

## Roundtable 2: Adaptation and Loss and Damage Adaptation Roundtable GST

### Lana Weidgenant

Dear delegates, My name is Lana Weidgenant and I am a youth climate advocate with YOUNGO, the organization Zero Hour and ProVeg International.

I am here today to provide technical inputs on behalf of global children and youth.

In Adaptation, GST should ensure that:

- Adaptation efforts in response to climate change prioritize localized action that includes community needs and input. Community education on climate risks and community-led solutions should be at the forefront of adaptation initiatives, going beyond a sole focus on technological solutions.
- To bridge the gap between current levels of adaptation and what is required, it is crucial to prioritize funding for the Locally Led adaptation and National Adaptation Plans (NAP) through climate financing mechanisms.
- Meaningful participation of Indigenous peoples, local communities, and youth in planning and decision-making processes is essential. The establishment of regional platforms, networks, and partnerships for information exchange and coordinated action is crucial. Increasing awareness and accessibility to tools and methodologies for assessing adaptation actions and ensuring a rights-based, locally-led, gender and youth-responsive, and ecosystem-based approach are key elements for effective adaptation planning.
- Health is a youth priority for adaptation in NDCs and NAPs. We support the wellbeing framing of the GGA proposed by AOSIS in their March 2023 submission and hope to see this approach integrated with the GST. Good public health is itself a pillar of resilience - healthy communities are more likely to be able to withstand and recover from climate shocks.
- On food systems: Addressing agriculture is essential to ensuring food security under climate change. According to the IPCC, reducing meat consumption is an adaptation measure “because it reduces pressure on land and water and thus our vulnerability to climate change and inputs limitations”. Shifts to plant-based diets help alleviate the pressures that climate change is creating. Given the current needs and the length of previous similar funding arrangement procedures, action on L&D finance is needed urgently

A. Non-economic losses and slow-onset disasters need to be addressed as strong determinants in measuring loss and damage without neglecting Economic loss and damage.

B. A grant-based based funding approach should be highly considered

C. The Loss and damage Fund should be Fast, easy, and accessible

D. The fund should be directly accessible for youth-led initiatives without the need for validation through several institutional barriers that systematically neglect youth in multilateral finance

The finalization of L&D funding must result in clear language on who gets what and how. This is to ensure that all relevant stakeholders have easy access to the funds.

The text must ensure that the funding arrangements and GST include the evaluation of NDCs and NAPs to reflect the level of commitment and lapses of parties in achieving the Paris Agreement,

using real-time data on climate change impact. Immediate funding is crucial to tackle the loss and damage caused and to fulfill the current and future needs of the most vulnerable, many of whom are and will be youth.

The decision on who should receive funds should not be a straightforward yes or no question. It is vital to examine a country's economic capacity to deal with the level of L&D incurred. if the financial burden is high in relation to the economic capacity of a country.

A country's financial support should enable it to properly cope with the severe repercussions of climate change. Finally, we raise the importance of posters from the GST being kept available to view until the end of SB58 Thank you for your consideration of youth voices and we will send further inputs via our written statement.