

## **CALL FOR INPUTS ON:**

- 1. How Can The High-Level Champions And The Marrakech Partnership Add The Most Value And Complement Existing Efforts To Accelerate Climate Action And Drive Implementation?**
- 2. How Can The High-Level Champions Enhance Collaboration Between Parties And NPS To Advance The Outcomes Of The First GST?**
- 3. How Can The Marrakech Partnership Be Enhanced To Support Parties In Achieving The Goals Of The Paris Agreement, Including Through New And Existing Tools?**

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## **REFLECTING ON THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE HIGH-LEVEL CHAMPIONS AND THE MARRAKECH PARTNERSHIP FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION**

### **Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action**

Launched by the High-Level Champions at the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22), the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (MP) provides a framework that aims to enhance and accelerate global climate action among Parties and non-Party stakeholders (NPS). Its mission, which is to strengthen collaboration between governments and key stakeholders (international and regional initiatives and coalitions of cities, regions, businesses, investors, and civil society), focuses on immediate climate action that supports the implementation of the Paris Agreement and helps Parties to achieve and surpass their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans and longterm low emission development strategies. These actions are to be guided by the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement and undertaken in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### **Improved Marrakech Partnership 2021-2025**

At COP 26, Parties acknowledged the important role of NPS and welcomed the improved Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action for enhancing ambition as part of the Glasgow Climate Pact.<sup>1</sup> The five-year plan of the improved Marrakech Partnership for enhancing ambition outlines the vision, mandate, core functions and tools, and updated structures intended to increase the scale and impact of the Marrakech Partnership work through 2025.

### **Marrakech Partnership Work Programme for 2023**

The Work Programme for 2023 was developed on the basis of the above five-year plan, and is informed by past work of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership, growing momentum in recent years, and the negotiated and climate action outcomes of COP 27.<sup>2</sup> It reflects the shared vision of the High-Level Champions, the emerging priorities of the COP 28 Presidency, and discussions and feedback from stakeholders held at the beginning of 2023. The Work Programme states that its “progress and achievements of this work programme will be reported twice throughout 2023. One was published by SB 58 which explained the mid-term progress, and the second version was published by COP 28, which presented the achievements of the year.”

### **❖ How Can The High-Level Champions And The Marrakech Partnership Add The Most Value And Complement Existing Efforts To Accelerate Climate Action And Drive Implementation?**

Responding to the above question, this section would explain the mid-term progress of the 2023 Work Programme from January 2023 to May 2023 and from May 2023 to November 2023 which have been delivered under the strategic approach of the 2023 Work Programme with the focus of five substantial priorities (nature, just energy transition, just finance, adaptation and resilience, and loss and damage), and with respect to the principles of inclusivity, just transition, and regional and local engagement

### **To Drive Implementation:**

**Mobilise NPS to maximise ambition:** The High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have been rallying NPS climate action through the operation of their global campaigns – Race to Zero and Race to Resilience.

**Race to Zero rallies:** NPS should take rigorous and immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030. There are over 11,000 members in the Race to Zero made up of companies, financial institutions, cities, states, regions and others. Additionally, Race to Zero should welcome more new partners - Venture Climate Alliance - which should be created by leading global venture capital firms to define, facilitate and realise net zero-aligned pathways for early-stage investments with a goal to build a robust movement within the venture industry to combat climate change.

The campaign should support partners to accelerate delivery, particularly on:

- a. Race to Zero should convene monthly meetings with its Partners, who should lead net zero initiatives. Convening should cover best practice on net zero pledges (with guidance from Science Based Targets initiative) and develop transition plans (with guidance from key leaders and experts, such as the UN Secretary General's Climate Action Team).
- b. Race to Zero should form an Expert Peer Review Group to enable its complete reviews of Race to Zero Partners, identifying areas of best practice and improvement for partners with respect to the campaign's meta criteria.
- c. work to support activation of members around the newly added criteria on "persuade," Race to Zero should also create a workstream for its Net Zero Policy and Regulation community for more stakeholders, to encourage the transition from net zero voluntary action to net zero standards, policy and regulation.
- d. Race to Zero should continue to work with more Accelerators on accelerating recruitment into the Race, and increase global uptake on net zero.

### **❖ How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and NPS to advance the outcomes of the first GST?**

The Global Stocktake (GST) is a comprehensive assessment of the world's progress on climate action. Anchored in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, it is intended to inform Parties to the Agreement on their progress against its goals, including but not limited to limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C

Evidence shows a growing recognition of the importance of a just transition in the context of Paris Agreement implementation. Emerging messages from the Technical Dialogues (TD) of the first Global Stocktake (GST) highlight that emissions are not in line with limiting global warming to 1.5 °C. To accelerate collective progress, both ambition and implementation need to increase, which will require systemic transformations across all sectors. Concluding at COP28 in Dubai, the GST assesses fairness and equity considerations of progress towards the Paris Agreement, which provided Parties with insights to supporting the design of the new Work Programme on Just Transition which was agreed at COP28.

During the Technical Dialogues, participants have highlighted the role of inclusion and equity, which are key elements of Just Transitions, to build an upward spiral of ambition and climate action. Applying Just Transition principles can ensure carefully designed climate action that maximises social and economic progress and benefits, while minimising disruptions. The new Work Programme on Just Transition therefore provides a critical moment to centre Just Transition principles as key accelerators of progress towards meeting the Paris Agreement goals.

The Just Transitions discourse has, however, only recently begun to reflect perspectives from the Global South, such as the importance of informal workers and the need to expand focus beyond the energy sector. Implementing just transition principles in the Global South is often challenged by distributional consequences, particularly job losses in certain sectors, regions, and/or communities. This is most evident where dependence on fossil fuels or carbon-intensive practices are high and where opportunities for economic diversification are limited.

Discussions during the Technical Dialogues suggest that a Just Transition mechanism under the UNFCCC that builds on existing work streams and offers capacity-building, exchange of experience and best practices and finance, could foster greater international cooperation.

This event will bring attention to Global South perspectives on the opportunities for national Just Transitions to create enabling environments that both raise the level of ambition and accelerate implementation.

Firstly, it should be set around the commitments under the Paris Agreement, established in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), aiming to reduce 51% of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, including a reduction of black carbon emissions by 40%. Also by establishing a roadmap on Just Energy Transition to gradually phase-out fossil fuels, under principles of equity, graduality, sovereignty and reliability; binding social participation; and knowledge.

secondly, the scope should be about responding to the Reindustrialization Policy whose main objective should be to move from an extraction economy to a productive and sustainable knowledge economy.

Lastly, is implementing the Just Transition of the Labor Force, in which to recognize that the transition towards carbon-neutrality, in conjunction with the accelerated technological transformations, generate considerable impacts on the labour force.

#### **❖ How can the Marrakech Partnership be enhanced to support Parties in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, including through new and existing tools?**

The tracking of progress needs to be strengthened, not only to enhance credibility and drive accountability around the commitments made by NPS, but to also highlight and assess the overall state of systems transformation, breakthrough solutions and evidence of enhanced action, helping stakeholders, and consequently

- Be bold and accelerate immediate action. The time is now to move into implementation, accelerate progress and work together to raise ambition for driving down emissions, building resilience and scaling up finance.
- Innovate in collectively delivering solutions. Support for innovation and change, recognizing the shift into a new phase of the climate crisis and our collective response to it.
- Strengthen the bridge between Parties and non-Party stakeholders. Help to link the growing momentum and action in the non-negotiation space more directly in support of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans (NAPs), and long-term strategies' implementation and enhancement.
- Be inclusive and increase diversity. More involvement and representation from developing countries and an updated structure that empowers local actors in all regions, connecting them to each other and to the global structure, are needed.
- Establish a sustained and coherent structure to promote continuity and a rhythm of solutions oriented collaboration. There is a need for a more permanent and predictable infrastructure to support continuity of implementation and foster genuine and sustained collaboration.
- Strengthen accountability and tracking to provide a shared sense of progress under a common goal and direction. This will help ensure accountability and build stronger and compelling narratives around opportunity and leadership