

Submission by the Switzerland on the Mitigation Work Programme

Switzerland is pleased to share its views on the Mitigation Work Programme (MWP), in response to the call for submissions from Draft Conclusions FCCC/SB/2022/L.6 at SB56.

Context

Global GHG emissions in 2030 associated with the implementation of NDCs announced prior to COP27 would make it likely that warming will exceed 1.5°C during the 21st century. The aggregate effect of the available NDCs of all Parties taken together imply a sizable increase in global GHG emissions in 2030 compared to 2010. According to the latest IPCC findings, such an increase, unless actions are taken immediately, may lead to a temperature rise of about 2.7°C by the end of the century. The latest NDC Synthesis Report shows that overall, only some 110 Parties have now submitted new or updated NDCs, accounting for about half of global GHG emissions. This highlights the absence of new submissions by many countries, including some key emitters. This points to an ambition gap. Further, policies implemented by the end of 2020 are projected to result in higher global GHG emissions than those implied by NDCs, pointing to an implementation gap. In light of the drastic ambition and implementation gap, the MWP should be guided and informed by the best available science as outlined in the recent IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, Working Group III in order to limit warming to 1.5°C with no overshoot.

The IPCC Sixth Assessment Report estimated that limiting global average temperature increases to 1.5°C requires a reduction of CO₂ emissions of 45% in 2030 or a 25% reduction by 2030 to limit warming to 2°C. There is an urgent need to take action to peak greenhouse gas emissions at the latest by 2025. The IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, Working Group III points to illustrative Mitigation Pathways that can provide guidance on how to urgently drive down emissions. These can serve as a crucial input to technical discussions under the MWP, with specific recommendations reflected in the outputs of the MWP process.

Switzerland expects a decision to be taken at CMA4 that effectively launches the Mitigation Work Programme throughout this decade, with a focus on front-loading climate action within the next few years. The decision should ensure that we work effectively to accelerate mitigation action on ambition and implementation in the next few years.

In order to inform those discussions, Switzerland is pleased to share its views on the Mitigation Work Programme.

1. Framing and guiding principles

Switzerland is not in favor of including a section in the modalities of the Mitigation Work Programme on guiding principles. Indeed, the mandate inherited from the Glasgow Climate Pact provides the overarching objective for our work.

The modalities of the Mitigation Work Programme are best inscribed in an annex to the decision adopting the Mitigation Work Programme, and these will focus on how the Mitigation Work Programme will operate concretely.

The decision adopting the Mitigation Work Programme should reflect the urgency of staying below 1.5°C. We foresee the following elements to be reflected:

- Call for **urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation**, reiterating the commitment to limit global temperature rise **below 1.5°C**;
- Call on all Parties to **communicate plans to peak** their greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 at the latest;

- Call on Parties whose emissions are **still rising**/major emitters/economies to revisit and strengthen their NDCs and LT-LEDs and to communicate, their plans to reach an earlier peak;
- Call for the regular evaluation of existing **climate change policies and measures** and their effectiveness;
- Invite the CMA to consider adopting **sectoral objectives** in 2023 to contribute to their NDCs;
- A reflection of the leadership expected from **big emitters and major economies**, as a way of focusing on those areas and regions where there is the highest emission abatement potential, as a key contribution to our climate protection efforts.

The decision should also follow up on the commitments from the Glasgow Climate Pact, including:

- Call for annual reporting on progress at the **high-level ministerial round table** on pre-2030 ambition;
- Request Parties to submit a LT-LEDs, update their LT-LEDs by 2025, and to explain how their NDCs and LT-LEDs are aligned with the 1.5°C objective;
- Note the importance of aligning **NDCs with LT-LEDs**;
- Call on Parties to communicate the **intended timeline and objectives** of the phase down of unabated coal and phase out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies;
- Call for the **elimination of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies by 2025**;
- Invite Parties to reduce overall reliance on fossil fuels and accelerate the clean energy transition;
- Request the secretariat to prepare a **synthesis report** on progress on global phase down/out;
- Call upon Parties to take further action to reduce by 2030 **non-carbon dioxide GHG** emissions;
- Call for the reduction of global emissions from **methane** by at least 30% by 2030 and invites Parties to communicate national methane reduction action plans by 2023;

The Mitigation Work Programme (MWP) should operate as a facilitative work programme. It focuses conjunctly on both mitigation ambition and implementation. Key emitters should take the lead in driving urgent mitigation ambition and implementation.

2. Timeline

End date: The COP, in Glasgow Climate Pact paragraph 27, decides to establish a work programme to urgently scale up mitigation ambition and implementation in this critical decade. “In this critical decade” is pointing towards a decision at COP27 launching a new MWP for the period 2023-2030. Therefore, the decision should clearly include an end date of 2030.

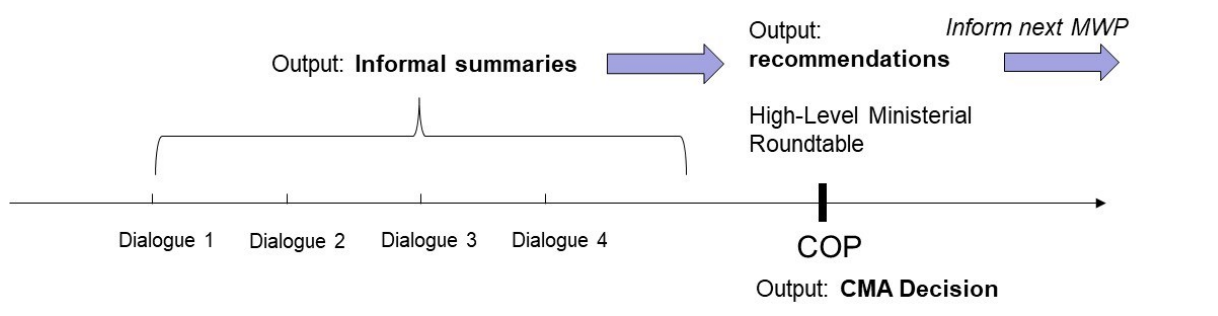
Review: The decision could include a mid-term review of the modalities of the work programme in 2024 or 2026. A review in 2024 would allow for developments in the field of mitigation to be taken into consideration. However the review would not call into question the continuation of the Mitigation Work Programme through to 2030.

3. Modalities

The Mitigation Work Programme should comprise a technical and a political phase:

Technical phase

- The technical phase could comprise a minimum of **four thematic dialogues**.
- The thematic dialogues could each be dedicated to one of the thematic priorities identified for the work programme.
- The technical dialogues should allow for the participation of Non-Party Stakeholders, namely private sector representatives of each sector.
- Output: the technical dialogues could result in informal summaries, to be prepared by co-chairs, forwarded to the MWP Contact Group for consideration.
- The informal summaries would also be forwarded to the High-Level Ministerial Roundtable for consideration by ministers.



Topic selection: Switzerland is not in favor of negotiating each year the topics for discussion, but rather favors an efficient process for topic selection. Each year, specific topics for each dialogue to be selected by the SBI and SBSTA Co-Chairs, on the basis of Party submissions.

Guiding principles for topic selection:

- 1) The decision should mandate the co-facilitators to touch on all areas, in order to ensure that we do not overlook important sectors of areas.
- 2) The decision should prioritize those areas and regions with the highest emission abatement potential first. Urgency translates into identifying most promising actions to drive down emissions.

Switzerland supports commissioning a Global Study on Mitigation Potential, that can help identify those areas with the highest emission abatement potential.

Contact Group

- The MWP should lead to a CMA Contact Group, that can prepare yearly decisions.
- The High-Level Ministerial Roundtable on Pre-2030 Ambition should be given the possibility to adopt recommendations or provide high-level political directions.

4. Scope

The MWP should comprise the following key thematic areas of focus for the dialogues:

- **IPCC Sectors:** Transport, Energy, LULUCF, Industry, Waste, Agriculture:
 - The Work Programme should elaborate specifically on the sectoral transformational milestones that by 2030 the IPCC established under both its SR1.5 and the AR6, as they are essential enablers towards the achievement of the 1.5°C target. These can be the subject of both policy decisions and activities. Inclusion of sectoral campaigns and breakthroughs could also be considered. Sectoral work includes:
 - Setting clear and ambitious sectoral goals in line with achieving the emissions reductions as set out by the IPCC, ensuring a just transition to a net zero climate resilient economy.
 - Developing strategies for all relevant sectors, including food systems, energy, transport, waste, urban areas, oceans and coastal areas, with a special focus on phasing out coal and fossil fuels dependency.
 - Technical work that focused on experience sharing, sector by sector, including by engaging non-party stakeholders, such as private sector actors.

Working with the sectors outlines with the inventory guidelines could also be helpful as parties are due to move towards economy wide NDCs.

Switzerland can also support focusing on the IPCC Sectors highlighted in the IPCC WG III report.

- The elements of the **Glasgow Climate Pact, Chapter IV on Mitigation:**
 - Discussions under the MWP should be based – but not limited to - the elements contained in the Glasgow Climate Pact. This includes, as a clear thematic priority, rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures and phase down of coal and the phase out of fossil fuel subsidies.
- **Cross cutting topics:**

- The MWP should provide a space for Parties to prepare updates to NDC and LT-LEDs, to discuss NDC and LT-LEDs design, including how to align short term with long term action. The MWP should provide a space for Parties to discuss the ambition of their NDCs. Parties should be invited to assess whether their NDCs are aligned with 1.5 objective. This includes providing a space for Parties to discuss the results of the latest NDC Synthesis Reports and LT-LEDs Synthesis Reports;
 - This could include how to address barriers and challenges, and how to ensure that investments are directed where they need to be.
 - We see elements related to equity as part of the framing elements of the decision. **Should equity considerations however be integrated as part of the scope, there needs to be a reflection of the special responsibility and leadership expected from big emitters and major economies**, this is particularly important as we will not be able to stay below 1.5 without their full engagement.
- Space for **additional topics** to be selected as need evolves.

Examples of sectoral work

The Work Programme should focus on the sectoral transformational milestones established both under the SR1.5 and the AR6 WGIII report. The Mitigation Work Programme could address how national policies and ambitions, including LT-LEDs encompass actions such as:

- Plan for national electricity systems to be decarbonized by 2050;
- Accelerate the development of voluntary industrial and commercial standards across steel, cement, chemicals, and other industrial materials and processes;
- Ensure old building stock retrofits are rapidly implemented where relevant;
- Establish voluntary net-zero standards for new buildings and infrastructure;
- Support the rapid rollout of vehicle electrification, including through a low-carbon electric grid;
- Ensure coal use by 2030 has been reduced;
- Pursue policies that change use and behaviour to reduce demand.

5. Institutional Arrangements

- The MWP should have its dedicated CMA agenda item. Switzerland supports the creation of a contact group under the CMA, dedicated to the MWP.
- Technical dialogues under the MWP are to take place under SBI and SBSTA.

6. Outputs

The technical dialogues could result in informal summaries, to be prepared by co-chairs. The informal summaries would not be negotiated documents. The informal summaries, to be forwarded to the Contact Group for consideration. The informal summaries would also be forwarded to the High-Level Ministerial Roundtable for consideration by ministers. The MWP Contact Group leads to yearly decisions under the CMA. Further, the High-Level Ministerial Roundtable on Pre-2030 Ambition leads to concrete recommendations and has the possibility to provide high-level political directions.

Throughout its modalities, the MWP can help gather stakeholder to define common sectoral standards and benchmarks, as well as provide high-level directions to our work on mitigation.

7. Involvement of Non-Party Stakeholders

The involvement of Non-Party Stakeholders can help drive sectoral implementation and ambition, namely through the following:

- Gathering non-party stakeholders to develop common sectoral benchmarks and common standards;
- Multi-stakeholder space for experience sharing, focusing on opportunities to reduce emissions in key emitting sectors and creating LT-LEDs to reach net zero as well as;

- Involving non-party stakeholders to better understand how to address barriers, namely through policy design. This will help (re)direct investments where needed;
- Discussions informed by science and research and academic institutions may inform the development of strategies for all relevant sectors.
- In addition, the MWP may also serve as a platform for increased accountability of non-party stakeholder actions, as well as relevant initiatives and coalitions.

The following Non-Party Stakeholders may be implicated:

Private sector

- Sectoral and industry level work
- Development of **common standards** and **benchmarks**
- Provide submissions to collect **best practices**

Research and academic institutions

- Provide evidence based recommendations to formulate sectoral strategies
- Identify high-emitting sectors and highest mitigation potential

NGOs and other key constituencies

- Highlight key areas of focus
- Work on cross-sectoral issues

Practitioners

- **Technical support** is directly provided to Parties to implement science based mitigation options
- Possibility of **in-country visits**, on a voluntary basis, to exchange on mitigation ambition and implementation with decision makers and practitioners, including parliamentarians, to ensure the engagement of relevant representatives in the work programme

Modalities for non party stakeholder participation

- Virtual participation should be explicitly foreseen.
- The MWP Decision should point to the role of High-Level Champions in convening stakeholders.
- The MWP should help build accountability for voluntary initiatives and commitments.
- The MWP decision should foresee the possibility of submissions by Non-Party Stakeholders,
- In-country visits could be foreseen as part of the modalities.

8. Complementarity to the Global Stocktake

The MWP and Global Stocktake have different characteristics:

MWP:

- Purpose: urgently scale up mitigation ambition and implementation in this critical decade
- Timeline: through to 2030
- Scope: Mitigation ambition and implementation

Global Stocktake:

- Purpose: assess collective progress
- Outcomes shall inform Parties in updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support
- Timeline: 2023 (2035 NDCs), 2028, 2033
- Scope: Mitigation, Adaptation, Means of implementation and support

The Mitigation Work Programme as the short-term **implementing arm** of the Global Stocktake

- The Mitigation Work Programme can provide tools and give assurance to those who might choose to strengthen their targets towards closing NDC ambition gap.
- The Mitigation Work Programme can provide a space for discussion as countries prepare for their next round of NDC submissions.
- The Mitigation Work Programme can help translate 2035 NDCs into short term action.

The Mitigation Work Programme and the Global Stocktake will **inform each other**:

- The dialogues under the MWP can help point to barriers and opportunities.
- The recommendations coming out of the GST can inform discussions under the MWP, namely, translate into technical discussions.

9. Linkages to the High-Level Ministerial Roundtable on Pre-2030 Ambition

The MWP will help identify areas that require political decisions and high-level attention, in view of the annual High-Level Ministerial Roundtables as well as the 2023 Summit convened by the UN Secretary General and give recommendations to the Parties and leaders.

More specifically, the High-Level Ministerial Roundtable on Pre-2030 Ambition should provide:

- **An accountability moment** for progress on 1.5°C in this decade.
- Opportunities for Parties to **announce** further NDCs and LT-LEDS that are consistent with each other, and sectoral actions to deliver these.
- Parties are asked to explain how their NDCs and LT-LEDS are **aligned with the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement**.
- Parties are asked to present how they implemented the call from the Glasgow Climate Pact to **revisit and strengthen their NDCs** and explain how their NDC is aligned with 1.5°C.
- Parties are asked to present how they are following up on the call to **phase down unabated coal power and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies**;
- Parties are asked to present how they intend to drastically reduce non-CO₂- gases.
- An opportunity to **set expectations at the political level** for the aims for the following year under the Mitigation Work Programme.
- A **platform for accountability on mitigation initiatives** led by governments, Non Party Stakeholders or involving collaboration between Non Party Stakeholders and governments (including the work of the High level Champions).