

UN High-Level Political Forum: "Keeping 1.5 within Reach, Setting NDCs 3.0 in Motion"

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Speech on behalf of COP29 Presidency by

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honored to join you today at this critical juncture for global climate action. As we gather here under the auspices of UNEP, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action Team, UNDP, and the UNFCCC secretariat, we confront an urgent and formidable challenge: keeping the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C within reach.

The upcoming round of NDCs, set to be communicated in early 2025, represents a pivotal opportunity to realign our efforts with the scientific imperatives and the temperature goals established under the Paris Agreement. As the COP29 Presidency, we encourage all Parties to submit their 1.5-aligned national plans, informed by the Global Stocktake, well ahead of the 10 February 2025 deadline.

It is essential that we implement all GST outcomes in a nationally determined manner to keep us on track to a 1.5-aligned and climate-resilient world. Effective implementation mechanisms are vital for ambitious NDCs to be supported by adequate means. Follow-up on the GST outcomes is crucial to ensure they lead to tangible actions and enhanced ambition.

The Troika's role in maintaining and enhancing political momentum for ambitious climate actions along with promoting the mobilization of an international enabling environment, is crucial.

As a Troika, we are partnering with the UN Secretary-General and the entire UN system to ensure that Parties receive support to design and implement NDCs. UNDP has launched its Climate Promise 2025 initiative to provide capacity-building support. We also welcome the launch of UNFCCC's NDC 3.0 Navigator and invite Parties to use this toolkit in the process of designing new NDCs. They may support developing countries in actively accelerating the implementation of their NDCs through integrated climate solutions.

A coherent and coordinated response from UN agencies is crucial to support countries in achieving their NDCs. We must also explore linkages with global financial systems and development agendas, recognizing that climate change is intertwined with broader development challenges. Innovative financial mechanisms are necessary to support climate action, particularly in vulnerable regions.

We have acknowledged the voices of developing countries, emphasizing that equity and fairness in climate action are essential. The special needs of vulnerable countries, including least developed countries, small island developing states, and African nations, must be addressed through tailored support. Additionally, successful NDC implementation depends on inclusivity, so we advocate for updated NDCs to integrate the voices of civil society, women, indigenous peoples, farmers, young people, and children to enhance the effectiveness of climate action.

Moving forward, adaptation efforts must be given equal importance alongside mitigation. Clear goals and financing for adaptation are essential, as are sectoral transitions like energy. Increased financial support and capacity building are needed to help developing countries draft and implement ambitious NDCs.

Progress on the New Collective Quantified Goal which is set to be adopted in COP29 will build confidence that we can enhance our ambition in this critical year as parties prepare to submit new NDCs, National Adaptation Plans, and Biennial Transparency Reports. Adequate access to finance is crucial to achieving tangible outcomes based on NDCs. By mobilizing domestic and international resources, countries can effectively implement ambitious emission reduction targets and adaptation measures outlined in their NDCs. This not only enhances transparency and accountability but also builds investor confidence in sustainable projects, catalyzing private sector engagement in climate-resilient investments.

However, the overarching challenge of attracting investments remains. More must be done to bring in private sector finance, integrate NDC targets into national budgets, and put in place policies and regulations that will further incentivise investment into climate action. We must consider the need for capacity building in developing countries as finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity building go hand in hand.

New country platforms can provide a single focal point to channel technical assistance and public and private finance to support the delivery of NDCs. We need to work together to ensure NDCs become investment portfolios, inviting stakeholders to invest in a sustainable future. This collaborative approach will be instrumental in building the necessary infrastructure and capacity to meet our climate goals.

Dear participants, the upcoming COP29 and COP30 represent a critical window of opportunity. The success of NDCs will depend on our willingness to embrace ambition, innovation, and inclusivity.

Let us commit to this path with the urgency and determination that the climate crisis demands. It will ensure the next generation of NDCs effectively reduce emissions, build resilience, drive investments, and promote inclusive climate action.

Thank you.