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## NDCs 3.0 Regional Forum for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Pathways to Progress: Crafting Ambitious and Implementable NDCs

### Date/Location:

- To take place from 3 to 5 September
- Sisli Marriott Hotel, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Hosted by:** Government of Türkiye

**Organizers:** UNDP, UNEP, NDC Partnership, in collaboration with UNFCCC secretariat

**Co-Organizers:** FAO and UNICEF

### Background:

The Emissions Gap Report 2023 highlights record-breaking temperatures and warns that current pledges under the Paris Agreement could lead to a 2.5-2.9°C temperature rise above pre-industrial levels this century, emphasizing the urgent need for increased climate action. As per the 2023 NDC Synthesis Report, although emissions stabilize post-2030, they fail to decline rapidly enough to meet scientific targets outlined by the IPCC in its sixth Assessment Report. The IPCC emphasizes that global greenhouse gas emissions must decrease by 43% by 2030 and 60% by 2035 relative to 2019 levels to align with pathways limiting global warming to 1.5°C. The rapid and targeted reduction of methane and other short-lived non-CO<sub>2</sub> pollutant emissions plays a critical role, complementing deep decarbonisation efforts. Only a dual track will enable us to curb the global warming curve fast enough. Cuts in short-lived non-CO<sub>2</sub> pollutants, due their high global warming potential and shorter lifetime in the atmosphere, can reduce 0.5 degrees of warming by 2050.

The inaugural Global Stocktake (GST), agreed as part of the UAE consensus, confirms that the Paris Agreement has galvanized near-universal climate action by establishing goals and

signaling the urgency of addressing the climate crisis. The GST assesses collective ambition and progress, identifies critical opportunities to accelerate climate action, and informs the revision of NDCs. Despite progress in mitigation, adaptation, and means of implementation and support, Parties are collectively off-track in achieving the Paris Agreement's purpose and long-term goals.

Parties must enhance ambition and inform their next cycle of NDCs (aka NDCs 3.0), due by 2025, to align with the Paris Agreement's objectives. The upcoming NDCs 3.0, represent a pivotal moment for global efforts, serving as blueprints for a sustainable future. They must be implementable, transparent and unlock finance.

Furthermore, informed by the first GST, new NDCs must drive transformational implementation, unlock finance, enhance resilience, and integrate with national planning and development strategies. They should be backed by concrete policy roadmaps, financing plans, and demonstrate how countries will address climate change while seizing opportunities for growth and change across various sectors. Alignment with longer-term objectives, needed sectoral transformations, just transition principles, and substantial acceleration of cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, including in methane and other non-CO2 pollutant emissions by 2030, will be essential. The GST also stressed the importance of addressing the climate and biodiversity crises jointly, as conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems are key towards achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goal.

As countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) prepare for the next round of NDCs, there is a unique opportunity to elevate climate strategies toward higher ambition, leveraging lessons from previous implementation efforts. As the region has huge potential for transition to a green and just development pathway with youth population, renewable energy capacity and vibrant economy, the new cycle of NDCs with the whole of society approach and economy wide targets will be a window of opportunity. This Forum will explore how COP28 outcomes, particularly the GST decision, can guide national processes to strengthen ambition in future NDC and contribute to sustainable development by addressing climate mitigation and adaptation jointly. Through peer-learning and exchange, countries in the region will discuss best practices, challenges, and opportunities, accelerating the adoption of solutions and innovative financing models. Tools and guidance will be made available to support the inclusion of specific measures and targets into NDC reviews.

Technical government officials, UN agencies, and partner organizations will collaborate in this Forum to harness collective technical and financial capabilities, supporting countries in crafting their new NDCs effectively. Additionally, the workshop will spotlight regional and international collaboration opportunities, enabling coordinated efforts while considering national circumstances in NDC preparation.

## Objectives:

- Discuss how the outcomes of the GST adopted during COP28 can increase ambition in the NDCs 3.0 and LT-LEDS.
- Identify and discuss potential challenges and opportunities and good practices in integrating the outcomes of the GST, The Paris Agreement Ambition Cycle and the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), as well as economy-wide or sector-focused emission reductions, in the preparation of the NDCs 3.0.
- Discuss support available and needed for NDCs 3.0 preparation.
- Identify and discuss the opportunities for NDCs 3.0 to drive integration with other policies and instruments.
- Explore how to increase the “investability” of NDCs 3.0.

## Forum Structure

**Day 1: Stocktaking and Lessons Learned**

**Day 2: Navigating Opportunities and Challenges for NDCs 3.0**

**Day 3: Accelerating Implementation and Tracking Progress on NDCs 3.0**

### Day 1 – Stock Tacking and Building on Lessons Learned

Date	Time
8h30- 9h00	<b>Welcome &amp; Registration of Participants</b>
9h00 – 9h45 <i>Master of Ceremony: Alana Craigen, UNDP</i>	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Prof. Dr. Halil Hasar, President of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, Türkiye</li><li>- H.E. Mukhtar Babayev, COP29 President and Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Azerbaijan (video message)</li><li>- Leyla Hasanova, COP29 Youth Climate Champion</li><li>- Gwi-Yeop Son, Regional Director for ECA, UN Development Coordination Office</li><li>- Steliana Nedera, Istanbul Regional Hub Manager, UNDP</li></ul> <i>Family photo</i>
9h45 – 10h00	<b>Setting the Scene:</b> Outcomes of the GST and impacts for the next rounds of NDCs Reflecting on lessons learned internationally from previous round of NDCs
10h00 - 10h45	<b>Panel Discussion: Evaluating Current NDCs – Looking Back to Move Forward</b>

	<p><i>Questions and answers</i></p> <p><i>*Security briefing*</i></p>
10h45 - 11h15	Coffee Break
11h15 - 12h50	<p><b>Group Discussion on current NDCs:</b></p> <p><b>Thematic Table 1:</b> Aligning NDCs with Relevant National Policy Frameworks</p> <p><b>Thematic Table 2:</b> Mobilizing and Leveraging Means of Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity building</li> <li>- Finance</li> <li>- Technology</li> </ul> <p><b>Thematic Table 3:</b> Monitoring and Tracking Progress of NDC Action</p> <p><b>Thematic Table 4:</b> Coordination and Political Buy-In for Ambitious NDCs</p>
12h50 – 14h20	Lunch Break
14h20 – 15h05	<b>Group Sessions (continued)</b>
15h05 - 15h35	Coffee Break
15h35 – 16h35	<p><b>Reporting Back:</b> each Rapporteur will report back on their table’s findings</p> <p><i>Moderator: Saudamini Bagai, UNFCCC secretariat</i></p>

## Day 2: Navigating Opportunities and Challenges for NDCs 3.0 Preparation - Sectoral Approaches

9h00 - 9h15	<p><b>Welcome and Introduction to Day 2 Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sophie Loran, UNEP</li> </ul>
9h15 - 9h30	<p><b>Setting the Scene:</b> Sectorial Solutions for Transformative and Implementable NDCs with a focus on Just Transition</p>
9h30 – 9h45	<p><b>Setting the Scene:</b> Enhancing Adaptation in NDCs through Agriculture, Ecosystems and Water</p>

9h45 – 10h30	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> Best Practices in Sectoral Opportunities
10h30 – 11h00	Coffee break
11h00 - 11h15	<b>Setting the Scene:</b> Presentation on NDC 3.0 Navigator
11h15 – 12h50	<b>Group Discussions:</b> <b>Thematic Table 1:</b> Sustainable Energy <b>Thematic Table 2:</b> Agriculture and Resilient Food Systems <b>Thematic Table 3:</b> Adaptation and Resilience <b>Thematic Table 4:</b> Circular Cities
12h50 - 14h20	Lunch Break
14h20 - 15h20	<b>Reporting Back:</b> each Rapporteur will report back on their table's findings <i>Moderator: Sertac Turhal, NDC Partnership (tbc)</i>
15h20 – 16h55	<b>NDCs 3.0 Enablers Clinic:</b>  Potential focus areas for the Clinic tables:  Inclusivity: Just Transition Towards NDCs 3.0 Regulatory Frameworks: Policies and Measures Financing: Towards Investable and Bankable NDCs Technology Transfer and Capacity-Building
16h55 - 17h25	Coffee break
17h25 - 18h25	<b>Reporting Back:</b> each Rapporteur will report back on their clinic's findings <i>Moderator: Maria Osbeck, UNICEF</i>
18h40 - 22h30	<b>Networking Boat Trip</b> <i>(with finger food and refreshments)</i>

### Day 3: Accelerating Implementation and Tracking Progress on NDCs 3.0

9h00 - 9h15	<b>Welcome and Introduction to Day 3 Agenda</b> - Deo Gabinete, NDC Partnership
09h15 - 09h30	<b>Setting the Scene:</b> UN System-wide Support: Climate Promise 2025

9h30 - 10h15	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Support Opportunities for NDCs 3.0 Development</b></p> <p><i>Questions and answers</i></p>
10h15 – 10h45	Coffee Break
10h45 - 11h00	<b>Presentation:</b> From NDC implementation to Biennial Transparency Reports – Measuring progress
11h00 – 12h00	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Tracking NDC Progress and Achievement:</b></p> <p>Importance of indicators and the MRV system in tracking progress of NDCs  Experiences with NDC reporting  Importance of National GHG inventories in informing NDCs</p>
12h00 - 13h30	Lunch Break
13h30 - 15h05	<p><b>Group Discussions:</b></p> <p><b>Table 1:</b> Strengthening NDC Investment Planning</p> <p><b>Table 2:</b> The Role of Economic and Financial Instruments for Implementing NDCs and Driving Climate Action</p> <p><b>Table 3:</b> The Role of MDBs, Development Agencies and Donors in Implementing Climate Action</p> <p><b>Table 4:</b> The Role of the Private Sector for Bankable Projects</p>
15h05 - 15h35	Coffee Break
15h35 - 16h35	<p><b>Reporting Back:</b> each Rapporteur will report back on their group’s findings  <i>Moderator: Evetta Zenina, FAO</i></p>
16h35 - 17h05	<p><b>Wrap up, key learnings and way forward</b></p> <p><i>Plenary discussion</i></p>
17h05 - 17h10	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNFCCC secretariat</li> </ul>