

WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY

WGC Intervention

Opening Plenary of the first GST Technical Dialogue SB56

June 9 2022

Thank you, Mr Co-Facilitator,

My name is Liane Schalatek, I am speaking on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency and we appreciate the opportunity to speak here today.

The Global Stocktake comes at a time when recent IPCC reports have clearly demonstrated that current warming is already causing dramatic human suffering, rights violations and catastrophic losses and damages, including irreplaceable biodiversity loss. The Global Stocktake must acknowledge and ratchet up ambition to address the looming emissions gap, the growing adaptation gap and the quantitative and qualitative gap in providing mandated climate finance, including the urgently needed additional finance to address loss and damage, in a way that is accessible.

As a technical process, the GST must be focused on the principles of climate justice, equity and best available science. As currently structured, it is in danger of failing its mandate if it does not consider human rights, gender equality and social inclusion in each of the roundtables. Gender matters for ambition, gender matters for mitigation, gender matters for adaptation, and gender matters for finance. The GST must link with, and integrate the work undertaken under the Lima Work Programme on Gender and its Gender Action Plan. It must comprehensively address whether activities by Parties have respected, protected and promoted the rights of Indigenous Peoples, public participation, food security, intergenerational equity, ecosystem integrity, and a just transition for workers, including by recognizing and building on traditional, local and indigenous experience and knowledge on the protection of ecosystems.

The GST is an opportunity to elevate the discussion on some topics currently left out of the process, foremost loss and damage in terms of developing countries needs, data and additional finance to address loss and damage.

In mitigation, the GST review must center on the need for rapid fossil fuel phase out, holding historic polluters accountable. The false narrative of net-zero cannot be used to promote harmful and questionable climate solutions such as nuclear power, geoengineering, and unsustainable biomass use; instead ecosystem-based approaches and investment in locally adapted sustainable renewables, including those easing women's drudgery and care burden, must be prioritized. A massive energy transition must also confront structural gender exclusions

and facilitate women and girls access to technical education and jobs in this sector, and revisit gender-stereotypes that lead to highly-emitting activities.

In adaptation, the GST must evaluate the extent to which current adaptation actions are supporting rights-based, gender transformative, locally-led adaptation ensuring the meaningful participation and leadership of the most vulnerable, including women and girls and the direct accessible grant-based finance they need to implement future adaptation plans.

Regarding means of implementation, both the quantity and quality of finance, capacity building and technology support matter, particularly the extent to which they are people-centered and gender-responsive and reach those territories and communities most vulnerable to the climate crisis. Public climate finance is crucial, and we need adequate grant finance supporting adaptation and mitigation. We also need new and additional grant finance for addressing loss and damage in a way that simplifies and facilitates direct access of the most affected groups and communities. Lastly, the GST must assess the extent to which all finance flows are shifted towards drastic emissions reductions and climate resilient development.

Only by effectively including all aspects of the Paris Agreement, and by assessing how Parties have respected, protected and promoted human rights, including the rights of women and girls and of Indigenous Peoples, and gender equality, will the Global Stocktake fulfill its mandate to meaningfully inform future, more ambitious climate plans. The Women and Gender Constituency is ready to do its part.

Thank you, Co-Facilitators