



United Nations

FCCC/APA/2016/INF.4/Add.1



Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Distr.: General
18 October 2016

English only

Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement

Second part of the first session

Marrakech, 7–14 November 2016

Agenda item 6(a) and (b)

Matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement

Identification of the sources of input for the global stocktake

Development of the modalities of the global stocktake

Parties' views regarding matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement

Information document by the secretariat

Addendum

1. In addition to the 11 submissions contained in document FCCC/APA/2016/INF.4, 4 further submissions have been received.
2. In accordance with established practice, these submissions are attached and reproduced* in the language in which they were received and without formal editing.¹

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

¹ Also available at <<http://unfccc.int/5900>>.

GE.16-18063(E)



* 1 6 1 8 0 6 3 *

Please recycle



Contents

	<i>Page</i>
1. Canada on behalf of Australia, Canada, Japan and the United States of America (Submission received 7 October 2016)	3
2. Norway (Submission received 14 October 2016)	7
3. Republic of Korea on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group (Submission received 7 October 2016)	10
4. Slovakia and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its member States** (Submission received 7 October 2016)	13

** This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Paper no. 1: Canada on behalf of Australia, Canada, Japan and the United States of America

Submission by Australia, Canada, Japan and the United States on APA Item 6 - Inputs and Modalities of the Global Stocktake

We are pleased to present our shared views on APA Agenda Item 6, “Matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement: (a) identification of the sources of input for the global stocktake; and (b) development of the modalities of the global stocktake.”

The global stocktake is a centrally important component of the Paris Agreement that signals to the international community a collective, long-term commitment to achieving the purpose and goals of the Agreement. It is the primary mechanism through which Parties come together to track collective progress on a regular basis. It will provide critical information and identify key opportunities that will allow Parties to bridge gaps, strengthen cooperation, and develop future actions, with the ultimate aim of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change.

Equally important, the global stocktake demonstrates Parties’ commitment to basing our response to climate change on the forefront of scientific and technical knowledge. We are pleased that the global stocktake will be informed by robust assessments of the latest scientific findings, including the integral work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

We view the global stocktake as a process through which Parties will periodically engage in a constructive and facilitative dialogue that will in and of itself build trust and strengthen collaboration between Parties. This dialogue will also be comprehensive, encompassing mitigation, adaptation, and support. In our view, with the aim of ensuring its effectiveness and impact, the global stocktake would:

- communicate a *clear* and *accurate* picture of collective progress;
- be *action-oriented* and maintain forward momentum towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long term goals by motivating Parties to convert information on collective progress and opportunities into tangible, ambitious actions and policies;
- reinforce collective *ownership* of ambition needed among Parties to successfully implement the Paris Agreement;
- engage non-Party stakeholders as a means of mobilizing the broader international community; and
- facilitate an *open* exchange of lessons and sharing of best practices.

MODALITIES

Building on the above, the modalities of the global stocktake should reflect its dual objectives:

- 1) to generate a dialogue through which the scientific and technical information on collective progress achieved and opportunities for future action is gathered, analyzed, and presented; and
- 2) to mobilize Parties for the purpose of enhancing action and ambition towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

To achieve these two purposes, we envision the global stocktake as a process consisting of two phases:

1) *Technical phase*

- This phase would take a form which draws from that of the ‘Structured Expert Dialogue’ through which Parties and relevant experts, including technical experts, would engage in a focused, constructive exchange of information and ideas. This dialogue would encompass three distinct components: 1) mitigation; 2) adaptation and; 3) support.
- *Co-facilitators* could be identified to convene each component of the dialogue and oversee the completion of a number of tasks. Consideration should be given to the degree of responsibility and autonomy afforded to co-facilitators. In this regard, an effective balance should be achieved to ensure that the dialogues are Party-driven, while at the same time efficient, focused, and constructive.
- There are a number of options in structuring the form, timing, and duration of the dialogues. A degree of flexibility could be maintained regarding adjustments to these aspects (e.g., flexibility to extend the number/duration of the components of the dialogue). This can ensure the dialogues meet their objectives and evolve to reflect lessons learned from similar experiences and previous dialogues, while staying true to the original purpose and intended character of the global stocktake.
- The output of this phase could involve a synthesis report or reports. These reports would reflect all items discussed during the dialogue, including findings presented by the experts, and communicate a clear indication of collective progress towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement. These reports would further contain a forward-looking aspect to identify key opportunities for action and cooperation moving forward.

2) Leadership Phase

- This phase would be the culmination of the global stocktake, and would take the form of a high-level event designed to directly engage Parties¹ in the global stocktake process. At this high-level event, co-facilitators could present the synthesis reports, focusing on key findings.
- Following the presentation of the synthesis reports or other information, Parties would have the opportunity to reflect on the findings, engage in open and substantive discussions, and signal their continued commitment to implement the Paris Agreement to the broader international community. Parties could consider opportunities for enhanced action highlighted in the synthesis reports or other information presented.
- As the culmination of the stocktake, and to ensure high-level participation, the leadership phase could take place during the CMA in each year the global stocktake is set to occur (2023, 2028, etc.)
- The outputs of the leadership phase could take a number of forms to capture the richness of discussion between Parties, the state of collective progress, and other key outcomes at the high-level event. The output could guide and mobilize increasingly ambitious actions over both the near and long-term.

Participation of non-Party stakeholders

- One important issue to consider is the specific form, mechanism and timing for the participation of non-Party stakeholders. There are a number of options regarding when and in what capacity these actors could be engaged in the process (e.g. by contributing to the technical and/or leadership phase; and/or to provide inputs on collective progress or opportunities for further action).

INPUTS

The Paris Agreement and decision 1/CP.21² provide guidance with regard to the type of inputs needed for the global stocktake. In considering additional inputs beyond those set forth in the Agreement and the decision text, and building from the proposed modalities described above, we offer the following thoughts:

¹ The high level event would engage Parties at the level of, inter alia, heads of state, ministers, and ambassadors.

² See Agreement Articles 7.14, 9.6, 10.6, 13.5, 13.6 and Decision CP.21, paragraph 99.

1. Under the proposed technical phase, each substantive component of the dialogue (mitigation, adaptation, and support) would have different information needs and engage different experts. As such, inputs appropriate to each area of focus will vary and should reflect the characteristics of the areas of focus.
2. It will be challenging to identify today a comprehensive list of the types of input needed for a robust global stocktake that will not take place until 2023, 2028, and beyond. To ensure consideration of a broad range of inputs, calls for submissions could be issued in advance of the dialogue. Such a call for submissions would seek to benefit from the wealth of knowledge and experience available among scientists, academics, and other expert institutions. The inputs into the global stocktake should capitalize on existing sources of information in Paris Agreement forums.
3. We should carefully consider how to balance between needing to be comprehensive and inclusive against the need to also ensure that the global stocktake is conducted efficiently and that the inputs are relevant, based on the best available science, and useful for informing enhanced action. One possible way to navigate these potentially competing interests would be to charge the co-facilitators within each substantive area (mitigation, adaptation, and support) with identifying the most up-to-date and robust inputs, beyond a standard list, with support from the UNFCCC secretariat and consultation with Parties. Alternatively, rather than identify upfront criteria for their inclusion, all responses to the call for submissions could be considered as inputs to the technical phase; then through the dialogue itself, Parties would identify and focus on those inputs they found most robust and informative to supporting enhanced action. The timing of identification, collation and use of inputs for the global stocktake will need to be carefully considered. It may be more valuable for Parties to be able to access inputs in advance of the technical phase.
4. While other scientific inputs may also be relevant, IPCC reports will form a principal scientific input to the global stocktake. As such, it is critical to maintain and respect the scientific integrity and robustness of the IPCC in considering ways to better integrate the work of the IPCC with the global stocktake.

We look forward to engaging with other Parties on these and other ideas related to the global stocktake, with a view to develop robust modalities and consider potential inputs, starting at COP22.

Paper no. 2: Norway

Submission under APA Item 6 by Norway on global stocktake

Norway is pleased to present its views on the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement including its input and modalities (ref. decision 1/CP.21).

The global stocktake creates a strong and dynamic element and creates a space for a continuous **political momentum** for enhancing the implementation of the Paris Agreement and strengthening the global response to climate change. The purpose of the global stocktake is to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Agreement and its long term goals, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation. The global stocktake has a particular role in identifying gaps between implementation and the mitigation objectives of the Paris Agreement, hence the global stocktake must be seen as a key component in facilitating higher level of ambitions from all Parties.

While the global stocktake assess the collective progress, the **outcome** of the global stocktake shall inform Parties to enhance action and support in a nationally determined manner, as well as enhancing international cooperation. This context is important for the deliberations on the inputs and modalities of the global stocktake.

The global stocktake shall be based on the **best available science**. In our understanding best available science is assessed through the IPCC, providing a common scientific platform for the global stocktake. This do not exclude scientific input from other authoritative sources.

The collective progress shall be assessed in **the light of equity**. This should be done in a bottom-up, non-intrusive and facilitative manner informed by the Parties own assessment of their response to climate.

Input

Mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation are the core elements of the global stocktake. While considering input and modalities we should be mindful that inputs required for these elements will be of different nature.

The global stocktake should draw upon different inputs. Norway considers that this can be categorized into three broad categories, based on paragraph 99 of 1/CP.21; input from Parties, input from reports of the subsidiary bodies of the UNFCCC, and input from the scientific community serving different purposes for the global stocktake. While we consider that these input will provide a good basis for the input to the global stocktake, we recognize a need for identifying more specifically the sources of the inputs. We also note that there are overlap in some of the calls for information that we need to address to avoid overlapping and duplicating information and assessments.

Input derived from information provided by Parties will inform the global stocktake about the collective progress made by Parties and how Parties collectively plan to achieve the purpose of the Agreement and its long-term goals. Hence information from Parties have both backward and forward looking elements.

- **The enhanced transparency framework** will play an important role for the input to all elements to be assessed under the global stocktake, providing a picture of how Parties are progressing in their efforts to respond to climate change in accordance with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. This includes information on progress made on mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation including the mobilization and provision of support.
- With regard to **support**, country reporting will need to be supplemented with other sources of information. In particular we see merit in building on the work on the biennial assessment that the

Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) issues. The first report from 2014 was a first preliminary attempt to give an overview of global climate finance flows. We expect these reports to improve over time and as such it will be a good basis for input to the global stocktake.

- In order to provide an overview of the state of adaptation efforts, support, experiences and priorities for adaptation, various sources will be drawn upon, including the enhanced transparency framework and adaptation communication provided through communications or documents such as national adaptation plans, NDCs and/or national communications. In providing an overview of adaptation support we are mindful that there is a separate call for information on support in paragraph 99. The issue of potential overlap and duplication should be addressed in our further deliberation.
- For information about mitigation the first global stocktake in 2023 and partly the 2028 stocktake will not benefit from information from the accounting of NDCs. Later global stocktake will however be able to draw upon information from the accounting of NDCs and to provide a clear notion of what has been achieved at a certain point in time.
- We also consider that input to the global stocktake must be forward-looking allowing us to assess not only collective progress that has been made, but also expected progress on mitigation. This would place the NDCs at the core of the global stocktake. Thus the quality of the up-front information in the NDCs will influence the quality of the global stocktake.

Input from the scientific community will inform the global stocktake about what is necessary to do to achieve the purpose of the Agreement and its long term goals, how it can be achieved and what the climate effects and impacts of different emission pathways may be. The main source drawn from the work of the IPCC assessment reports, special reports and methodology reports. For the first global stocktake in 2023 the sixth assessment report (2021-2022), three special reports and one methodology report will be available.

Other authoritative sources may be considered if they have sufficient quality and are relevant to the analysis of collective progress related to the themes to be assessed in the global stocktake. While it is difficult to derive absolute criteria for what is sufficient quality and best available science, the deliberations on the input may benefit from a clarification on what this implies with regard to the input to the global stocktake.

Input from the reports of the subsidiary bodies of the UNFCCC bodies will inform the global stocktake. Committees and bodies reporting through the subsidiary bodies of the Convention are mandated to carry out various assessments that may provide valuable input to the global stocktake. It is important that the work already done is utilized efficiently and to avoid double work and parallel processes under the Convention.

Modalities

Modalities for the global stocktake should reflect that it is an assessment of collective progress to inform enhanced action and support and that this shall be done in a facilitative manner. Thus the political anchoring of the global stocktake is imperative to this end.

In our opinion, the political anchoring will benefit an up-front in-depth dialogue that provides the necessary input to a high-level political anchoring. This up-front dialogue should be inclusive, contributing to broad understanding and ownership by Parties as well as other key stakeholders. The preparatory dialogue will be based on input referred to in paragraph 99 and be guided by a set of framing assessment questions. We suggest that these framing questions are outlined in our further deliberations on the global stocktake. These should include questions related to the:

- Progress made and expected progress toward achieving Article 2.1 a) and Article 4.1 (mitigation).

- Progress made towards achieving Article 2.1 b) and Article 7.1 (adaptation) . Article 7.14 provides some specificity to the what may be relevant questions to consider.
- Questions related to progress made on means of implementation including support, capacity building, technology transfer and finance may be outlined separately or in connection with the framing questions for mitigation and adaptation.

The preparatory dialogue should be initiated well ahead of the respective CMAs for the global stocktake. To provide the necessary time and depth the preparatory dialogue should be structured in separate sessions on each of the elements of the global stocktake. The timing should correspond with the release of the different parts of the IPCC assessment reports. For the 2023 global stocktake, it will for example be beneficial to have a session in the preparatory dialogue after every part of IPCC AR6 is finalized. This could imply a need for a relatively early start of the work on the global stocktake. IPCC WGI about the climate system will be available in April 2021 and could be dealt with in Bonn in 2021. IPCC WGII impacts and adaptation (July 2021) and WGIII mitigation (Oct 2021) could be dealt with at COP 27 in 2021 and the IPCC synthesis report (April 2022) could be dealt with at the Bonn session in 2022.

The global stocktake should draw upon experience with similar assessment processes. In particular the experience from the Structured Expert Dialogue under the Review (2013-15). The way the Review was conducted was a good way to communicate the results from the IPCC and other relevant bodies to the Parties of the Convention. Experiences from other assessment processes under the Convention such as the Technological Needs Assessments should also inform the modalities of the global stocktake.

The modalities of the global stocktake should be inclusive. There is a need to identify how non-governmental organization, international organizations, international business and industry as well as crosscutting and sectorial initiatives can be involved, for example by extending invitations to relevant representatives to take part in meetings during the preparatory dialogue of the global stocktake. This may serve both to enhance broad anchoring of the global stocktake by relevant stakeholders as well as providing concrete, on the ground examples on good practices as well as lessons learnt.

The preparatory dialogue must provide a solid foundation for the high-level political anchoring. The output may take several formats, but it is important that the politicians have a clear roadmap for their deliberations to facilitate informed decisions. The political dialogue may take the form of a high-level negotiations to directly engage Party leaders in the global stocktake process. The outcome from the political dialogue should inform Parties enhanced action and support, as well as the creating of new collaborative initiatives to enhance momentum towards implementation in accordance with the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long term goal. The outputs could potentially take several formats. One format could be a political statement/declaration or similar to provide a clear signal to the world.

Paper no. 3: Republic of Korea on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group

EIG Submission on Matters Relating to the Global Stocktake Referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement

August 2016

The Environment Integrity Group (EIG) is pleased to present its views on matters relating to the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement for consideration at the APA 1-2 and beyond.

EIG believes that the global stocktake is a key component leading to the success of the Paris Agreement. It functions as a mechanism informing us of where we are and where to go by tracking our progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals on a regular basis. EIG recognizes that there is a significant gap between the collective efforts and the level of ambition needed to achieve the long-term goals; increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and climate resilience, and making finance flows consistent with low carbon development. It is therefore important to have such backward and forward looking process of assessing collective progress, which allows a better understanding of the situation, and thus informing future actions. The robust global stocktake will drive momentum for the dynamic increase in ambition and support and also the enhancement of international cooperation.

1. Sources of input for the stocktake

The sources of input are the critical elements determining the quality and the outputs of the global stocktake. Therefore, it is crucial to consider the full scope of inputs covering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support in a comprehensive and balanced way, in light of equity and best available science as noted in Article 14.1 of the Paris Agreement. A number of sources of inputs are already identified in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 99 and EIG would like to flesh out some of the sources listed in the paragraph 99.

First, the EIG is of the opinion that IPCC reports should be the essential sources of input for the global stocktake, noting the conclusions of Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) forty-fourth session agenda item 6(b) "Matters relating to science and review: advice on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement". In this context, EIG underscores the importance of the sixth IPCC assessment reports

expected to be approved until 2022 in accordance with the IPCC decisions¹, which will greatly contribute to the scientific integrity of the first global stocktake in 2023.

Next, reports by/of the Convention bodies including, but not limited to, the Adaptation Committee, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Technology Framework and the Paris Committee on Capacity-building could further be considered as inputs. Identification of the relevant bodies which can provide useful information to the global stocktake could be useful as an initial step. However, the way how these reports from relevant bodies can be brought systematically and effectively into the process of the global stocktake is another issue that must be resolved in the coming APA sessions.

Finally, agreeing to consider information on the overall effect of NDCs as one of sources of input, the EIG requests the Secretariat to continue periodically publishing the synthesis reports on the aggregate effect of (I)NDCs mentioned in decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 25. EIG is of the view that national information including inventory reports submitted regularly by Parties and review reports of that information under the transparency framework for action and support will be very valuable inputs for the assessment of Parties' collective efforts. In this regard, the enhancement of the transparency framework that provides clarity on climate change action and support as referred to in Article 13.5 and 13.6 of the Paris Agreement is crucial.

Modalities of the global stocktake

The global stocktake shall be conducted in a comprehensive, balanced, facilitative and transparent manner, embracing all elements of mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support. EIG sees the global stocktake as both a political and a technical process. Technical workshops on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation will ensure the scientific integrity of the global stocktake by exchanging information and views with scientific communities and experts. This can then serve as a channel to feed scientific and technical inputs into the global stocktake. The structured expert dialogue (SED) on 2013-2015 review provides lessons in terms of possible formats of the technical workshops. The EIG therefore is of the view that it is essential to build on previous experiences and knowledge when developing the modalities for the global

stocktake under APA. EIG also proposes a high-level segment in order to create the political momentum and deliver information necessary for Parties to update or enhance their actions and support and also promote cooperation. Lastly, EIG sees that the global stocktake on mitigation and the 2018 facilitative dialogue are closely linked in that both processes track progress towards the

¹ IPCC/XL III-6 and IPCC/XL III-7

long-term goal to reduce temperatures to well below 2°C and to strive to limit temperatures to 1.5°C.

However, the global stocktake is broader in scope and therefore experiences gained and lessons learnt from the 2018 facilitative dialogue are important to facilitating further elaboration of the global stocktake but should not be limited to it.

Paper no. 4: Slovakia and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its member States

SUBMISSION BY THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

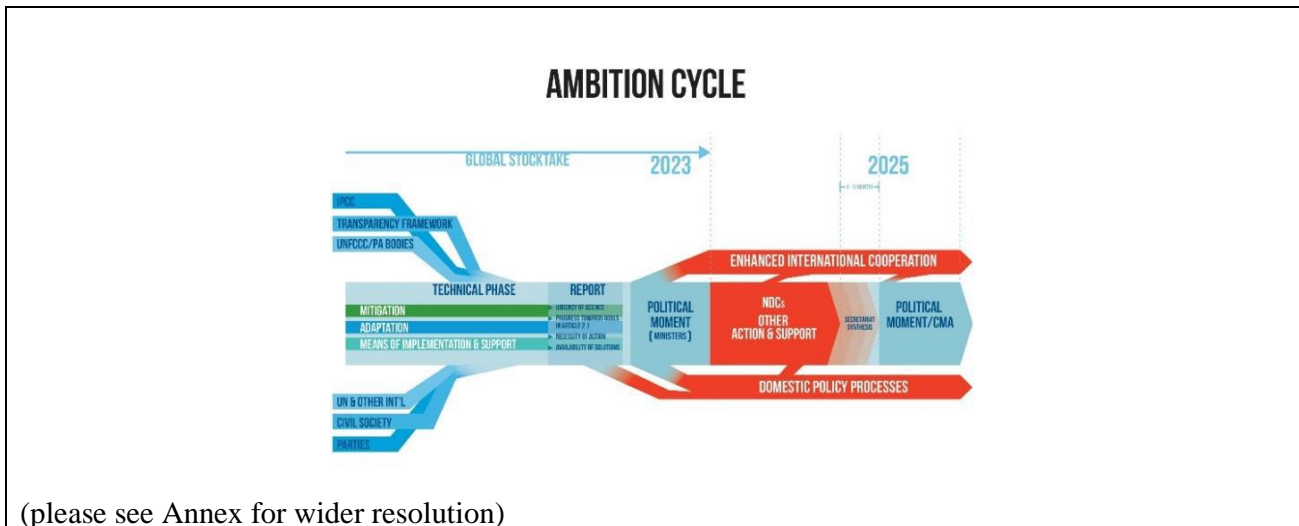
This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Bratislava, 7 October 2016

Subject: Matters relating to the Global Stocktake (GST) referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement

Key messages:

- The global stocktake (GST) provides a political moment that will inform Parties' domestic and cooperative action;
- The GST is part of a wider ambition cycle that will help deliver progressively more ambitious efforts as described in the relevant articles of the Agreement.
- The GST itself could entail a technical and a political phase.
- The GST should promote a shared understanding, inform and incentivise domestic processes, and help enhance collective efforts.
- The technical phase should deliver information on progress made, further action required and opportunities towards meeting the long-term goals of the Paris agreement.
- The political phase should promote a shared political understanding, inform and incentivise domestic processes and should enhance progressively ambitious action, both domestic and collective.
- Inputs to the technical phase could be those agreed in Paris as well as any other relevant, reliable and sound inputs from Parties, UN bodies, international organisations and civil society.
- Mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support should be treated in a balanced and tailored manner.
- Focused summaries with key information can feed into relevant international and domestic political processes.



I. Introduction

1. The EU and its Member States welcome the opportunity to submit views on the Global Stocktake (GST) referred to in Art. 14 of the Paris Agreement. We also offer a series of questions for discussions at the resumed session of APA-1.
2. The Paris Agreement and decision 1/CP.21 already determine some of the key aspects of the high level design of the GST, namely *where, when and what*. Article 14 stipulates that the GST shall be undertaken by the CMA (the where) every five years (the when), that it will take stock of the implementation of the agreement and its long term goals in a comprehensive and facilitative manner and that it will consider mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support in the light of equity and the best available science (the what). Decision 1/CP.21 also already provides a set of inputs to be taken into account in this process.
3. The procedural and substantive provisions to take stock every 5 years in order to regularly enhance and update our efforts as per Art. 14, is a process whereby:
 - The CMA will regularly assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals; and
 - The outcome will inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support as well as enhancing international cooperation.
4. This implies that the GST should:
 - build a shared understanding of the overall effect of contributions and what collectively needs to be done to achieve the long term goals of the Paris Agreement; and
 - focus political attention and create awareness about potential and concrete options for increased climate action in order to contribute to increased ambition of domestic and collective action.

5. As mentioned above, the GST will be undertaken in the light of best available science and of equity. While it is not the objective of the GST to settle scientific nor equity questions, different aspects of both science (for example through the IPCC) and equity can be relevant to the GST's deliberations.

II. General considerations

6. The inputs and modalities of the GST must help to deliver its purpose and fulfil its role in the ambition cycle. Our work should be guided by the goals set out in Art. 2 of the Agreement, as well as the relevant Articles on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support, ensuring a balanced and tailored approach to each element.
7. The modalities should ensure that the process is open and inclusive. At the same time, it needs to be efficient in the use of Parties' and other stakeholders' time and resources.
8. The GST must drive progressively more ambitious action in Parties' successive efforts. As Parties' contributions will be nationally determined, the outputs of GST should be sufficiently concrete to inform action. Additionally, we would note, the importance of the consideration of common timeframes for nationally determined contributions as per art. 4.10)

Questions to promote further consideration by Parties

How do we ensure that mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support are handled in a balanced and tailored manner?

How do we keep the process open and inclusive but also efficient and effective?

How do we ensure that the GST's collective assessment produces an "action oriented" outcome that drives ambitious outcomes in both individual and collective efforts?

III. Inputs

9. Paragraph 99 of Decision 1/CP.21 identifies a number of important inputs. The list is open-ended but the number of inputs should be manageable for the system to handle. In addition, the list under subparagraph (a) describes the areas to be covered but not all the sources of information on these areas.
10. Regarding information related to mitigation and the overall effect of the NDCs (subparagraph (a) (i)), this could be covered by an updated version of the Secretariat's synthesis report, by information coming from the transparency framework in line with Art. 13.7 of the Agreement, and by information provided in the context of art.4.19 (long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies).

11. In relation to adaptation (subparagraph (a)(ii)), in addition to a synthesis of adaptation communications the information provided by Parties in the context of the enhanced transparency framework (Art. 13 of the Agreement) would be relevant as well as the reports from the Adaptation Committee and Least Developed Countries Expert Group.
12. In relation to mobilization and provision of support (subparagraph (a) (iii)) and in order to be able to assess progress towards Article 2.1 (c), the GST will need to consider the current state of climate finance flows, both domestically and internationally, at a global level, encompassing low-carbon and climate resilient investments. Currently, there are no comprehensive quantitative sources available that can directly provide such information to the GST. However, a number of existing sources as the Biennial Assessment from the Standing Committee on Finance, have the potential to serve as inputs. Also, in relation to subparagraph (a) (iii) key inputs will be available through the enhanced transparency framework, as well as from information received under Decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 45 from agencies and financial institutions on incorporating climate-proofing and climate resilience measures. Note in addition that Art. 9.6 of the Agreement provides that the GST shall take into account relevant information provided by developed country Parties and/or Agreement bodies on efforts related to climate finance¹. The GST will also need to consider information on technology development & transfer and capacity building, including the information contained in reports from Parties and inputs from dedicated UNFCCC bodies (such as TEC, CTCN and PCCB).
13. In keeping with the collective nature of the GST, and to help make the information from the enhanced transparency framework more manageable, the Secretariat could prepare a synthesis report on the basis of the reporting provided under Art. 13 of the Agreement.
14. In order for the GST to help deliver its purpose, input on potential and concrete options for increased climate action should also be considered. This could include information on untapped mitigation or adaptation potential, e.g. at a sectoral level, low-cost and cost-effective mitigation and adaptation options and technological developments as well as concrete policy options and best practices for shifting finance flows in accordance with Art. 2.1(c). Possible sources of such input could be technical processes that take place under the Convention, practice emerging from national and international action on the ground and/or relevant processes under other UN bodies or international organisations.

¹See EU submission on 'Views on the development of modalities for the accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions in accordance with Art. 9, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement' for a further discussion on this issue.

15. The EU considers IPCC reports as key inputs to the GST, in line with subparagraph (b) of paragraph 99 of Decision 1/CP.21.² In our view, the GST should consider the most recent IPCC assessment report, as well as relevant special reports that may be of particular importance for informing considerations on the future level of action needed to meet the long term mitigation goal.
16. The sources of input could usefully remain open-ended. Additional inputs brought forward by constituted bodies, other institutions and organisations outside the UNFCCC and/or Parties should be relevant, reliable, and in line with peer reviewed prevailing science. This could also help ensure that the inputs considered are up to date. A general invitation for Parties and observers to provide submissions as inputs to the GST could be one possible simple way to encourage further inputs.

Questions to promote further consideration by Parties

What further information will the GST need to deliver its purpose, and what sources would be able to provide that information?

Should further inputs be specifically mandated?

How do we ensure that inputs are relevant, reliable and in line with best available science?

IV. Modalities

17. The CMA is responsible for undertaking the GST. However, it will need to draw upon other bodies for the more technical aspects of the work. Parties will have to agree on the institutional and procedural arrangements necessary to ensure the GST can fulfil its purpose. As many Parties stated in Bonn, the GST could have both a technical and a political phase.

b) Technical phase

18. Given the breadth of information that will be provided by the inputs, an efficient technical phase could be used to gather, synthesise and begin to discuss the inputs and key messages. Its objective should be to help build shared understanding of the facts among Parties, in order to prepare for an assessment of the collective progress.
19. The technical phase could:
- Consider the long-term goals in Article 2 of the Agreement in 3 parallel focused discussions addressing mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support, to ensure a balanced and tailored treatment of all elements.
 - Include presentations, Q&A and debate on key issues in each of the parallel discussions.

² See EU submission on 'Views from Parties and observer organizations on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the global stocktake'.

20. The design of the technical phase could take into account the lessons learned from the Structured Expert Dialogue which provided a platform for Parties to engage with leading experts within a structured framework outside the formal negotiation track. In order to build real shared understanding of the challenges and solutions among Parties, and to remain open and inclusive, the technical phase could engage relevant and qualified stakeholders (including non-state actors) outside the UNFCCC.
21. The timing and the organisation of the technical phase are challenging since it needs to balance openness and inclusiveness with efficiency, and ensure that it considers inputs that are up to date. The EU is considering one year as the indicative timing for the process as a whole, feeding into political discussions at the subsequent CMA.

Questions to promote further consideration by Parties

What lessons learned from the Structured Expert Dialogue should inform the design of a technical phase?

Is one year a reasonable timeframe for a technical phase to commission, collect and synthesize relevant data?

What role should the subsidiary bodies, UNFCCC Secretariat or any bodies play in this phase of the GST?

22. As an intermediate output, the technical phase could produce focused summaries of the inputs and technical discussions that were conducted under each element, in line with the long-term goals of the Agreement. The summary should provide a basis for a political discussion; both internationally, during the political phase of the GST, and domestically, as Parties consider subsequent or updated NDCs and actions.
23. For mitigation, one option would be for the summary to focus on quantitative information that highlights the need for higher ambition in subsequent or updated NDCs. However, to be most useful to inform Parties' domestic processes and to support the ambition cycle as a whole, it should also raise awareness of concrete policy options that would deliver continuous and increased climate action and international cooperation.
24. For adaptation, Art. 7.14 provides guidance on the areas for the technical phase to address in order to provide relevant input to the political phase bearing in mind that the quality and comprehensiveness of adaptation information should improve over time, so as to allow mutual learning. In addition, the output of the technical phase could also inform and/or be taken up by Convention processes and existing bodies to enhance implementation of adaptation action and strengthen and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Adaptation Framework.

25. For means of implementation and support, the summary could provide evidence and create awareness on progress towards the transformational finance flows goal under Article 2.1c as well as untapped potentials and concrete policy options and best-practices to shift flows. When addressing concrete policy options that would deliver continuous and increased climate action and international cooperation, the summaries should also give consideration on how to enhance the capacity of developing country parties to implement the Paris Agreement, and to fully realize technology development and transfer in order to improve resilience to climate change and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Questions to promote further consideration by Parties

For each element, what would be most important for the summary of the technical phase to provide that ensures added value to the political debate?

What would be the most appropriate timing for this process to last?

c) Political phase

26. The political phase could include a ‘political moment’ with Ministerial participation. It should aim to (i) promote a shared political understanding of the key issues, challenges and opportunities, so as to (ii) inform and create momentum for domestic processes that underpin the enhancing and updating of actions and support, as well as (iii) help enhance collective efforts.
27. The output of the political phase could take different formats. In either case it should be highlighting the state of collective progress and challenges towards meeting the long-term goals of the Agreement, expressing the common resolve of Parties to enhance their nationally determined future action to deliver these goals, and referring to concrete options for enhancing climate action and international cooperative action.
28. Political level engagement during the course of the ambition cycle is of the utmost importance. We could explore an additional moment outside of the CMA or UNFCCC and the role of the political leadership. The character of an additional moment and if and how it could serve the process should be further tested.

Questions to promote further consideration by Parties

What should the output of the political phase consist of in order to help achieve the desired outcomes of the GST? How should this output be produced?

How should the political phase fit within other elements of the ambition cycle to promote enhanced ambition and cooperation?

V. Conclusion

29. The EU and its Member States look forward to further conversations at APA-1 and we trust our Co-chairs to promote clear and structured discussions on this important matter.

AMBITION CYCLE

