

## INFORMAL NOTE

on

SBSTA 64 agenda item 6

SBI 64 agenda item 7

United Arab Emirates just transition work programme

Version 16/6/2026 23:00

---

*This informal note has been prepared by the co-chairs under their own responsibility. The content of the elements and paragraphs is preliminary, has not been agreed, is not exhaustive and has no formal status. The order in which the elements are presented is not intended to suggest a prioritization of issues. This informal note is intended to assist Parties in advancing discussions on this matter and does not prejudice further work or prevent Parties from expressing their views at any time.*

### **BUCKET 1: Implementation of the United Arab Emirates just transition work programme**

1. *Welcomes* that the fifth and sixth dialogues under the United Arab Emirates just transition work programme enabled Parties, and observers and other non-Party stakeholders to share information on opportunities, best practices, actionable solutions, challenges and barriers related to the topics of the dialogues;
2. *Reaffirms* the key messages recognized in paragraph 12 of decision 2/CMA.7 and, as additional key messages specific to the topics of the fifth and sixth dialogues, *recognizes* the following, on a non-exhaustive basis:
  - (a) That agriculture and ocean-based action are integral to nationally determined just transition pathways, also recognizing the importance of adaptation, resilience-building, food and water security, and poverty eradication;
  - (b) The inherent connection between pursuing efforts to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 °C and pursuing just transition pathways in the context of enhancing food security, including in agriculture and ocean-based action, and its contribution to the protection of agricultural workers and food producers;
  - (c) The role and co-benefits of ocean-based action, including protecting and restoring blue carbon ecosystems, in designing and implementing just transition pathways that contribute to enhancing food security, in particular for coastal communities;
  - (d) The importance of taking into account the specific circumstances, needs and knowledge of smallholder farmers, family farmers, pastoralists, artisanal fishers, migrant workers, and rural and coastal communities across food value chains;
  - (e) The importance of the meaningful inclusion of workers in the informal economy and in informal employment arrangements in agriculture and food systems, including through extending access to social protection, labour rights and skills development;
  - (f) The important role of women in agriculture and food systems and the need for gender-responsive approaches that address structural barriers faced by women;
  - (g) The important role of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, local knowledge and traditional practices in supporting resilient and sustainable just transition pathways that enhance food security;
  - (h) The importance of integrated, multisectoral approaches that address the interconnections between climate action, food security, agriculture, fisheries, ecosystem health and water security;
  - (i) The importance of taking into account the challenges, barriers and opportunities associated with standards, certification and traceability requirements and other trade-related measures for developing country producers, smallholder farmers and vulnerable communities;

(j) The potential for agroecological and agroforestry approaches, nature-based solutions and circular-economy principles to support holistic, nationally determined just transition pathways that enhance food security and to deliver co-benefits;

(k) That transitions in food systems that are aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement present significant opportunities for advancing climate action while strengthening food security and resilience and reducing farmers' vulnerability to price volatility and supply chain disruptions, including with respect to fertilizers;

(l) The importance of reducing food loss and waste and strengthening post-harvest infrastructure in the context of just transition pathways that enhance food security;

(m) The importance of urban and peri-urban food systems and the role of subnational governments and local authorities in translating nationally determined just transition pathways into locally responsive implementation;

(n) The essential role of innovation, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing as key enablers of just transitions in food systems;

(o) The importance of ensuring that means of implementation reach those most affected in food systems transitions, including through direct access modalities and community-level financing;

[...]

*[Placeholder messages from the sixth dialogue]*

## **BUCKET 2: Review of the United Arab Emirates just transition work programme**

*[Placeholder on the outcome of the review of the United Arab Emirates just transition work programme]*

## **BUCKET 3: Process for the operationalization of the just transition mechanism**

### ***Proposed clustering of issues***

*[Indicative and non-exhaustive list of proposals, suggestions and elements related to the just transition mechanism]*

### **Context**

*[Noting that decisions 3/CMA.5 and 2/CMA.7 provide reference and useful context to many of the points below]*

- Facilitate nationally determined just transition pathways that contribute to efforts to limit global temperature increase to 1.5 °C and are based on the best available science; (2/CMA.7, paras. 1 and 3)
- Equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances; (2/CMA.7, preamble and para. 12(b))
- Nationally determined, Party-driven, non-prescriptive, non-punitive, respects nationally determined nature of just transitions and does not create new obligations, benchmarks, standards, metrics, reporting requirements or conditionalities; (non-prescriptive nature affirmed in 2/CMA.7, para. 5)
- Sustainable development, poverty eradication and the right to development, including food, energy and water security; (2/CMA.7, preamble and para. 12(h))
- Facilitative, demand-driven and request-based;
- Whole-of-society, whole-of-economy approaches, multi-sectoral and multidimensional nature of just transitions, engaging all relevant actors; (2/CMA.7, para. 12(c) and (f))

- Inclusive and participatory just transition pathways that recognize the role of non-Party stakeholders, including workers, informal workers, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth, children, vulnerable groups, migrants and internally displaced persons, people of African descent, elderly people and persons with disabilities, and subnational governments; (2/CMA.7, para. 12(d))
- Just transition pathways that respect, promote and fulfil all human rights, including labour rights, the right to clean and healthy environments, the right to health, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, people of African descent, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities, and people in vulnerable situations, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity; (2/CMA.7, para. 12(h))
- Decent work, social protection, quality jobs and meaningful social dialogue as fundamental enablers of just transition pathways, which also consider the informal sector, the care economy, unemployed people and future workers, small-scale farmers, artisanal fishers and agricultural communities in transition; (12(f) (e) 2/CMA.7, preamble, 2(e) 3/CMA.5)
- Coherence and complementarity within the architecture of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including in relation to the integration of the relevant outcomes of the first global stocktake (2/CMA.7, para. 8)
- Builds on and complements existing workstreams, bodies and processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement and avoids duplication (2/CMA.7, para. 25)
- Means of implementation, including grant-based, highly concessional finance and non-debt-instruments, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and technical assistance, to support equitable and inclusive just transitions in developing countries (12(s)- 12(v), 19-23 2/CMA.7)

## Purpose

- Aligned with Article 2, paragraph 1, in the context of Article 2, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement
- Aligned with the elements of the United Arab Emirates work programme in paragraph 2 of decision 3/CMA.5
- Grounded in paragraph 25 of decision 2/CMA.7 (to enhance international cooperation, technical assistance, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing; and enable equitable, inclusive just transitions)

## Functions

- **Development and implementation of nationally determined just transition pathways**
  - Provide demand-driven technical assistance and practical support for designing and implementing nationally determined just transition pathways
  - Generate knowledge, including through reports, case studies and regional peer-to-peer workshops, and facilitate knowledge-sharing, communication and outreach, including through the compilation and dissemination of best practices, tools and guidance, including a flexible, non-prescriptive toolbox and a repository of policy resources
  - Promote effective and meaningful participation and provide assistance for coordinating and supporting participatory processes with non-Party stakeholders, thereby amplifying local expertise and traditional knowledge systems within national transition strategies
  - Enhance the technical capacity of Parties and non-Party stakeholders for designing and implementing just transition pathways by collaborating with and leveraging existing mechanisms, entities and initiatives within and outside the UNFCCC, including the CTCN, the ILO Just Transition Policy Gateway and the NDC Partnership
  - Build institutional and human capacity at the national, subnational and community level, including through skills development and workforce reskilling, and courses and workshops
  - Provide tailored tools to help in mapping high-potential sectors and just transition strategies, through sectoral assessments and practical work on how transitions can be inclusive and serve all stakeholders, including those in the informal sector and micro- and small enterprises

[...]

▪ **Integration of just transition considerations into national climate change planning, including NDCs, NAPs, LT-LEDS, national policies, etc.**

- Foster the promotion and consideration of nationally determined just transition pathways in the design and implementation of 1.5 °C-aligned NDCs, NAPs and LT-LEDS that are grounded in the best available science and aligned with the outcomes of the first global stocktake, including through the development of knowledge products
- Provide technical support for integrating just transition principles into national laws, policies and plans, including NDCs, NAPs and LT-LEDS, and enable the sharing of relevant data, knowledge and experience among Parties and regions

[...]

▪ **Integration of just transition considerations into the work of UNFCCC constituted bodies and UNFCCC work programmes**

- Provide guidance to the UNFCCC constituted bodies, the Technology Mechanism and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism on integrating just transition considerations
- Work with relevant UNFCCC bodies and institutional arrangements, including the CTCN, the KCI and the Santiago network, on integrating just transition considerations across UNFCCC workstreams

[...]

▪ **Enhance coordination and coherence**

- Facilitate coherence, collaboration and coordination with workstreams, processes, operating entities, institutions and initiatives within and outside the UNFCCC, including relevant international organizations, institutions, agencies, MDBs, United Nations agencies and regional bodies and initiatives, that are involved in advancing just transition pathways
- Strengthen international cooperation by increasing the coherence and complementarity of the United Arab Emirates just transition work programme and the just transition mechanism with relevant workstreams, processes, operating entities, institutions and initiatives within and outside the UNFCCC, without duplicating mandates
- Convene annual events, meetings or structured dialogues, bringing together relevant bodies, experts and external organizations
- [...]

▪ **Addressing challenges and barriers and tapping into opportunities**

- Explore and identify ways to address barriers as well as opportunities and enabling conditions for nationally determined just transition pathways, including in the context of means of implementation
- Address the international and structural dimensions that can act as disenablers for implementing nationally determined just transition pathways
- Foster awareness of, expertise on and access to information on existing initiatives, processes, instruments and organizations relevant to just transition
- Address the fragmentation of the existing institutional landscape and the barriers created by lack of coordination through structured collaboration and coordination across existing actors
- Mobilize and interlink existing expertise and resources, including available financial support, so that financial resources and technical expertise reach regions, countries and communities where they are most needed
- Enable equitable access to transition opportunities

[...]

- **Enhance international cooperation**
  - Enhance international cooperation
  - Mobilize and facilitate access to means of implementation, including grant-based and non-debt-inducing finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and technical assistance
  - Broker North–South and triangular implementation partnerships, connecting countries with finance, technology and markets, and de-risking investments
  - Facilitate access to and matching of technical and financial assistance from existing UNFCCC bodies, including the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, and relevant institutions to requesting countries
  - Send signals and/or provide guidance to climate finance institutions, MDBs and the broader international financial architecture for mainstreaming just transition considerations;

[...]
  
- *[Placeholder for additional elements]*

### **Modalities/governance**

- Just transition mechanism to be operationalized under the CMA
  - under the just transition work programme
  
- Use and build on existing institutional modalities
  - Annual meetings of the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies with the co-chairs of constituted bodies with the participation of non-Party stakeholders
  - In-session space for structured dialogue with experts, presentation of voluntary proposals, identification of opportunities for cooperation and coordination with supporting agencies
  - Secretariat-led process, including commissioning reports and knowledge products
  - Platform for coordinating the work of relevant bodies and under programmes within and outside the UNFCCC
  - Three-year workplan that feeds into the next NDC and global stocktake cycles, hosted by the secretariat and co-led by Parties and representatives of UNFCCC NGO constituencies
  
- Facilitative and demand-driven cooperation network or technical expert network
  
- Matchmaking platform
  
- Constituted body
  
- Two-tier approach with a policy body or governance board and a technical expert group
  - Ability to provide guidance to the Financial Mechanism
  - Stakeholder engagement platform
  - Regional delivery hubs

### **Timelines**

- Agree on process for the operationalization of the just transition mechanism at CMA 8
  
- Phased approach
  - Phase 1 (2026) – design and negotiation culminating in a CMA decision; phase 2 (2027) – institutional establishment and work programme development; phase 3 (2028–2030) – scaling of implementation and reporting to the CMA;
  - Operationalization process contingent on the mapping

### **Link to JTWP**

- *[to be determined following the review]*