



Enhancing Ambition of Climate Action in the African Context: *Africa-Focused Analysis of the First Global Stocktake (GST-1) Outcomes*

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Project Details

Objective: An African-focused analysis of the Global Stocktake (GST) outcome and related decisions from CMA.5 (COP 28/Dubai Nov-Dec 2023)

- understand the policy, economic and developmental implications for the African continent;
- to inform African countries efforts to consider and implement the outcome of GST-1 in their NDC 2.0 (Methodological Framework); and
- regional organisation support for their implementation

Deliverables:

- GST-1 Analysis:** Technical Analysis of the outcome of GST-1 and related decisions of CMA.5
- Policy relevant findings and guidance** that African countries should consider when preparing their NDC 2.0s
- Methodological Framework:** that will assist African countries in integrating the relevant outcomes of GST-1 outcomes in line with their policy positions and developmental objectives into their NDC 2.0; and inform the efforts of African regional organizations to support African countries to meet their climate and development obligations.

Prepared by: African negotiators who lead negotiators in the GST for the African Group, engaged in their personal capacity, and assisted by African experts

Methodology: Desktop review of UNFCCC Decisions, National Plans and Policies, and Literature and the expert assessment of the team

Setting the Stage: Global Context & Africa's Reality



Key Facts

- GST-1 [COP 28/Dubai December 2023]: the first comprehensive assessment under the Paris Agreement.
- World is **off-track for 1.5 °C**; emissions must peak by 2025, and fall 43 % below 2019 levels by 2030 and 65 pct by 2035.
 - Synthesis of full implementation of Party contributions show reductions of 5.9 pct below 2019 levels by 2030
- Africa contributes **< 4 %** of global GHG emissions but warms **twice as fast** as the global average.
 - GHG emission pattern clearly reflects the under-development in the continent:
- Development challenges compounded by climate change include improving the lowest rates of progress towards the SDGs, which translates into:
 - Eradicating the high levels of poverty;
 - Improving energy access for millions of Africans;
 - Transforming economies impacted by long periods of exploitation;
 - Managing the current debt crisis and impacts of geopolitical events; and
 - Addressing the unique adverse impacts of climate change on the continent.
- Climate impacts divert **5–15 % of GDP** annually to adaptation, eroding development gains.
- The continent holds enormous renewable and carbon-sink potential—making it both victim and solution provider.

Africa's Position and Political Messages from GST-1

Core Insights

- African Group anchored negotiations on principles of **equity, right to development, and just transition**.
- Insisted that each country's pathway must reflect its circumstances and development needs.

GST.1 Outcome included:

- Landmark outcomes - Global commitment to **transition away from all fossil fuels** for the first time.
- Adoption of the **UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience** with time-bound targets for achieving the global adaptation goal;
- 2-year **UAE-Belem Work Programme** to compile progress indicators.
- Agreement that **peaking timelines differ by national circumstance**.
- Launch of the **Technology Implementation Programme** to strengthen support for technology priorities identified by developing countries; and
- **NCQG** will take into account costs of implementing the GST outcomes, current NDCs and NAPs, and the evolving needs of developing countries
 - @ COP 29 in Baku (2024) new finance goals was set at **US \$1.3 trillion by 2035**.

Africa's Considerations and Way Forward



Policy Relevant Findings and Guidance

- GST-1 creates space for Africa to act within its circumstances while highlighting support gaps.
- **Recognition of special circumstances of vulnerable developing countries in both the Paris Agreement and Convention** [Africa the only region mentioned under the Convention (Art.4.1(e))]
- Recognition of **sustainable development context**: many sections operationalised sustainable development and poverty eradication as context for climate actions by countries struggling to achieve SDGs
- **Nationally determined pathways**: Emphasis on key principles including (CBDR-RC), and equity "in the light of different national circumstances", e.g. the chapeau of **paragraph 28 parties** to contribute global efforts, in a nationally-determined manner, taking into account the PA and their different national circumstances, pathways and approaches.
- Reaffirmed key principles and recognized need for enhanced support to developing countries
 - provisions in text largely general; and
 - **lack binding commitments or structural implementation roadmaps.**
- **Decision reflects persistent gaps in international cooperation.** Failure to address systemic deficiencies: limited access to affordable finance, fragmented support frameworks, weak technology transfer mechanisms, and unequal integration into global value chains.
- Ultimately, international cooperation must be re-engineered to align with Africa's needs and capacities to achieve equitable global transition where Africa is not left behind.