

## Appendix

**The vision of the Greens Movement of Georgia and the civil society (signatories of this vision) on "Georgia's draft Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)".**

**General Attitudes Towards Georgia's (NDC) - (Published by the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture of Georgia, June 2020):**

- We believe that the document is overloaded with texts that do not contain the relevant content of the government's position and vision on climate change and greenhouse gas reductions and do not add anything to it.
- The published materials do not contain additional information that would be useful for the clarity, transparency and clear understanding of the nationally defined contribution.
- We find that Chapters 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 of Chapter 2 of the Document (National Circumstances and Institutional Arrangement) poorly reflect national policies, strategies and targets by relevant sectors, which complicates some of the objectives set to reduce GHG emissions. In perception, it makes them unbelievable. The same reasons call into question the reality and ambition of some goals.
- It is known that in connection with climate change, Georgia has a number of obligations under international acts, as well as the country's legislation. Some of these deadlines are still unfulfilled. Against this background, Chapter 3 of the document - "Creation of a National Greenhouse Gas Inventory System of Georgia" looks extremely modest.
- According to the current record, the fate of the 2010 Copenhagen Debt remains unclear (commitment - "Georgia will take steps to achieve a measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) deviation from the baseline scenario, which will be supported and financed by technology and capacity building).
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- To the extent that the Climate Action Plan should be based on the objectives set out in this document, we will inevitably consider more specifics in Articles 52, 54 and 56;
- We find that Chapter 5 (Adaptation) looks weaker than optimal, planning only studies and evaluations for the next 10 years and does not involve activity in implementing a specific adaptation measure based on the results of the research.
- Some of the signatories to this document believe that a document of such a high status as a "nationally defined contribution" of the country should include measures to reduce emissions from the occupied territories.
- Based on our experience, we have a firm belief that tackling climate change challenges is impossible without the active support of the community and the population as a whole.
- In the absence of such support, it will be impossible to achieve the desired results, even if mobilizing 2 times and 3 times more resources than necessary for the implementation of any government decision.

Therefore, we consider the significant shortcoming of the document to be that it does not focus on the issues of raising public awareness, significantly improving the level of education and mobilizing the community to achieve a common goal.

- Based on our experience, we believe that the document should be provided to the public in such a way that each citizen clearly sees the common goal and the need to engage in government efforts to achieve it, their own role and place.

### **Evaluation and position according to specific subsections and articles:**

#### **Chapter 1 Description of the contribution defined at the national level of Georgia**

##### **Section 1.1 Objectives**

###### **Article 1**

The 35% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 from 1990 levels is not ambitious and this percentage should increase.

In case of a 35% decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, compared to the level of 2018-2020, emissions by 2030 will increase by 12 million tons, or 67%. The set goal will be justified in the event that by 2030 there will be a breakthrough in the economy and GDP will almost double.

To achieve this result, the growth rate of the economy must be within 7% annually and stable, which is unrealistic.

Thus, even if the unconditional obligation is fulfilled, the number of emissions in GDP will increase - which is unacceptable for us.

Over the past decades, monitoring the impact of natural disasters on climate change in Georgia has identified the following vulnerable groups in need of urgent adaptation: children and adolescents, women, the elderly, people with disabilities and chronic diseases, climate change IDPs or those at risk of climate change as a result of natural disasters caused by change.

###### **Article 2**

If our wishes under Article 1 are taken into account, the relevant amendment shall be made to the objectives set out in Article 2.

###### **Article 12**

We believe that adaptation measures for different vulnerable groups require more specificity. We believe that the relevant measures should be reflected in the Climate Action Plan and other relevant state programs.

#### **Chapter 2 National Circumstances and Institutional Arrangement**

## **Section 2.2 Economic Profile**

We appreciate that you share our recommendation and link emissions to the dynamics of GDP, although the real GDP growth rate is below 5.0% in most cases and it is unlikely that the 5% threshold will be stable in the near future, so it is difficult for us to share it with the authors.

## **Section 2.3 Population and Vulnerable Groups**

### **Articles 38 and 39**

We consider it necessary to reflect in these articles the obligation of the state in terms of the provision of medical services and the development and implementation of health action programs.

## **Section 2.4 Geographical Profile**

- A. we consider that the emphasis on the vulnerability of highland areas is not sufficient;
- B. Given the global challenges of climate change, we consider it necessary to make commitments to manage the risks of coastal, arid, semi-arid, semi-humid and other vulnerable ecosystems;
- C. We consider insufficient the state obligation to only maintain the ability (capacity) to absorb and adapt Georgia's forest emissions.

We believe that the state should aim and implement measures to significantly increase this potential.

## **Chapter 4 Reduction of Greenhouse Gases**

One of the main purposes of this document is to state that it is the basis of the Climate Action Plan and the definition of key parameters, and in this chapter the roles have been changed and the source of the target indicators is the Climate Action Plan (Articles 51, 53).

Such a reality does not really create a pleasant picture and it is necessary to fix both the basis and the target indicators in the same document.

### **Article 52, Article 54, Article 56**

For a high-status document such as a country-defined contribution (it is also the basis of the Climate Action Plan), we do not consider it entirely sufficient that measures planned to reduce emissions from the relevant sector are limited to the general terms "support" and "incentives";

We believe that in order to fulfill the legislation of the country, as well as the international obligations, it is necessary to be more specific and to bring the set goals to public trial.

### **Article 57**

- A. The contents of Articles 57 and 42 are inconsistent with each other.
- B. It is unambitious to increase the greenhouse gas absorption potential by 10% by 2030.

Such growth can be achieved without special care for the forests of Georgia (at the expense of natural renewal and natural addition).

#### **Article 58**

Given the existing wording, it is difficult to clarify the purpose of the text and we think it is generally removable.

#### **Article 62**

This article should be formulated as follows: Georgia plans to promote the conservation of endemic species and aboriginal species important for food and agriculture by assessing the impact of climate change on relevant ecosystems.

### **Chapter 6 Gender and Climate Change**

A) We welcome the attention to the target groups in the Climate Change Document, although this "attention" is so general that it fails to be properly reflected in the Climate Action Plan.

B) We cannot share the pathos of Articles 70, 71 and 72. Because the document does not focus on the active involvement of the public in the decision-making process on climate change challenges.