



THE PRESIDENCY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

29 September 2022

Ms Leanne Govindsamy

Life After Coal Campaign

Ms Alia Kajee

Fair Finance Coalition South Africa

Dear Madams

**RE: SOUTH AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE JUST ENERGY TRANSITION PARTNERSHIP ("JETP"):
CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION AND INPUT**

Thank you for your letter dated 02 September 2022.

We appreciate your continued active interest in the success of the JETP (as shown in your detailed comments, feedback and inputs) in delivering impactful and just outcomes for our country as we transition to a greener and more sustainable economy, and a more climate resilient society. The collective input from various stakeholders is pivotal in shaping a successful just energy transition for South Africa. We note your wide-ranging recommendations addressed to multiple role players, and will consider those that relate to the mandate of the Presidential Climate Finance Task Team (PCFTT) as part of our ongoing work.

Many of your questions and concerns were indeed raised during our consultations with yourselves thus far, with responses and the relevant contextual information being provided during those sessions. We will therefore restrict ourselves to a summarised response, rather than dealing with every single issue raised in your letter.

We would like to reiterate our commitment to a transparent and inclusive process involving a broad range of stakeholders. The PCFTT will provide information on outcomes of engagement with the International Partners Group (IPG), and on the process overall, on a regular basis. Examples of this include the engagements on the occasion of the visit by COP26 President, Alok Sharma, in June 2022, after which a joint media statement was issued, followed by a media conference conducted by IPG Head John Murton and myself; the release of the 6-month Leaders' update; media briefing by John Murton and myself following the visit of the IPG climate envoys in July 2022; and our regular participation at the PCC's quarterly meetings, at which we give updates on the work of the PCFTT and progress on the JETP. I do, however, wish to reiterate that giving a running public commentary on every step of sensitive negotiations is neither constructive nor practical, especially considering that

some of the information around the financing offers and the IPG are not only confidential, but still in flux and the subject of negotiations.

The outcome of the negotiations will be made known, not least through the publication of the investment plan once the relevant processes have been followed within government. The PCFTT reports to the President and Cabinet via an Inter-Ministerial Committee, which has been established to oversee and direct its work.

As regards the role of the secretariat and a number of issues you have raised in relation thereto, please note that the Secretariat is sub-structure of the JETP, and that any progress on its work will form part of regular reports by the JETP or the PCFTT.

While the PCFTT is currently pushing towards the immediate milestone of COP27 in November 2022, this is far from the end of the process. The IP is a living document, and we will continue to regularly review, update and improve it, in response to the unfolding situation, as we move beyond COP27 as part of ongoing interactions on both the JETP and the just transition overall. We will iteratively consult with all stakeholders – including experts, constituencies, and local communities – as we scope out the proposed projects and programmes in more detail in 2023 and start the implementation phase of the just energy transition. The implementation will be owned by government and will include a practical monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress and drive accountability. Your inputs on governance and accountability mechanisms are valuable and have been noted. These will be carefully considered as the implementation plan is detailed out.

For the avoidance of doubt, civil society organisation will be an integral part of the process, and we are happy for your representatives to be involved in various structures to give effect to the JETP. I am aware that specific interest had been expressed for the cross-cutting finance and implementation working groups/round tables, which have yet to be convened. We look forward to your participation.

Allow me to conclude by indicating that our ambition is to set a new ‘gold standard’ for impact and participation through the JETP, as we find innovative solutions for planning and executing long-term international climate finance projects. We are committed to a truly just transition and improving the lives of all South Africans as we create a sustainable future for our country, driven by renewable energy.

For this, we need your help. We thank you for your inputs thus far, and look forward to an ongoing, productive conversation with civil society.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. J. Mminele', written in a cursive style.

Daniel Mminele
Head: Presidential Climate Finance Task Team