VIEWS OF ARGENTINA BRAZIL, AND URUGUAY 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 Governments of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay welcome the opportunity to submit their views on issues discussed under this agenda item, in response to APA invitation at the second part of its first Session (APA 1-2), taking into consideration the questions listed in paragraph 25 of the document FCCC/APA/2016/4.

Linkages and context

(a) How to understand and assess collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals? How will this be done in a comprehensive and facilitative manner considering mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support, and in the light of equity and the best available science?

(b) How to increase understanding of the linkages between Article 14 and other articles of the Paris Agreement, which are directly or indirectly linked to the GST?

It is the view of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay that, in order to understand and assess collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals, there is a need to understand the linkages between Article 14 and other articles of the Paris Agreement. Building on this understanding, the answers to both questions were clustered due to their close relationship.

Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay are of the view that Article 14 must always be read in conjunction with the aims of the Paris Agreement, as established in its Article 2, in order to take stock of the implementation of the Agreement to assess the collective progress towards achieving its purpose as well as its long-term goals. Article 14 should, hence, contribute to the necessary ambition for achieving the temperature goal, to increasing resilience and to mobilizing finance. It shall do so in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, consistent with the nationally determined nature of Parties' contributions, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support, and in the light of equity and the best available science.

However, Article 14 is not just about the specific goals, but also about the purpose of the agreement and the implementation of the agreement as a whole, to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances. The Global Stocktake (GST) makes therefore fullcircle with all the elements of article 2. Its outputs should be able to answer where Parties are in terms of progressing collectively, where Parties are supposed to go, what Parties can do to fulfill the vision of all elements of article 2.

In this context, there is an important linkage with article 4. Further guidance on information to facilitate the clarity transparency and understanding of *NDCs* should provide agreed parameters to facilitate the compilation, synthesis and analysis of the information provided by Parties, with a view to serve as an input to the GST.

While domestically self-defining its successive NDCs each Party should have the fairness and ambition of the overall global effort informed by the GST as reference, in order to attend Article 4.3 of Paris Agreement.

Furthermore, the discussions on the GST should bear in mind the linkage with the consideration of common timeframes (article 4.10), starting in SBI47.

The compilation, synthesis and analysis referred to above should accommodate the diversity of NDCs, with a view to allowing Parties to demonstrate the collective progress towards achieving the long-term temperature goal.

Compilation exercises based on Parties' efforts must not, however, be restricted to mitigation – other compilations based on information from Parties' contributions would be important to the GST. There are, therefore, clear linkages between the discussions of Article 14 and Article 13 (transparency), but also with Article 7 (Adaptation) and Article 9 (finance). The guidance under development for adaptation communications pursuant to Article 7.10 should encourage and facilitate their compilation and analysis. The same rationale applies to the information to be communicated pursuant to Article 9, paragraphs 5 and 7.

Special attention should be given to linkages between Article 14 and Articles 4, 7, 9 and 13, giving priority to the relevant aspects to the GST as well as to the parts of those Articles that are clearly related to Art. 14 as mandated in the Paris Agreement.

There are many articles of the Agreement and paragraphs of decision 1/CP.21 that refer directly to the GST or are indirectly linked to it. Articles related to Art. 14 should be prioritized, particularly Article 4.3 as stated above.

Regarding Article 9, paragraph 9.6 states that the GST shall take into account the relevant information provided by developed country Parties and/or Agreement bodies on efforts related to climate finance. Hence, the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines of the Transparency Framework should allow for the review of "ex post" information on support (referred to in Article 9.7) in light of the submissions of indicative "ex ante" information on support (referred to in Article 9.5). This would shed light on the flows of support provided and mobilized through public efforts, improve our understanding of the global climate finance flows and allow for aggregation for consideration under the GST.

Regarding Article 7, paragraph 7.14 states that the GST shall, inter alia:

(a) Recognize adaptation efforts of developing country Parties;

(b) Enhance the implementation of adaptation action taking into account the adaptation communication referred to in paragraph 10 of this Article;

(c) Review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support provided for

adaptation; and

(d) Review the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Linkages between Article 14 and Article 13 are relevant to the GST, particularly in the context of paragraphs 13.5 and 13.6 that, in their turn, encompass linkages with Articles 4, 7 and 9, as considered below in the session "Sources of input".

Sources of input

(c) How to capture information relevant for assessing collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals from different sources of input in a comprehensive, manageable and balanced manner among all elements, including but not limited to, adaptation, mitigation, and means of implementation and support?

The non-exhaustive list of elements listed in paragraph 99 of decision 1/CP.21 provides the basis for the inputs.

To be consistent with the nationally determined nature of Parties' contributions, special consideration should be given to the national information officially provided by Parties. In order to do so, the information provided under the framework for transparency of action is key to inform the GST, particularly taking in to account that:

- Article 13.5 of Paris Agreement will inform the GST regarding clarity and tracking of progress towards achieving Parties' individual nationally determined contributions under Article 4, and Parties' adaptation actions under Article 7;
- Article 13.6 of Paris Agreement will inform the GST regarding clarity on support provided and received by relevant individual Parties in the context of climate change actions under Articles 4, 7, 9, 10 and 11, and, to the extent possible, to provide a full overview of aggregate financial support provided.

The information related to Article 13.7, under the perspective on providing a full overview of overall effect of mitigation actions, will constitute one of the most relevant inputs from national information officially provided by Parties to inform the GST. Regarding adaptation, the information related to Article 13.8 will also inform the GST, through the appropriate vehicle, including the Adaptation Communication[1], as defined by the respective Party. The

[1] As presented in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay´s submission on APA agenda item 5: http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/525_323_131324648255521982-Bra%20Arg%20Uy%20-%20Submission-Art13%20Transparency%20Framework%20FINAL.pdf

In light of the flexibility of the vehicle of the adaptation communication, Parties may decide that the information provided under Article 13.8 constitutes their adaptation communication. If they decide not to do so, the GST will consider information aggregated from both the information provided under Article 13.8 and the adaptation communication as sources of input, pursuant to Article 7.14(b).

framework for transparency of support is also key to provide a full overview of aggregate financial support provided, to inform the GST. The information related to Articles 13.9 and 13.10 will constitute one of the most relevant inputs from national information officially provided by Parties to inform the GST on this regard.

Under the context referred to above, Biennial Transparency Reports[2] as well as the facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress under Article 13 of Paris Agreement should also be considered in the context of national information officially provided by Parties. It is relevant to note that the National Inventory Report of first biennial reports (to be submitted before the first GST) will not necessarily encompass adequate data to the first GST. Consequently, the first GST output will be based on very recent inputs from the Enhanced Transparency Framework: first technical expert review reports (if available on adequate time for the GST). However, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay are of the view that the technical expert review reports, if focused on deep technical issues, with a view to ensure the quality of the data, will allow Parties to track progress of individual efforts to be compiled and serve as inputs to the GST.

One very relevant challenge to be dealt with is how to accommodate different timelines among the processes under different Articles in Paris Agreement related to the GST. On this regard, special attention should be given to the linkage between the first GST and BTRs and technical expert review reports available by 2023.

Under the context of the challenge referred to above, Submissions and other relevant reports from Parties, National Communications, biennial reports and biennial update reports, international assessment and review and international consultation and analysis could also be considered in the context of national information officially provided by Parties, as appropriate.

The annual reports to the CMA by the Committee established under Article 15 could also provide with a source of information for the GST, as detailed in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay submission on item 7 of APA Agenda[3].

Under the science approach, SBSTA acknowledged that the products of the IPCC assessment cycles will be key inputs to the GST and will provide the best available scientific knowledge that is policy-relevant but not policy-prescriptive, providing an integrated scientific, technical and socioeconomic perspective (Document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4).

The SBSTA also stressed that the inputs from IPCC should be considered in an effective and balanced manner, as part of the overall input to the GST as well as noted that the forthcoming products of the sixth IPCC assessment cycle will be key inputs to the first GST in 2023. It recognized that the products of the sixth IPCC assessment cycle will become available at different stages during the period 2018–2022 (Document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4).

Other non-Parties inputs, relevant to the GST, like as reports from United Nations agencies

[2] As presented in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay´s submission on APA agenda item 5: http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/525_323_131324648255521982-Bra%20Arg%20Uy%20-%20Submission-Art13%20Transparency%20Framework%20FINAL.pdf

[3] http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/243_325_131386498218132146-Argentina,%20Brazil,%20Uruguay-%20APA%20Item%207.docx

and multilateral development agencies, and other international organizations, etc. **should be further agreed by Parties as well as any other relevant information identified by consensus among Parties.**

It is the understanding of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay that the comprehensive scope of GST means it is not just about mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support, but also entails relevant aspects about equity and science. IPCC will provide the GST with the best available science. However, there is still lack clarity on what would be the possible specific inputs for equity, which Parties also agreed will guide the GST. Specific inputs on equity should be elaborated based on the synthesis and aggregation of information provided by Parties in their NDCs, specifically information related to Article 4.3 and the element of "fairness and ambition" stated in paragraph 27 of Decision 1/CP.21.

Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay are of the view that specific inputs for equity should be provided to enable Parties to have references on equity to set out their fairness and ambition when domestically self-defining their successive NDCs according to Article 4.3 of Paris Agreement. In order to do so, it is relevant to note that SBSTA, among the advices on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the GST, noted that lessons could be learned from past experience as well as stressed that the inputs from IPCC should be considered in an effective and balanced manner, as part of the overall input to the GST (Document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4)..

Specific inputs for equity that would be useful for conducting the GST could also be agreed by Parties.

Modalities

(d) What modalities will ensure that the GST will be facilitative, open and inclusive but also efficient and effective? How will the information that is reported and communicated be processed?

(e) How will the CMA be assisted in conducting the GST? What bodies and processes are linked to the GST and in what way?

(f) What could be the most appropriate timeline for the GST? What could be its phases and streams, if any?

The answers to the three questions were clustered due to their close relationship.

Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay are interested in to have a technical and a political phase for the process - this would require a process that is not restricted to a CMA session which means the technical phase would necessarily start within years in advance. The technical

process should provide inputs for consideration by the higher political level, which in turn would provide the political guidance for enhancing ambition.

There are existing experiences under the Convention from which the GST could drawn upon. At the same time, the GST should be conducted in an effective and efficient manner, avoiding duplication of work, and taking into account the results of relevant work conducted under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and the subsidiary bodies.

Regarding technical phase, Parties and other relevant stakeholders, identified through consensus among Parties, could engage in structured dialogues, inter alia, through workshops and other in-session and intersessional activities, as appropriate, that aim to support the work of the political level through a focused exchange of views, information and ideas about all the elements of the GST scope. Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay suggest one Dialogue with different groups for each element of the scope, as well as two cross cutting dialogues to provide the proper context with regards to equity and science. It is relevant to note that SBSTA suggested modalities that could be utilized for considering the IPCC input, including: a dialogue between experts, IPCC experts and Parties; and special events (Document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4).

The GST should be conducted in a transparent manner and with the full participation of Parties, which should be ensured through the provision of adequate funding for the participation and representation of eligible developing country Parties in all phases of the GST and in all activities, meetings, workshops and sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies that are part of the GST process.

The SBSTA-IPCC Joint Working Group could be used to enhance communication and coordination in the context of the GST, as recommended by SBSTA on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the GST (Document FCCC/SBSTA/2016/4). A SBSTA-SBI joint contact group is another option, although not necessarily one option excludes the other one. Inputs from this level(s) should inform the CMA in conducting the GST, supported by technical consideration of the inputs.

The technical phase should consist of several steps, including information gathering and compilation, technical assessment through the structured dialogues and the preparation of synthesis reports for each element of the scope. The technical phase also needs to consider gaps on the necessary inputs to address all elements of the scope outlined in article 14.1.

Considering the first GST, the information gathering and compilation phase, shall run continuously from 2021 (or in a previous year to be agreed if pre-2020 inputs could be considered, as appropriate) and should end not later than [six] [X] months before the CMA in 2023, unless critical information that requires consideration emerges during this period.

One very relevant challenge to be dealt with is how to accommodate different timelines among the processes under different Articles in Paris Agreement related to the GST, as stated in the session “sources of inputs”.

It is also relevant to note that the timing of the sixth IPCC assessment cycle will be aligned with the first GST.

The CMA shall undertake its first GST in 2023 and every five years thereafter unless

otherwise decided by CMA. The overall timeframe of the GST should depend on the timeframe of information acquisition.

Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay are of the view that enough time must be given for the technical work, both for gathering and compilation of the technical work.. However, the GST must be finalized at least two years before the date of communicating a new round of NDCs. Hence, the first GST should be concluded by 2023, considering the adoption of the synthesis reports for each element of the scope by the CMA, with an invitation to Parties to submit their successive NDCs by 2025, no later than at a special Leader's Event under the auspicious of the UNSG.

Outcome/outputs

(g) How to ensure that the outcome of the GST would inform Parties in enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action?

(h) What information will support this outcome?

The most relevant expectation under the GST is the link between the outputs and outcome(s) from GST and how this outcome(s)/outputs will inform the elaboration of successive NDCs.

In Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay's understanding, the outputs from the GST would be the synthesis reports for each element of the scope, which in its turn will constitute the inputs for political consideration; both internationally, to assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of Paris Agreement as well as its long-term goals, during the political phase of the GST, and domestically, as Parties consider updated and enhanced NDCs, according to Articles 4.3 and 14.3 of Paris Agreement, as stated above in the answers under the modalities.

The linkage between the frequency of the GST every 5 years and the need for common-timeframes becomes evident in this aspect. The GST is not meant to provide a "mid term review" of national efforts, but to inform Parties in preparing their successive efforts, i.e., their next round of NDCs. In order for the GST to work appropriately and provide a political space that will incentivize Parties to enhance their successive efforts, one must acknowledge that Parties will hardly enhance their efforts if they feel other actors are delaying action and ambition.

It is the view of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay that this next session should allow enough time to discuss the possible outputs of the GST and have a better understanding of its possible formats. Only when Parties have assessed the available outputs from GST there will be the condition to have a clear idea on the outcome to serve for the purposes of GST, particularly to update and enhance NDCs according particularly to Article 4.3.