

Contribution to the COP30 Presidency Roadmap for Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels in a Just, Orderly and Equitable Manner

Dear COP30 Presidency and UNFCCC Secretariat,

I welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Roadmap on transitioning away from fossil fuels (para 28.d/GST1). I strongly support an inclusive, systems-oriented approach that engages all stakeholders including oil and gas producers as essential partners rather than targets of criticism. A successful transition requires every element of the energy system to work together, whereas accusatory framing risks delaying the very outcomes we need.

Recent events around the Strait of Hormuz once again demonstrate the extreme fragility of today's energy supply chains and the world's continuing heavy dependence on oil and gas. At the same time, virtually all long-term resource forecasts indicate that conventional oil and gas production will eventually decline (or disappear). These two realities together create a powerful, non-climate rationale for accelerated preparation: energy security, supply-chain resilience, and economic diversification.

I therefore recommend that the Roadmap explicitly broaden the narrative beyond the climate discourse and frame the transition as a shared preparedness exercise. Key messages I suggest including are:

- **Barriers (question a):** The dominant barrier is not unwillingness, but the sheer scale and inertia of existing physical, financial, and infrastructural systems built around oil and gas. Geopolitical chokepoints and the finite nature of conventional reserves amplify systemic risk.
- **Levers (question b):** The most powerful levers are (i) transparent, long-term demand and supply scenarios co-developed with industry, (ii) massive investment in alternative energy carriers and infrastructure, and (iii) economic diversification pathways for fossil-fuel-dependent regions and companies.
- **Just, orderly and equitable transition (question d):** The Roadmap should offer differentiated, country- and sector-specific transition preparedness packages that allow producers to plan their own orderly phase-down while maintaining energy security for importers. This includes joint scenario work, technology-neutral innovation platforms, and clear investment signals that give markets confidence. Critically, equity and fairness must be at the center. We cannot force developing countries to stop using fossil fuels when developed nations had decades to build their economies and infrastructure on them. Imposing rapid phase-outs on nations still relying on affordable energy for growth and poverty eradication would be profoundly unfair and would undermine global solidarity.

I look forward to contributing further as the Roadmap process advances.

Best regards,

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