

High-Level Champions and Marrakech Partnership at COP26

Global Climate Action High-Level Event

@Plenary Cairn Gorm

Ms. Teresa Ribera, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Ecological Transition of the Government of Spain

Thank you so much.

I also want to join Manuel in these congratulations and gratitude to Gonzalo.

Gonzalo has been quite instrumental, helpful and an open mind that allowed us to understand to what extent we need to work together. I think that is the main point - the main additional point - we have got along these years.

I remember in Madrid we were talking about the possibility of extending the mandate of the Champions and, of course, with it up to 2025. And it was worth it. I think "What if we have not extended your mandate with these long two years that we have gone through?" So, thank you, thanks a lot, thanks a lot, Gonzalo.

Some remarks on the progress on global climate action. The first of them is that what we are tackling with is credibility. Now this is our trust and confidence in our capability to change things, understanding that this is not just emissions, even if the responsibility is huge on the side of national governments.

We need the whole society moving forward; a deep transformation in the way we produce, we consume, we understand prosperity - and we build a new green deal. "Green" because it has to be within the planetary boundaries. "Deal" because we need justice, we need commitment, we need engagement from companies and corporates, we need engagement from the society, we need intergenerational justice and within the same generation, in different countries within the same societies.

And this is a role that needs to be played and needs to be facilitated in this context of the global climate action agenda. I think we have learned a lot on how to tackle the difficulties and challenges. We need to fit into the hope and the positive envy, the willing to do more and quicker.

And the Race to Zero has sped up the capacity to go further and boost a contagious effect for doing things. But we also need credibility in the way we measure, and we provide inputs to societies because we also need citizens supporting and asking for more and not having doubt on what the different engagement, promises and targets mean. So, we need action. It is a race, it is credibility, it is action - paving the way for a different future.

And I think that providing them a solid reason, an energy to feed into these races is something we need to do together. So, I also think that the commitment from the Secretary General - saying that he will be providing some additional inputs to ensure that we can trace what it is being said by different corporations about what they commit to do - it is important.

My very last comment: we also need to work together on the idea of moving in different aspects and providing platforms to think differently and innovatively. I think that social innovation is also very important to ensure that what we have been doing in this Race to Zero is not challenged anymore by anyone. We need to Race to Zero together with social innovation and governance innovation.

So thanks a lot, and of course, count on us and count on Spain to keep on going.

Thank you.