



Communication and Marketing Department  
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso  
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa  
Welgelegen House, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank, Cape Town  
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 5427/5428/5674 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5628

[www.uct.ac.za](http://www.uct.ac.za)

**13 September 2023**

## **UCT academic part of technical report which charts wayforward for Paris agreement on climate change**

A key technical [report](#), which had the University of Cape Town's (UCT) Professor Harald Winkler as one of the two facilitators, has found that many creative and actionable solutions to overcome climate change challenges are ready to be implemented.

While parties to the Paris Agreement in 2015 have taken widespread actions to address climate change and its impacts, ambition and implementation must be accelerated rapidly. Social inclusion and equity are deemed essential to broaden such actions.

The [report](#) on the global stocktake was published on Tuesday, 12 September 2023. Professor Winkler of UCT's School of Economics was one of the two facilitators of the technical dialogue leading to the report.

The global stocktake was designed under the Paris Agreement to assess the global response to the climate crisis and chart a better way forward. The global stocktake is held every five years and is intended to inform the next round of nationally determined contributions to be put forward by 2025.

Winkler said: "More than 137 non-party stakeholders submitted input on their actions and support for the Paris Agreement goals, in total over 170 000 pages of written submissions were received, and we had over 252 hours of meetings and discussions over the three meetings of the technical dialogue – in plenaries, roundtables and world café formats. As the report's technical findings show, much more is needed now, on all fronts and by all actors to meet the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement."

The global stocktake started with a data collection phase in 2021, collecting a wide range of inputs from parties, international bodies, and non-party stakeholders. A technical dialogue was carried out across three meetings in 2022 and 2023 and was chaired, with the assistance of the UN Climate Change secretariat, by two co-facilitators Farhan Akhtar and Winkler, nominated by developed and developing countries respectively. The scope of technical discussion was very broad, including mitigation, adaptation and support, as well as loss and damage and response measures. Cutting across all these topics were ambition and equity – all informed by best available science.

The synthesis report of the technical dialogue published on 12 September highlights 17 key technical findings from the discussions. Across the topics, the report makes clear that there is progress, but much more needs to be done. While there are well-known gaps, the

technical findings highlighted existing and emerging opportunities and creative solutions to bridge these gaps. Good practices and proposals to accelerate implementation, action and support, are highlighted in all areas.

The report lays a strong scientific and technical base for the conclusion of the first global stocktake in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, at the UN Climate Change Conference COP28 in December 2023.

During the final phase – the consideration of outcomes – a series of high-level events will be held to discuss the implications of these technical findings. These discussions will inform a decision and/or declaration summarising key political messages, identifying opportunities, good practices, and challenges to enhance climate action and support.

Simon Stiell, executive secretary of UN Climate Change, concluded: “I urge governments to carefully study the findings of the report and ultimately understand what it means for them and the ambitious action they must take next. It’s the same for businesses, communities and other key stakeholders. While the catalytic role of the Paris Agreement and the multilateral process will remain vital in the coming years, the global stocktake is a critical moment for greater ambition and accelerating action.”

[Read the report](#)

**Photo**



Professor Harald Winkler

***Ends***

***Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department***

**Thami Nkwanyane**

**Media Liaison and Monitoring Officer**  
Communication and Marketing Department  
University of Cape Town  
Rondebosch  
Tel: (021) 650 5672  
Cell: 063 366 3993 / 072 563 9500  
Email: [thami.nkwanyane@uct.ac.za](mailto:thami.nkwanyane@uct.ac.za)  
Website: [www.uct.ac.za](http://www.uct.ac.za)