



**Pacific Islands Climate Action Network (PICAN) Statement**  
**High Level Segment, United Nations COP23 Climate Change Conference**  
**Bonn, Germany. 16-17 November 2017**

Your Excellency's, Ni Sa Bula. My name is Krishneil Narayan from Fiji speaking on behalf of the Pacific islands NGOs.

The Pacific islands region is one of the most vulnerable to climate change. Fiji's Presidency of COP23 provides us with an opportunity to take on higher ambition in implementing the Paris Agreement.

Over the past two weeks of COP23, we have had numerous talanoa on ways to implement the Paris Agreement. We must put people at the forefront of climate action and listen to their voices.

Further, faster actions must be taken to transition away from reliance on fossil fuels as the world's fossil fuels are the Pacific's Loss and Damage. We ask for more governments, including Germany, to move away from fossil fuels.

We call upon you to support the Talanoa Dialogue in 2018 and increase ambition. While some progress has been made on the Implementation Guidelines, negotiations on this must be stepped up because the people in affected regions cannot wait. Our Survival Is Not Negotiable!

The decision agreements reached so far on loss and damage falls far short of meaningful steps towards addressing loss and damage faced by the most vulnerable people. This is not acceptable for the "Pacific COP".

We encourage you to do more. We welcome the work done here to operationalize the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform and adopting the Gender Action Plan.

The citizens of your countries are relying on you to step up the negotiations with faster actions for implementations domestically. We are in the same canoe. Let's row together, move faster and not waste time discussing the detailed design of each oar.

Vinaka Vakalevu.

**Note:** Mr. Krishneil Narayan is the Coordinator of Pacific Islands Climate Action Network. PICAN, based in Fiji, is a regional alliance of 55 non-governmental organizations (NGO's) from the Pacific islands region working on various aspects of climate change, disaster risk and response and sustainable development.