



Climate Vulnerable Leaders' Event "Midnight Survival Deadline for the Climate"

Statement

by

H. E. Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli
Honorable Prime Minister of Nepal

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Your Excellency H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I begin by congratulating Bangladesh for assuming the chairmanship of the Climate Vulnerable Forum and coordinating this important event.

Climate change today poses an existential threat. The best available science tells us that with rising temperature, rising sea-levels and melting glaciers, humanity is on the wrong side of the race against nature.

Melting of the glacier ice, due to global warming has negatively impacted the lives and livelihoods of the Hymalayan and high mountain civilization, induced disasters in the lowlands and caused the rise of the ocean levels. Nepal's rivers nourish the basins and ultimately help clean up the ocean ecosystems.

This Earth is a natural climate stabilizer, signifying the organic linkage between mountains and the oceans. It is ironic that the climate vulnerable countries like ours have borne the brunt of inaction of others.

The impacts of climate change do not respect political boundaries. Therefore, the call by the CVF for increased commitment by all nations to limit the rise of global temperature to 1.5. degrees Celsius is now more important than ever.

The inception of survival deadlines today highlights the urgency of climate action. The large emitters should break their silence and scale up climate ambitions to send a strong signal. This is a time to walk the talk, it is a time to inspire others by example with full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

For us, every year counts. And reducing every fraction of a degree in temperature matters. It is a question of survival for vulnerable countries. CVF has always been on the front line with good track record to lead the long-term sustainable solution to climate change.

It is important to keep the climate issues at the top of the global political agenda as we prepare for COP 26 next year. Nepal remains committed to communicate enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) by the end of this year.

Climate action for the vulnerable countries like us rests in access to climate financing effort, affordable technology, and implementable adaptation and mitigation programs.

Excellencies, the COVID-19 crisis has devastated human lives and economies. But the pandemic can be an opportunity for a greener, and more sustainable health and economies. The lesson learned can be useful to tackle climate change, with a similar sense of urgency and priority at national, regional and international levels.

The need is to tread on the right path; the need is to unite for climate actions, not to pitch politics against climate change; the need is to have a common plan, the plan of sustainable solutions. There is no time to lose.

Action must start now, as it is a question of our survival.

I thank you.