

ZAMBIA'S COMMENTS ON GCF STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2027

Question 1. Does the GCF long-term strategic vision of promoting paradigm shift and supporting developing countries in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC- **remain relevant** and **ambitious**? Has the GCF set out sufficiently **clearly** how it will deliver its long-term strategic vision?

- i. *Yes it does. The national development framework is aligned to the paradigm shift and it relates with the potential for scaling-up, replication and innovation, the contribution to the creation of an enabling environment, including sustainability of outcomes beyond completion of the intervention and market transformation and the overall contribution to global low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development pathways.*
- ii. *The country has programs/activities which are still under development/implementation, the vision therefore remains relevant for continuity purposes.*
- iii. *The strategic vision is still ambitious as there is nothing to compare achievements with given the current state of affairs. If much was done and we had achieved certain goals, it would then be easy to benchmark. As it is, the vision remains ambitious.*

Question 2. What global, regional, national and subnational developments, **trends, needs and opportunities relevant to adaptation and mitigation** programming in developing countries should the GCF take into account in preparing for its second replenishment period? What lessons can be learnt from experience to date?

- i. *Regional development: African Continental Free Trade Area. Consideration of the emerging African Continental Free Trade Area in absence of a framework on green growth and environment. Increasing the volume of trade would result in increased green emissions from the production and transport activities that will offer opportunities for the GCF to support green growth paradigm on the continent.*
- ii. *Special consideration to countries that are in debt situations so that they are not left behind. This could include easing of co-financing requirements and consideration for the expansion of the grant space to be augmented.*
- iii. *There is need to have more national accredited entities for countries to work with their mandate. This can be done by easing the process of accreditation for DAEs.*

- iv. *There is need for GCF to ease access to accreditation for direct access entities (DAEs).*
- v. *There must be a structured system or process for support to AEs for them to be aligned with the post accreditation expectations.*
- vi. *The country poses an opportunity for growth in sectoral investments such as the Energy sector, however financing of feasibility studies impedes the appetite to invest. The GCF can consider easing access to the PPF which would open channels for **private sector participation**.*
- vii. *GCF should make deliberate effort in supporting issues of “Loss and Damage”.*

Question 3. How should GCF further elaborate its role within the climate finance landscape, in light of its **comparative advantages**? How should GCF seek to **differentiate its focus** from other sources of climate finance? Where are the **opportunities for complementarity, coherence and partnerships with others**?

- i. *They can do this by being more practical in their implementation process, they need to implement these advantages they have stated in the strategic plan and be more flexible in deployment or creative use of their financial instruments.*
- ii. *By being action-oriented rather than remaining in the potential.*
- iii. *Being deliberate on adaptation and the needs of the countries they are working with rather than having focusing on their survival.*
- iv. *They can focus more on adaptation funds or grants given that most of the target countries require more focus on enhancing their adaptive capacities.*
- v. *The current mode of operation of the GCF does provide sufficient scope for complementarity with other funding sources*
- vi. *Strengthen/operationalize the partnership framework with GEF in developing country programs*

Question 4. Do the GCF strategic objectives and portfolio targets **capture appropriate ambition** for the second replenishment period? How could GCF **evolve these in a way that sets clear, actionable, measurable** programming goals aligned with its strategic vision?

- i. *The targets need to be revised to reflect more of investments in adaptation.*
- ii. *By reviewing the country and pipeline programs which reflect the needs and translate into clear goals.*

Question 5. How can the GCF better respond to developing countries mitigation and adaptation needs and ensure **country-ownership** of programming? What role should the **readiness and preparatory support program**, support for national adaptation planning and country programmes play?

- i. *They can be a part of the program from inception, co-own the process and participate in understanding the needs. Allocate resources for their staff to be attached to the program.*
- ii. *There is need to Strengthen collaborative efforts with delivery partners, involve other entities*
- iii. *Country ownership of programs – allow autonomy in designing home-grown ideas to allow countries to generate ideas and concepts*
- iv. *Need to define “country ownership” from GCF perspective and from country perspective (possibility of gap)*
- v. *In country visit by GCF*
- vi. *Allow country-identified entities to participate in programs*

Question 6. How should GCF continue to build its **paradigm shifting portfolio** through its next programming period? What opportunities for **adaptation and mitigation programming**, and opportunities to improve the funds programming processes, can the GCF capture?

- i. *Enhance the adaptation component of their portfolio (current portfolio of 50 -50). The 50-50 principle should apply at every board sitting by placing caps on either mitigation or adaptation.*
- ii. *Enhance more private sector investments in adaption in line with NDCs and NAPs*
- iii. *Support to the implementation of the NAPs and NDCs (get past planning and start implementing)*

- iv. *Part 2. Need to have alternative ways to support developing countries programming other than through international consultancies eg support local consultancies who have a local understanding of the situation.*

Question 7. Building on its **private sector strategy**, what **actions and partnerships** should GCF pursue to **catalyse private** sector finance at scale?

- i. *Continue implementing the private sector strategy with emphasis to adaptation- e.g. GCF accessing financing from the private sector and visa vie.*

Question 8. What steps can GCF take, in collaboration with its **country partners, accredited entities and delivery partners**, to **ease and accelerate access to GCF resources**, as well as **strengthen the role of Direct Access entities**?

- ii. *Enhance direct access programme (small amount)- it was a project aimed at assisting direct access entities to get accredited*
- iii. *Need to actualise their proposed partnerships between international and direct access in order for parties to learn from each other- there was a proposal which was not actualised*
- iv. *Any international access entity that comes in the country should have a component of direct access to be implemented together with direct access entity (accreditation)*
- v. *Need to have a system of where they keep all the responses of comments as opposed to being asked the same questions.*
- vi. *Enhancing capacity building and creating an enabling environment for local micro, small and medium enterprise.*

Question 9. What **enhancements or adjustments** to operational modalities, policies or institutional capacities might be required to support successful execution of the **GCF's strategic vision and programming priorities**?

- i. *The 50-50 principle should apply at every board sitting by placing caps on either mitigation or adaptation.*
- ii. *Enhance support technology transfer. This aspect should feature prominently in the policies and institutional capacities. This is because developing countries have a greater need for technology in their efforts to achieve low carbon development pathway.*
- iii. *Enhance the turnaround time.*

- iv. High turnover which is affecting the effectiveness of the institution to deliver.*

Question 10. Are the measures for **measuring, monitoring and reporting** progress towards the GCF's strategic vision, objectives and priorities **sufficient**, or how could these be strengthened?

- i. The measures are sufficient.*