APA Agenda Item 6
13 November, 2017, 15:00

Note taker: Kate Haapala

This was the 5th consultation on APA Agenda Item 6- the Global Stocktake (GST).
Meeting room: Bangkok; both the delegates' tables and the seating in the back were full. The meeting started on time and went the full hour. Several Parties (10) waiting to speak at the end but were not granted time. The co-facilitators proposed working with the Secretariat to find additional time for the group.

In general, this session included a discussion on Parties comments and views related to the Revised Building Blocks document put forward by the Secretariat on 11/12/17. That document can be found here:
http://unfccc.int/files/bodies/apa/application/pdf/short_revised_template_12_nov2017_1215.pdf. All in-session Agenda Item 6 docs can be found:
http://unfccc.int/bodies/apa/items/10159.php.

The discussion in this session was centered around…

1. Activity A: A preparatory phase of the GST
2. Activity B: A technical phase of the GST
3. Activity C: A political phase of the GST
4. Information inputs to the GST

Philippines

- Spoke on behalf of G77 + China. The Philippine's delegation sent a table to the co-facilitators that suggested an alternate structure for the Building Blocks document. This was not yet released to other Parties.
- Some of the Philippines' suggested inputs for the GST include: synthesis reports, guidance from Subsidiary Bodies, information on regional impacts coming from regional agencies, information on Loss and Damages, information from social science on gaps, peer reviewed information, and inputs from non-state actors.
    - A key lingering question is how Parties will identify sources.
- Activity B is a space/process for technical expert consideration of all relevant inputs. The technical phase will consist of a space where Parties will have a structured exchange.
    - Key lingering questions are 1) how Parties can ensure the technical phase is comprehensive, and 2) how to reflect equity in the technical phase.
- Activity B involves a conversation at the political-level on the results of Activity B. This would substantively include a Party-to-Party discussion on outputs.
- Equity is an overarching and all-inclusive concept relevant to all Parties.

China

- Supports statement made by Philippines on behalf of G77 + China.
- Comments made by China focus on specific in-text corrections to the Building Blocks document released on 11/12.
    - One suggestion was to have over-arching elements like guiding questions.
- Suggested a clear link be made between the GST and other Articles in the Paris Agreement. The GST is comprehensive and not isolated. Making the links between the GST and other Articles relates to the GST's modalities.
- Suggested that the GST's inputs be informed by a few over-arching elements that would be aimed at answering guiding questions.
- Suggested a summary document to be put forth by the Secretariat on the (eventual) technical dialogue that will be had during Activity B.
- Suggested that submissions from Parties on information needs includes best practices and lessons learned. Other suggestions include information on capacity building, technology, operational performances, good practices and experience from Parties and multilateral organizations on adaptation and mitigation, submissions on opportunities to enhance mitigation, and adaptation and support.

Brazil

- Spoke on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay. Support intervention made by Philippines on behalf of G77 + China.
- Equity is a key building block for GST, and it should inform how Parties consider the fairness and ambitiousness of their NDCs.
- Activity A should include explicit equity inputs.
- Activity B should have other themes considered, like equity.
- Activity C in-text should reference post-GST engagement. Brazil suggested there be an element where Parties are invited to submit their successive NDCs by 2025 after first GST in 2023.

Ghana

- Suggested additional elements that go beyond what is currently in the document. These include equity indicators and methodologies on computing them.
- Activity A could include workshops for Parties and people/experts that synthesize the materials to help Parties understand the outcomes.

Saudi Arabia

- Spoke on behalf of Arab Group. Support intervention made by Philippines for G77 + China.
- The Building Block document provided to Parties on 11/12 contains unclear language on optimality and modalities for GST.
- Suggested principles on linkages and context.
- Want greater clarity on ordering/bullet points.
- The process of identifying information source must be Party-driven.

    - Information sources should be able to be submitted online and sources should be determined by Parties
- Suggested a paragraph be added that says GST will be conducted in a transparent manner and that it will be facilitative during the actual process.
- Post GST and ambition cycle, the ask for modalities on this portion now is too premature.

India
- Supported statement made by Philippine's for G77 + China.
- On equity, suggested further discussion be had on equity than that was had over the weekend. Would like to see final preliminary material include greater detail on the process, places, and outcomes.
- Saw GST process as being designed to take an aggregate picture of where Parties are after NDC implementation begins.
- Took issue with the proposal that GST might begin in 2021 because NDCs begin in 2021, and they suggested 2022 instead.
- CMA or COP is in power to make adjustments at any time to modalities.
- Does not see a clear link between 2018 Facilitative Dialogue (FD) and GST. FD looks at pre 2020 action and GST looks at post-2020 period.
- Does not support any GST meetings outside of the UNFCCC process- difficult for Parties to attend and need clarity on whether or not attendance would be required if the meetings are outside.

With 10 minutes remaining, co-facilitators announced that 10 speakers waiting. Co-facilitators suggested each remaining Party get one minute. Switzerland makes a point of order, arguing the time limit was unacceptable because those who are left do not have the right to speak properly.

EU
- Supported building blocks as an appropriate method to identify key elements for GST.
- Suggested the APA is not in a stage where Parties' views should yet be deleted from the document.
- Suggested three technical dialogues in technical phase on mitigation, adaptation, and finance/means of support.
- Suggested that inputs not be burdensome, but non-exhaustive as well. The inputs should include an analysis on finance flows and biannual assessment reports.

Iran
- Suggested three potential working groups under Subsidiary Bodies.
- Suggested a working group could also be established under CMA.
- Suggested the GST either begin in 2021 or 2022.

Meeting ended with 10 Parties remaining to speak.