

Bhutan intervention at Second Annual High-level Ministerial Roundtable on Just Transition (18.11.2024)

Excellencies,

Bhutan, a nation deeply committed to environmental sustainability, strives Just Transition that not only addresses climate challenges but also maximizes social and economic opportunities, and adopts mandates to accelerate **clean** and **renewable energy** deployment and **low emission** strategies. Recognizing the unique circumstances of the country, as a **landlocked** and **mountainous** country, emphasizes the importance of tailoring the Just Transition Work Programme Pathways to the specific circumstances of nations, and ensuring actionable outcomes from the Just Transition global dialogues.

The global transition to low emissions is not only about achieving long-term climate objectives but also fulfilling sustainable development objectives. A just transition towards a low-carbon, climate-resilient future is essential to ensure that the benefits of climate action are equitably shared across countries.

The global dialogues should take into consideration the diverse and special needs of nations in keeping with the Paris principle of leaving no one behind and taking an impactful approach to climate action.

We can prioritize social and economic considerations for Just Transition through stakeholder engagements in the development of climate policies, establish social safety nets to protect the vulnerable countries during transition, invest in education, training and skilling to equip people with the required skills and allocate financial resources to support affected communities and industries. Further, we need to integrate Just Transition principles into NDCs and NAPs to address economic considerations by leveraging international support and cooperation so that countries can create more inclusive and sustainable development pathways.

Bhutan is carbon negative and has pledged to remain carbon neutral for all times. For us, Just Transition means achieving the sustainable development objectives with a people-centric approach leveraging technology and innovation. The UAE Just Transition Work Programme, will provide us the much needed avenue to leverage international cooperation and support from the developed countries to mitigate and build resilience.

In terms of our expectations, the UAE Just Transition Work Programme should:

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- Provide a platform for knowledge sharing and learning,
 - Promote international cooperation by encouraging collaboration between countries to address common challenges and opportunities in the just transition,
 - Assist developing countries in building the capacity to implement just transition policies and projects,
 - Facilitate the mobilization of public and private finance to support just transition initiatives, and
 - Develop practical tools and guidance to help countries integrate Just Transition considerations into their climate policies and plans.

By addressing these expectations and leveraging its potential, the UAE Just transition Work Programme will play a crucial role in supporting Bhutan in achieving long-term climate goals and sustainable development objectives.

Thank you Co-chairs