

## RINGO COP22 High Level Segment Statement

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the research community. We want to focus on two areas where research can make an essential contribution to a successful implementation of the Paris Agreement: policy assistance and capacity building.

The adoption of the Paris Agreement represents the start of new directions in addressing climate change. Researchers are ready to contribute to the workshops and roundtables planned to serve the Parties in meeting their commitments, as well as in preparing the technical papers meant as input for these gatherings. We believe that participation of the global research community in these workshops and roundtables and in the preparation of these technical papers is essential. Our research contributions can not only guide concrete mitigation and adaptation efforts, but also the process of advancing and putting into operation the NDCs and the global stocktaking.

Acknowledging the physical realities behind the temperature targets and countries' different contexts and capacities, we want to emphasise that the preparedness to see the bigger picture and to take into account the multiple technical and social factors and their interlinkages is essentially country independent. Collective knowledge to deal with climate change is not the sum of independent bits and pieces. It comes into being through inclusive reflective dialogue, supported by indigenous knowledge as well as by input from the natural, physical and social sciences; and by technologists working in concert with the humanities. We invite you to take a broader view on capacity building than just technical infrastructure and skills. Collective knowledge to deal with climate change requires all of us to develop and use the capacity to see that bigger picture and ourselves in it, with our interests, hopes, beliefs and concerns. From this perspective, we welcome the emphasis on the importance of the skills of creativity, critical thinking and collaboration made in the Global Education Monitoring Report 2016 prepared by UNESCO. We believe our researchers can play key roles in capacity building among all actors aimed at developing these skills. Effective action for climate empowerment will require collaborations, education and training and public participation initiatives that go beyond national, cultural and disciplinary borders.

We thank you for your attention.

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*RINGO High Level Segment Statement, delivered by Gaston Meskens  
Marrakesh, Thursday 17 November 2016*