

**Statement by**  
**The Kingdom of Cambodia**  
**5<sup>th</sup> High-level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance**  
14<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

- **Co-moderators!**
- **Excellencies Ministers, delegates!**
  
- It is positive to see that this COP is putting the spotlight on climate finance issues, particularly for developing countries and those most vulnerable to climate change;
  
- The specific attention given this year to the issue of financing for loss and damage is welcome, even though it comes very late in the discussions. We hope that rapid progress can be made on this issue, to deliver financing on the ground for the most affected countries;
  
- As we all recognize, the 2020 targets set for climate finance are not met to this day. We cannot expect countries who bear very little responsibility and much of the burden of climate change to deliver on their commitments if the climate finance commitments are not met. This is a question of climate justice. We need developed countries to step up in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities enshrined in the UNFCCC. This includes financing, as well as transfer of technologies and skills;
  
- Our experience to date is that public climate finance is not reaching vulnerable populations at the scale and speed required by the climate crisis. Multilateral climate funds are among the most demanding development finance mechanisms, and it typically takes several years from application to the time the funds reach beneficiaries. Urgent action is required to improve access and speed of delivery, with a particular focus on least developed countries and those most vulnerable;
  
- As an example, Cambodia's own allocations to climate change-related activities from the national budget have tripled over the past five years. They have increased at a faster rate than international climate finance to Cambodia. The international community needs to do better to ensure adequate resources are transferred from those most responsible for climate change to those most vulnerable.

- In addition to financing for loss and damage, and for adaptation, there is a need to unlock financing for green technologies in developing countries. This will help our countries to achieve their legitimate objectives of prosperity and well-being for their citizens, while also delivering on climate change mitigation commitments.
- Private investments play an essential role here. For mitigation, more than two thirds of the resources needed to achieve our 2050 carbon neutrality objective will have to come from the private sector. Private finance also has an important role to play in adaptation.
- We will require support to attract this type of financing, by putting in place adequate regulatory incentives, by developing Cambodia's capacity to access capital markets, for example through green bonds, and by putting in place blended financing mechanisms where public finance is used to de-risk private investments. We will also need support to develop a strong pipeline of bankable projects;
- Cambodia is already moving on many of these issues:
  - In the energy sector, we have seen increasing investment in renewables, and we hope to see energy efficiency efforts take off with the adoption of our National Energy Efficiency Policy expected by the end of this year. This will contribute to a more resilient and low carbon energy sector.
  - The Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy and Finance and the National Bank of Cambodia are all working to bring more green finance to Cambodian entrepreneurs, through access to the Green Climate Fund and through adoption of sustainable finance practices in the banking sector.
  - Our new investment law provides fiscal incentives for green investments, and further regulatory reforms in support of green investments are ongoing.
  - We are building on our initial successes in attracting carbon finance, and developing a comprehensive regulatory framework that will allow us to tap carbon markets on a larger scale, while also meeting our NDC commitments. It is critical that carbon prices should reflect the full economic, social and environmental costs of carbon.

- We look forward to engaging with you on how to scale climate finance and deliver it where it is most needed, at the speed and scale required by the climate crisis.