

Statement:

Chair thank you for the floor,
My name is Jonathan Lambregs and I am speaking on behalf of YOUNGO.

Changing habits requires courage. One that daily commutes by car wouldn't think of using a bike, although he or she is fully aware of the positive health impacts, the avoided emissions and reduction of costs. Yet, it hardly occurs.

But if change is crucial for the survival of our planet, it requires a little push. And if a push is not enough, we need legally binding measures.

At the beginning of the week, Obama presented his climate plans. EPA regulations are proposed to cut emissions in the electricity sector with 30% by 2030.

Those unwilling to change call it 'madness'. Those stuck in current economic patterns call it a destruction of the economy and a social disaster. Polluting companies of the past are afraid they won't make as much profit next quarter as they did the previous.

Fortunately, the ceo's of tomorrow's green economy call it leadership. The innovators building a sustainable energy system call it a promising framework to develop. The strong workers and families of the future call it prosperity delivering a sustainable future for the planet.

Next to Obama's climate action, China is rumoured to implement a rigorous cap and trade system. The EU is working on its 2030 climate- and energy framework to ensure the Unions economy and energy systems are "more competitive, secure and sustainable". Industrialised countries counting for the lionshare of global emissions, are taking first steps in realising a low carbon society.

That is the reason why we gathered today. To work towards a set of contributions to safeguard our planet for current and future generations. By doing so all countries take responsibility to cut emissions, and more importantly all nations grasp the opportunities of ambitious climate action.

The former ADP session was interesting, but we need to get to the details of a draft agreement for 2015. The concrete requirements for your nationally determined contributions need to progress during the coming days, in order to build a solid foundation for Lima at the end of the year.

So embrace change. Send leading nations on climate action the right message, because they will be pushed not to change. Finally, establish a playing field in which families, entrepreneurs and workers of tomorrow – us youngsters – can do business, enjoy life, work and develop with respect for the planet's boundaries.