

EIG Opening Statement for COP21 and CMP11

Paris, France, 1 December 2015

Thank you, Mr. President

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group, comprising Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland.

Let me first thank the government and the people of France as well as the authorities and the people of Paris for hosting this Conference of the Parties. We also express our full solidarity to the French people in grief after the Paris terror attacks. Let me assure you that the French presidency has our full support in guiding us through this two weeks in order to deliver an outcome that sends a strong signal to the outside world.

The last months proved us that we are capable of addressing global climate change collectively: over 90% of the Parties to the Convention submitted their **INDCs**. This is unprecedented and a crucial step into the right direction. However, we should not forget that the hard work is yet to be done. The implementation of these and future commitments demands an increase of national and international efforts in order to reach the below 2°C-target. For this to be reached effectively, we need a legally-binding global framework that enables robust action by all Parties.

Mr. President, we did not come to Paris to adopt just some kind of an agreement. We came to Paris to adopt an agreement that is worth the time and energy spent. We came to Paris to adopt an **ambitious, robust, dynamic and durable** new agreement

applicable to all that will set us on the pathway towards low-carbon and resilient societies and economies.

In order to adopt a durable and dynamic agreement, we need to take a **pragmatic and flexible approach** to differentiation whereby all Parties have obligations in accordance with their responsibilities, capabilities and national circumstances.

To ensure the **robustness** of the agreement we need common rules and a unified transparency system that allows for a global aggregation of emissions without overburdening countries with limited capacities. Furthermore, we need a mechanism to continuously increase our ambition over time in all areas of the agreement.

We recognize the crucial role of the mobilization of **climate finance** and support to developing countries, in particular the poorest and most vulnerable, to implement the agreement. Over time all finance flows should promote and be consistent with the urgently needed transformation to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies.

The journey needs to continue **after Paris**: besides important elements to be decided here in Paris, we should set up a robust work program for the operationalization of the Paris agreement to make it fit for purpose from 2020. Furthermore, we need to continue to strengthen the international regime up to 2020.

Mr. President, the EIG came to Paris well prepared and ready to work hard with all Parties and the French presidency during these two weeks to reach such an ambitious global agreement.

Thank you Mr. President