

Statement at COP28 - Dubai

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It is with great urgency and utmost sense of responsibility that the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), representing the North American countries of Canada, the United States, and Mexico, calls on every actor of society to take whatever means and resources at their disposal and to channel these towards effective and aggressive actions to tackle the Triple Planetary Crisis of *climate change*, *pollution* and *biodiversity loss*.

The science is very clear and undeniable, the Earth is warming too fast and will soon pass 1.5C degrees of warming since the pre-industrial era. This will trigger destructive and irreversible climate tipping points. Each tenth of a degree of warming leads to further ecosystems collapse and increased human suffering.

Fortunately, we know what we must do to stop global warming. Solutions are within our reach and capacity to implement. The clock is running however, and time is not on our side.

Achieving a zero-carbon economy by mid-century is a priority, but it is unfortunately not enough. We must also reduce non-CO2 emissions and do so by 2030, including those of methane, black carbon, HFCs, and tropospheric ozone, rapidly and aggressively.

Deploying avoided warming strategies, particularly through adopting nature-based solutions, is also critical. Such strategies can help naturally cool the planet, recuperate natural resources, build climate resilience while also help improve the quality of life of those most affected by climate impacts.

The consideration and incorporation of Indigenous and traditional ecological knowledge can help us rebuild our connections with Nature, build back biodiversity, and help communities better prepare for the worst impacts of climate change. We also must take climate actions in ways to address environmental injustice, reversing historical inequities of how environmental benefits and burdens have been shared.

We must work together to rapidly align with the only viable 1.5C pathway, focusing on the most effective and aggressive strategies available to stop global warming and its devastating impacts, before it is too late.