lives lost, and the livability of this planet.

I thank you.