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Establishing Canada's climate plan: taking an inclusive approach to examine where we want to go, and how we get there

Canada is taking significant steps to advance action on climate change and clean growth, both at home and abroad. Canada supported the development of an ambitious Paris Agreement, including the addition of the 1.5 degree threshold (in Article 2). Subsequently, Canada was also amongst the first countries to sign and ratify the Paris Agreement and commit to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 30% below 2005 levels by 2030.

As a first step towards implementing Canada’s commitments under the Agreement, the Prime Minister of Canada and provincial and territorial government leaders (First Ministers) met in March 2016 and agreed to take ambitious action in support of meeting or exceeding Canada’s 2030 target. It was also recognized that a collaborative approach between federal, provincial and territorial (FPT) governments is important to reduce GHG emissions and to enable sustainable economic growth.

First Ministers then established four FPT working groups to identify policy options on pricing carbon across Canada and on specific mitigation opportunities, adaptation, and clean technology measures. The working groups undertook an in-depth process of broad domestic engagement, consultations and dialogue, engaging with Indigenous peoples, and considering input from Canadians, industry and civil society. The Government of Canada also launched a national engagement campaign, “Let’s Talk Climate Action”, a dedicated web portal that received more than 13,000 comments and ideas on climate change and clean growth from nearly 4,000 citizens and 600 organizations. Canadians also participated in over 50 town hall meetings held across the country. Using the inputs received from the consultation process, including submissions received through an interactive website and town hall meetings across Canada, the working groups developed and submitted their final recommendations in October 2016. Their advice supported the subsequent development of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change.
Implementing the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change for a strong, competitive, low-carbon economy

On December 9, 2016, the Prime Minister and Provincial and Territorial Premiers adopted Canada’s clean growth and climate plan to take ambitious action to fight climate change, build resilience to the changing climate, and drive clean economic growth. The Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change builds on the leadership shown and actions taken individually and collectively by the provinces and territories. A landmark achievement, the Pan-Canadian Framework is the first climate change plan in Canada’s history to include joint and individual commitments by FPT governments and to have been developed with input from Indigenous peoples, businesses, NGOs, and Canadians from coast to coast.

The Pan-Canadian Framework (PCF) is built on four pillars: pricing carbon pollution, complementary actions to reduce emissions across the economy, adaptation and climate resilience, and clean technology, innovation and jobs. The PCF outlines over fifty concrete actions that span across all sectors of the economy including electricity, built environment, industry, transportation, agriculture and forestry, and waste. The plan sets Canada on a path towards meeting or exceeding its 2030 target.

We have made significant progress in implementing the PCF. Key regulatory developments to reduce emissions include the publication of draft federal coal-fired and natural gas fired electricity regulations, final methane regulations for the oil and gas sectors, and entrance into force of regulations governing the use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). These regulations will work to lower GHG emissions and will also help to create the certainty required to encourage new investments by industry. FPT governments are also making significant investments in major infrastructure projects including renewable energy, electricity interties between provinces, zero emissions vehicle charging networks as well as public transit. In 2018, Canada’s $2 billion Low Carbon Economy Fund has approved funding for provincial and territorial projects, nineteen of which target energy efficiency retrofits in the residential and commercial buildings sectors. Under the 5-year Canadian Agricultural Partnership between FPT governments, funding is being allocated to help the agricultural sector reduce emissions and strengthen resilience against climate impacts. Canada is also taking a leadership role in reducing GHG emissions from government operations including procuring and adopting clean technologies, committing to greening fleets and improving energy efficiency of public buildings.

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1 Saskatchewan and Manitoba did not adopt the PCF at that time. Manitoba joined in February 2018.
Putting a price on carbon pollution is central to Canada’s climate plan and a key tool for reducing emissions and generating clean growth.

Putting a price on carbon pollution is widely recognized as an efficient way to reduce emissions at the lowest cost to business and consumers, and to support innovation and clean growth. Carbon pollution pricing sends an important signal to markets, and provides incentives to reduce energy use through conservation and efficiency measures. For these reasons, carbon pollution pricing is a central pillar of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change.

The Pan-Canadian Approach to Pricing Carbon Pollution, announced by the Prime Minister in October 2016, will ensure that carbon pollution pricing is applied to a broad set of emissions sources with increasing stringency over time throughout Canada. Provinces and territories that choose to implement an explicit price-based system would be required to set a minimum price of $10 per tonne in 2018 and increase it by $10 per year to $50 per tonne by 2022. Provinces with cap-and-trade need to have a 2030 emissions-reduction target equal to or greater than Canada’s 30 percent reduction target as well as declining (more stringent) annual caps to at least 2022 that correspond, at a minimum, to the projected emissions reductions resulting from the carbon price that year in price-based systems.

Recognizing that carbon pollution pricing systems are already implemented or under development in some provinces and territories, Canada’s approach maintains the flexibility for provinces and territories to implement the type of system that makes sense for their circumstances and sets some common criteria that all systems must meet to ensure they are fair and effective. The Government of Canada also committed to develop and implement a federal pollution pricing backstop system in provinces and territories that request it and in any jurisdiction that does not have a pollution pricing system aligned with the federal standard.

The Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, which was adopted in June 2018, provides the legal framework and enabling authorities for the federal pollution pricing backstop system with two components: a charge on fossil fuels that will generally be paid by fuel producers or distributors – also known as the fuel charge; and a performance-based pricing system for industrial facilities with high emissions that are also trade-exposed – also known as the output-based pricing system (OBPS). Wherever the federal backstop applies, the Government of Canada will return all revenue proceeds from the pollution pricing to the jurisdiction of origin. In October, the Prime Minister announced the jurisdictions where the federal backstop system will apply – ensuring that a price on carbon pollution will be in place throughout Canada in 2019.
Adapting to climate change and enhancing climate resilience

Canadians are already feeling the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events, including more intense and frequent flooding, wildfires, thawing permafrost and coastal erosion. In implementing the adaptation and resilience commitments made in the PCF, FPT governments are responding proactively to the risks that climate change impacts pose to the safety and health of Canadians. Federally, this includes the launch of the $2 billion cost-shared Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund in 2018 to support investments in large-scale infrastructure projects that strengthen the resilience of Canadian communities to natural hazards. The Government of Canada is also taking action to integrate climate resilience into building design guides and codes and has made investments to help local governments conduct climate risk assessments and planning. Recent federal programming has supported more than 350 projects to improve Canada’s resilience to the effects of a changing climate, including projects in the North and Indigenous and coastal communities.

Disseminating reliable and timely climate information to support Canadians in better preparing for climate change impacts remains a high priority. In the fall of 2018, the Government of Canada launched its official source of reliable climate information, data, and tools, the Canadian Centre for Climate Services (CCCS). The CCCS is collaborating with existing regional climate organizations, and with provinces and territories to establish regional climate organizations where none currently exist, in order to jointly deliver climate services that respond to local needs. In addition, FPT governments are advancing efforts to reduce the health risks associated with climate change, including the spread of infectious diseases, such as tick-borne Lyme disease. Several programs are underway across the country to raise awareness about the health risks associated with climate change and to build capacity within the health system to address them. Northern and coastal regions and Indigenous peoples continue to be prioritized in adaptation initiatives, as they are disproportionately affected by climate change. This includes support for Indigenous peoples to monitor climate change in their communities and to use Indigenous Knowledge and science to inform adaptation actions.
Seizing economic opportunities by investing in clean growth

Taking action to avoid the worst impacts of climate change creates the opportunity to spark technological innovation, build a competitive low-carbon economy and create well-paying jobs. The World Bank estimates that global climate action will unlock $23 trillion in new climate investment opportunities in emerging markets by 2030.

In Canada, the shift to a cleaner future is already underway. In 2017, Canada ranked fourth in the world on the Global Cleantech Innovation Index as a clean technology innovator with particularly strong performance in the areas of available funding and early entrepreneurship. Canada is making historic investments in clean technology, innovation and infrastructure to complement carbon pricing and other emission reduction measures. Under the Pan-Canadian Framework, we launched a $2 billion Low Carbon Economy Fund to support provinces and territories in taking new and innovative actions to reduce emissions by 2030 as well as public sector, private sector, not-for-profit and Indigenous organizations to leverage Canadian ingenuity in the fight against climate change. These investments support climate leadership and clean growth efforts across all levels of government and various sectors of society, extending the breadth and depth of the Pan-Canadian Framework. In addition, certain provinces and territories have implemented their own financial measures to accelerate the development and deployment of clean technology.

We remain committed to growing a competitive clean technology sector. In 2017, Canada announced $2.3 billion in clean technology funding, which includes over $1.4 billion in clean technology financing, and $400 million to support the development and demonstration of clean technologies. In addition, we are making historic investments to upgrade and transform our infrastructure. Over the next decade, we will invest $26.9 billion to support green infrastructure projects for electricity and $28.7 billion to support urban public transit. These investments are consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement to shift investment flows toward the clean growth future, and demonstrate that Canada is working to create a domestic enabling environment to create this shift.

Financial markets play a role in Canada’s transition to a low carbon economy by providing the investments and financing needed to develop and deploy low-carbon technologies, business processes, and infrastructure. Sustainable finance initiatives could help shift investors’ capital allocation decisions towards assets that are less carbon-intensive and more climate-resilient. At the request of the G20, the chair of the Financial Stability Board, Mark Carney, commissioned an industry-led Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures to develop recommendations for how firms can put forward more consistent and comparable disclosures of climate-related financial risks and opportunities, with a final report released in June 2017. In response to these recommendations, in spring 2018 Canada’s Ministers of Environment and Climate Change and Finance appointed the Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance to engage a wide range of Canadian stakeholders on opportunities and challenges relating to sustainable finance and climate related risk disclosures, and to recommend next steps for the Government of Canada to consider in promoting low carbon, clean economic growth in Canada. Since its induction, the Panel has engaged hundreds of contributors across financial and business networks, governments, financial regulators, think tanks and academia, and released its Interim Report in October 2018. A final report with additional findings and recommendations is expected in spring 2019.
Fostering a just and fair transition to a low-carbon economy

Actions under the Pan-Canadian Framework will have a positive, tangible impact on the lives of Canadians, including by creating more green jobs, enhancing resilience to more frequent extreme weather events (floods, forest fire, etc.), helping Canadians to save money on heating and electricity bills, and helping to increase the availability and reduce the cost of low-carbon goods and services.

At the same time we recognize the importance of supporting communities in Canada that may be affected by the transition to a low-carbon economy. For example, Canada committed to phasing out traditional coal-fired electricity by 2030, which will have impacts on coal workers and communities in certain regions of the country. In an effort to better understand these impacts and minimize them, Canada launched an independent Task Force on Just Transition for Canadian Coal Power Workers and Communities. The Task Force includes representatives from labour, business and municipal government, as well as sustainable development and workforce development experts.

In summer 2018, the Task Force travelled to the affected regions across Canada. The members met directly with coal workers and their families, communities, stakeholders, and governments. The Task Force will report to the Government of Canada by the end of 2018 with recommendations about how best to support coal workers and communities in a successful transition. In the interim, Canada has announced $35 million in funding to support skills development and economic diversification for workers and communities in the affected regions. The findings of the Task Force will be an important contribution from Canada to the international movement to support the clean-energy transition. Canada will work together with partners to share real-world examples and best practices to support the phase-out of coal globally.
Revisiting our progress to increase ambition over time

We have covered considerable ground since launching Canada’s clean growth and climate plan and taken significant strides towards our Paris Agreement target to reduce emissions 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2030, as outlined in our most recent National Communication and Biennial report to the UNFCCC.

We know that much work remains ahead, and we will continue to pursue all avenues toward realizing deeper emissions reductions, and in light of the Declaration for Ambition signed by Canada and 22 other countries during the June 2018 Ministerial on Climate Action, we are committed to explore the possibilities for stepping up our ambition.

To inform our future efforts, Canada is committed to an open approach to policy development and implementation, and we continue to engage and consult with partners and stakeholders as the Pan-Canadian Framework is implemented. Through our expert engagement initiative, we will be supporting experts to provide advice to governments and Canadians that will inform future action on clean growth and climate change and increase ambition. Much like processes under the UNFCCC, our plan includes accountability and reporting mechanisms that will allow us to take stock of progress achieved and revisit our climate change measures over time and enhance our ambition over time. This includes annual reporting to the leaders of Canada’s FPT governments and Canadians.

Looking beyond 2030, Canada was also one of the first countries to submit a Mid-Century Strategy (MCS) to the UNFCCC. The MCS explores how Canada’s future could look under various scenarios where GHGs were reduced by 80% from 2005 levels by 2050. It outlines various non-policy prescriptive pathways to a low-carbon economy by 2050, while acknowledging areas where emissions reductions will be more challenging and require net negative emissions and sequestration technologies.

The report concludes that a number of building blocks are necessary in the transition towards a low-carbon economy, the most important of which is the need for clean electricity generation and for the electrification of end-use applications. Canada’s report indicates that significant reductions in the transportation, building and some industrial sectors can be achieved through across-the-board electrification in combination with non-emitting electricity generation. The report also underscores the importance of energy efficiency and renewable fuels, and proper management of our lands and forests to sequester carbon. Finally, Canada’s strategy envisions a cleaner, more innovative economy that reduces emissions and protects the environment, while creating jobs and promoting economic growth.

Canada’s strategy was submitted under the premise that the content of the report will continue to be updated and adjusted as Canada advances the implementation of its low-carbon development pathway. Canada’s view is that Mid-Century Strategies should be submitted in an iterative or cyclical process, where Parties provide regular updates as low-GHG technologies and national circumstances continue to evolve.
Cooperating with international partners to enhance climate action globally

Advancing the implementation of the Paris Agreement, as well as ambitious climate action in-line with the Agreement’s long-term temperature goal requires close cooperation between governments and all actors at all levels.

To advance international cooperation among our international partners to ensure a robust outcome on the Paris work programme at COP24, Canada, the European Union, and China established the Ministerial on Climate Action in 2017. The Ministerial brings together more than 30 representatives from major economies and key players on climate change to discuss the ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement. The first Ministerial was hosted by Canada in Montreal in September of 2017. The second Ministerial was hosted by the European Union in Brussels in June of 2018. Canada is proud of our role in continuing to work alongside the European Union and China to advance these fundamentally important multilateral discussions.

Looking beyond multilateral cooperation among governments, we must recognize the significant contribution of non-Party actors, including sub-national governments and coalitions, civil society organizations, youth, and private sector businesses, in undertaking tangible, ambitious action. All of these actors have a clear role to play, and by working together we can move beyond our individual capabilities to transition our economies and societies towards a shared low-carbon future.

In this spirit of cooperation, and building on strong and inclusive domestic action, Canada is proud to be working with the UK and over 70 other members including governments, businesses, and civil society groups committed to the sustainable phase-out of unabated coal power through the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA). Since the launch of the PPCA at COP23, momentum has continuously grown. This demonstrates that there is a robust and expanding global momentum behind the phase-out of unabated coal power. Looking ahead, the PPCA will continue to look at key international events to showcase members’ efforts in their transition to clean energy; inspire others to join; and, facilitate peer-to-peer exchange of best practices, solutions and challenges to help undertake and implement coal phase-out commitments.

Phasing-out coal-fired electricity is among the most important steps the international community can take in support of the Paris Agreement. Similarly, we must also to look to advance cooperation in complementary international fora that are focused on other areas and sectors with the potential to contribute greatly to our common objectives under the Agreement. This includes continuing to advance global action to reduce emissions from international shipping and aviation through the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and International Maritime Organization (IMO).

Equally important, studies suggest that global action on short-lived climate pollutants (including, methane, hydrofluorocarbons, and ground-level ozone) will contribute significantly to meeting the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. Through our climate change and air pollution policies Canada has implemented key actions to reduce each of these pollutants. Canada supports engaging internationally, including through the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, to build partnerships to reduce short-lived climate pollutants on a global scale. This end, Canada is proud to have endorsed the CCAC’s Talanoa Statement and joint submission to the UNFCCC.
In terms of the potential contribution that collective action to reduce short-lived climate pollutants can have towards achieving the Paris Agreement’s temperature goal, the effective implementation of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol could avoid up to 0.5 degrees Celsius of global warming by the end of this century. Canada was one of the first countries to ratify the Kigali Amendment and has established comprehensive regulations to phase down HFCs domestically. We applaud those countries that have already ratified the Amendment, and continue to encourage others to do the same as soon as possible. To further advance the global phase-down of HFCs, Canada provided an additional contribution to the Montreal Protocol’s Multilateral Fund in 2017, and will undertake several bilateral projects to support early implementation of the Kigali Amendment in developing countries.

Throughout 2018, Canada also leveraged our G7 Presidency to advance international climate action. Canada recognizes the need to break out of policy silos and address the intersections of pressing issues. This is why Canada pursued an innovative approach to clustering G7 ministers’ meetings, including a joint cluster that highlighted the connections between climate change, healthy oceans, and clean energy. As part of this cluster, the Environment Ministers’ Meeting served as a key forum to build momentum for COP24 and signal the crucial importance of finalizing and adopting the Paris Agreement Work Programme in 2018. Ministers also recognized the urgent need to advance innovative solutions to mitigating climate risk, building back better, and advancing nature based solutions to reduce climate risk in Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, Arctic and Indigenous Communities, and other vulnerable people.

Looking to our broader priorities related to international cooperation, Canada is also firmly committed to the principle that trade and environment are mutually supportive, and in this context, continues to seek commitments in its free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations to work together with our trading partners on key areas of interest to Canada, including addressing global environmental challenges, such as climate change.
Mobilizing support for developing countries

We also need to make sure that developing countries have support to take ambitious climate action. This is why Canada is delivering CA$2.65 billion by 2020 in climate finance to support developing countries as they transition to low-carbon and climate resilient economies.

Canada’s climate finance is focusing on increasing adaptation support to the poorest and most vulnerable populations impacted by climate change, supporting the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including the Green Climate Fund, and de-risking investment from the private sector consistent with low emission and climate-resilient development pathways.

Global support for climate change adaptation has been steadily increasing over the recent years but more still needs to be done to address such a crucial issue. As we continue delivering on our CA$2.65 billion commitment, Canada is increasing its support for adaptation, notably to mainstream climate change in international assistance with a focus on exploring new ways to leverage climate finance and show viable opportunities for adaptation investment. For example, Canada is providing CA$100 million to support the expansion of climate risk insurance coverage in climate-vulnerable countries.

Climate change uniquely affects women and girls, who are at particular risk when it comes to climate threats. Recognizing the importance of empowering women and girls and advancing gender equality in climate action in developing countries is an overarching objective of Canada’s approach to climate finance.

Canada’s support, along with other donor countries, is contributing to our continued commitment to collectively mobilize US$100 billion per year by 2020 from a wide variety of sources, public and private, to address the needs of developing countries.

We recognize that it can be challenging for developing countries to access and attract climate finance, and we are committed to working with countries to address barriers and build institutional capacity. As part of our $2.65 billion pledge, Canada has already announced over CA$1 billion worth of initiatives that aim to support developing countries manage risks and build resilience to the impact of climate change, and in support of their efforts for the implementation Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and clean energy transition.

In addition to the $2.65 billion pledge, Canada is delivering funding to support a wide range of mitigation and adaptation initiatives, including through Export Development Canada and subnational support from the government of Québec.

Under our $2.65 billion pledge, Canada announced a series of funding commitments targeting climate action in developing countries that will also support Canada’s priorities under our G7 Presidency, including commitments made under the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas, and Resilient Coastal Communities and the outcomes of the G7 Ministers’ Meetings on
Climate Change, Oceans, and Clean Energy. For example, to support adaptation action in developing countries, Canada pledged $2 million to the International Institute for Sustainable Development for the National Adaptation Plan Global Network. Recognizing the leadership of women in driving progress on climate action, Canada also committed $2 million for a new initiative to empower women entrepreneurs working on climate solutions in the developing world. As committed to under the G7, Canada will also support a study aimed at helping to address barriers that Small Islands Developing States, in particular low and middle-income countries, face in accessing financing.

In addition to these new initiatives, a number of new projects funded as part of Canada’s climate finance pledge are already underway, for example Canada is providing:

- $200 million for Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector in Asia II at the Asian Development Bank to support greater private sector participation in climate change mitigation and adaptation in low and lower middle-income countries and upper middle-income small island developing states in Asia and the Pacific. This fund has already approved $30 million to support the construction and operation of a 72MW wind power project and four solar power projects with a total capacity of 42MW in remote areas in eastern Indonesia. This will be the first utility-scale solar project development by the private sector in Indonesia.

- $150 million to the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative to help African countries move to renewable energy systems that support low-carbon development while enhancing economic and energy security. It supports the strengthening of policies and regulations and mobilizes finances for incentives and investments in projects in renewable energy.

- $7.2 million to Inter-American Development Bank’s EcoMicro program to support the private sector’s transition to cleaner and more sustainable energy sources in the Caribbean.

- $13 million to AgroLAC, an innovative public-private partnership administered by the Inter-American Development Bank to support climate smart agriculture in Central America.
Delivering common and robust implementation guidelines for the Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement will be fundamental in shaping the direction of climate action at the national and international levels for decades to come. For this reason the completion of the Paris work programme and adoption of common and robust implementation guidelines at COP24 are essential steps that will give life to the Agreement’s cycle of ambition and help set the international community on a path towards enhanced efforts over time.

Common and robust implementation guidelines that are consistent with the provisions agreed in the Paris Agreement will provide all Parties with the tools needed to facilitate meeting our commitments, and will provide confidence that each of us is taking credible, concrete, and transparent action in this regard. By operationalizing, for example, how Parties implement the Agreement’s provisions related to Nationally-Determined Contributions, accounting of mitigation efforts, transparent reporting on mitigation progress, and the use of international carbon markets, these and other elements of the Paris work programme play a fundamental role in supporting credible action to mitigate climate change that reflects each Parties highest possible ambition.

For this reason, Canada, China and the European Union, as conveners of the Ministerial on Climate Action held in Brussels in June of 2018, and other participating countries reaffirmed our collective support for ensuring that what we agreed in Paris form the basis for the implementing guidance at COP24, while also maintaining momentum on global climate action and support.

Furthermore, in the spirit of Talanoa COP24 further provides us with an opportunity to demonstrate the importance of advancing climate action that is not only ambitious, but also inclusive – particularly of women and Indigenous peoples.

As we work towards achieving the Agreement’s temperature goal, and the implementation of the gender action plan, Canada believes that the actions we take must be gender-sensitive and consider gender balance. Women, including Indigenous women, and girls should be involved in designing and developing strategic responses to climate change, recognizing that our climate action will be most effective when women and girls play an active role. Reflecting this belief, through the Canada-France Partnership on Climate and Environment, Canada is supporting a workshop to assist francophone women leaders in Africa meaningfully engage in international climate change negotiations, including for COP24. Earlier this year, Canada also hosted the Climate Leaders’ Summit: Women Kicking it on Climate which brought together women climate leaders from the public and private sectors, academia and civil society, including youth and Indigenous peoples, to advance solutions to combat climate change and the Paris Agreement while contributing to women’s empowerment.
Partnering with Indigenous peoples to enhance domestic and international climate action

For Canada, it is fundamentally important that, when taking action on climate change, Indigenous peoples and local communities are meaningfully engaged and the rights of Indigenous peoples are respected. Indigenous peoples in particular, including women, men, youth and elders, have, for generations, experienced the impacts of climate change, and continue to be leaders in environmental conservation. Their knowledge systems and unique experiences in addressing climate change make them well-placed to provide crucial contributions to climate change mitigation and adaptation actions at the international, domestic and community levels. This could include, for example, promoting the integration of Indigenous knowledge systems in domestic planning processes for Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation plans.

With this in mind, Canada is proud to have played a key role in successfully launching the local communities and indigenous peoples platform (the platform) at COP23. Prior to and since the platform’s launch, Canada has sought to play a convening role in bringing together Parties, Indigenous peoples and others to advance progress on the platform and to ensure that Indigenous peoples maintain a voice in the ongoing discussions. These efforts by Canada have included hosting an informal dialogue on the platform in Ottawa in September 2017, and supporting the implementation of the platform’s first activity—a multi-stakeholder workshop on implementing the platform’s functions—which was held in conjunction with the 48th session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 48) in Bonn, Germany in May 2018.

Canada remains committed to further advancing the platform at COP24 in a way that meaningfully enhances the engagement and participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities under the UNFCCC, and reflects recognition by Parties of the importance of strengthening the knowledge, technologies and practices of Indigenous peoples and local communities related to addressing and responding to climate change.

At home, the Government of Canada is committed to working closely with Indigenous peoples to ensure they are full and effective partners in advancing clean growth and addressing climate change under Canada’s domestic climate change plan. In partnership with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation, the Government established three distinction-based, senior bilateral tables on clean growth and climate change. These tables provide a collaborative approach for ongoing engagement with Indigenous peoples in the implementation of the Pan-Canadian Framework and on broader climate change priorities. Throughout 2018, these tables have built a structured, collaborative approach for ongoing engagement with Indigenous peoples in the implementation of the Pan-Canadian Framework and on broader clean growth and climate change priorities.
Ensuring a successful Talanoa Dialogue

In preparing for the Talanoa Dialogue at COP24, we encourage all Parties to consider where they see the most important opportunities for further driving ambitious climate action – in other the polices, measures, and actions, both individual and cooperative that will get us there. For Canada, a discussion around these opportunities will be key to helping inform all Parties in implementing and preparing their nationally determined contributions.

The political phase of the Talanoa Dialogue must maintain the inclusive spirit of this process if it is to succeed in helping to catalyze the broad-based climate action by all actors. To this end, we are pleased that non-Party stakeholders will be invited to join the ministerial roundtables. The importance of non-Party action for cannot be understated, and we strongly encourage Fiji and Poland to consider how they will engaged and include non-Party actors, including youth and Indigenous peoples, in meaningful way beyond the ministerial roundtables.

Canada looks forward to engaging in this important process at COP24. We will arrive ready to share our climate change story, and to learn from the stories and experiences of others. This exchange will help us to understand the actions we are all taking in support of the Paris Agreement, and how we can work together to further enhance those actions to achieve the long-term temperature goal.