

29th CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (COP 29)

World Leaders Climate Action Summit, 12-13 November, 2024

STATEMENT BY H. E. RUMEN RADEV – PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

**Mr President,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is an honor for me to address the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on behalf of the Republic of Bulgaria.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the Republic of Azerbaijan and the President of the 29's Conference His Excellency Mukhtar Babayev for hosting this significant event in times of political and security challenges, and what is also important – during periods of intensifying impact of the climate change all around the world.

Many constructive dialogues have taken place in Baku and elsewhere in recent months, with the support of the Troika Presidencies of COP and this helped the parties of the Convention to build on the good results of COP28 last year.

The continuity of our actions and commitments are crucial, as many challenges still remain. We expect COP29 to deliver ambitious and balanced outcomes. Bulgaria will support constructive approach helping all of us advance on the outstanding issues. Now that we have a clear direction given by the Global Stocktake outcome, the world must act to secure the successful implementation of the agreed goals. This cannot happen without effective means of implementation and a significant mobilization of new financial resources.

Agreeing on an achievable New Collective Quantitative Goal on Finance will be the main expected outcome of this Conference. The new goal must provide financing from all possible sources – both public and private, to address the financing needs for mitigation and adaptation measures. The focus must be on the needs of the most vulnerable countries, and the responsibility must lie with the countries and multilateral financial institutions, which have the resources to act.

At the same time, in light of the findings of the latest UN Emission Gap Report, we must significantly strengthen the mitigation ambition and remain on the course of decarbonizing global energy systems. This can only happen if we embrace all available technologies at scale, significantly improve energy efficiency, upgrade energy infrastructure and ensure that energy security remains of the utmost priority.

Bulgaria is committed to not only be a part of regional energy cooperation initiatives across Central and Eastern Europe, the Balkans and the Black Sea region but also beyond. At this Conference we need to focus our efforts to strengthening the links between the European Union and non-EU countries, who share our priorities on climate neutrality, just energy transition, energy security and low-carbon technological innovation.

Nevertheless, a lot is still to be done with regard to adaptation. The past year again demonstrated that no country or region is spared from deadly and costly climate-related disasters. Therefore, all parties should undertake greater efforts to integrate and mainstream climate change adaptation and resilience into all policies and strategies. Solidarity and enhanced international cooperation in addressing the effects of extreme weather events are of crucial importance.

We call for continuing support for climate science and education. Bulgaria proudly hosted the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) session this summer. Science holds the key not just to reducing our carbon footprint and adapting our infrastructure, but also to improving human lives and livelihoods in an age of climate instability.

We must therefore, support science-based efforts at all levels and provide equal education and contribution opportunities to all citizens, which includes including by empowering women and communities of all backgrounds to pursue education and careers related to climate.

Finally, let me conclude by reiterating Bulgaria's commitment to achieving climate policy goals. We stand with all countries willing to strengthen climate diplomacy and regional cooperation, as only together we can go beyond what a single Conference meeting can deliver, and achieve a better and resilient future for us and for the future generation.

Thank you!