

**Statement by the Mr. Goran Trivan, Minister of Environmental Protection of the Republic
of Serbia
during the COP23 High-level segment**

- Verison 1.0 -

Mr President,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished delegates,

At the Earth Summit in Rio, 25 years ago, we concluded that the World needs a change. The Paris Agreement confirmed readiness of the international community to continue to change. In order to implement the Paris agreement we have some specific goals we must achieve.

Thus we believe the COP23 shall deliver a number of milestone conclusions that will ensure complete structure of the Paris Agreement and strengthen its impacts. In this regard and in achievement of these goals besides mitigation pledges, finance and technology development and transfer are essential for us.

In that regard and as the Party that submitted its INDC among the first 10 countries in the World and that is the Party to the Paris Agreement since August this year, Serbia started establishment of a system for:

- evaluation of current and preparation of successive NDC,
- identification of the long-term goals and
- monitoring and reporting of implementation in a transparent manner.

In 2019 Climate change strategy with the Action plan of the Republic of Serbia will ensure ambitious national mitigation pledges and identify the actions and resources for their achievement in the following years and by the end of the century.

Currently developed Law on climate change will ensure monitoring and reporting on implementation of the Strategy and its elements relevant for the achievement of the Paris Agreement goals.

Furthermore, as for the country already vulnerable to climate change, work on disaster risk reduction and adaptation related actions is among the priorities. As it was stated in our INDC, the total damage caused by extreme climate and weather conditions, in the period 2000 - 2015, exceeds 5 billion euro, and more than 70% of the losses are associated with droughts and high temperatures. Another major cause of significant losses was floods.

Taking into account there is no analysis of the damage resulting from the long-term climate changes as well as of long-term investments in the area of adaptation in the Republic of Serbia, those are the priorities we will be working on, believing we could expect support of the international community and especially of the Green climate fund. Moreover we believe COP 23 will result in related milestones that are important not only for Serbia but for all other countries. .

We are standing ready to contribute to the COP 23 success