





## **THE NEED**

**A vision is required to guide both the selection an**

There is great power in the people's voice. Dialogue within GCS raises awareness of issues, creates clarity around values and how various issues impact those values, and builds active participation. Where convergence occurs, GCS voice gains strength.

GCS, however, does not speak with one voice, but rather with many. While diversity is a strength, it also is a challenge. Fragmentation and the cacophony of multiple voices can create white noise, effectively canceling all and providing those in power with a rationale to dismiss GCS and select

1. **Access.** Based on the presumptions that all have the right to be heard and many are nonetheless marginalized and voiceless, the strategic approach needs to engage a proactive orientation to ensure access by all, especially the marginalized and voiceless.
2. **Legitimacy.** In a global society, GCS can not claim to represent others in the same way that democratically elected governments can. However, legitimacy can be earned in other ways such as professional and grassroots knowledge, the association with decent human values, and the relationship with democratically elected representatives, e.g., parliamentarians, who share common concern.
3. **Accountability.** The strategic approaches need to ensure downwards accountability, i.e., accountability to those affected by their policies or actions. GCS participants utilizing the strategic approach need be embedded in their national and local societies and be held accountable to them. Effectiveness, rather than efficiency, is suggested as a measure of accountability.
4. **Participation – Participation must be genuine, not token.** It must empower people to articulate their unique and diverse values, advance cooperation while respecting identity and autonomy, capitalize on the creative potential of plurality and diversity, and facilitate clear communication and generative learning.

#### **STRATEGIC APPROACHES**

A number of strategic approaches were brainstormed and four were explored in zdjqkVE-EkB-qR--zujq'V'4znjqkV