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**26th CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UN FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (COP 26)
WORLD LEADERS' SUMMIT (1-2 NOVEMBER 2021)**

**STATEMENT BY H. E. STEFAN YANEV,
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

Mr. President,

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honor to address the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. I would like to thank the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for organizing this forum in extremely difficult times of global pandemic and to express my strong appreciation to the President of COP 26 Mr. Alok Sharma for the constructive dialogue involving all stakeholders.

The last IPCC¹ report contains scientific evidences that the more frequent extreme weather events, we are witnessing across the planet, are a clear sign that the planetary warming is accelerating and is already affecting many aspects of our lives, economies and ecosystems. Our presence here today means that we realize how important it is to work together and that more credible actions are needed by all countries and by every one of us to limit the temperature rising.

¹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

In this context, Bulgaria is completely determined to fulfill its commitments to the Paris Agreement. Along with the other EU member states Bulgaria will work for reaching the goal of climate neutrality by 2050 and for the more ambitious goal of 55% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, which is enshrined in the EU legislation.

At a national level, we have developed an entirely new set of measures in our Recovery and Resilience Plan. It will become a new roadmap for decarbonisation of the Bulgarian industry, and for reaching economic growth within a sustainable and preserved environment, which includes phasing out of coal use by 2038 - 2040. Our efforts are focused on three main goals: accelerated further development of renewable energy sources and hydrogen; increase of the energy efficiency of the economy, and sustainable mobility.

All the measures that will lead to the green transition are carried out in the economic reality of today - the reality of an unprecedented pandemic and rising energy prices. Our main concern is the risk of job losses and the energy security of our country as we believe that only a performing and vital economy can be transformed. Therefore, the national features should be taken into account for a fair and proportionate approach.

Bulgaria supports the united efforts of governments, private sector, academia and other stakeholders in our common goal to fight climate change. No country alone is able to face the global threat of climate change, because we don't have the option or luxury of failure.

Let us join in our efforts to reach a new consensus among all countries on the necessary climate actions and goals to achieve global climate neutrality by mid-century as well as to agree on decisive short- and medium-term policies based on the right balance between mitigation and adaptation.

I wish us all a successful outcome of the Conference.