



**STATEMENT BY**  
**Mr.NORBU WANGCHUK, DIRECTOR GENERAL,**  
**SOUTH ASIA CO-OPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT**  
**PROGRAMME (SACEP)**

**High-Level Segment of the 29<sup>TH</sup> Session of the**  
**Conference of the Parties to the**  
**United Nations Framework Convention on Climate**  
**Change (COP28),**  
**20<sup>th</sup> November 2024, Baku,Azerbaijan**

**Mr. President,**

**Excellencies,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**As the Director General of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), I am honored to represent South Asia region at the COP 29 - at a critical time for our planet.**

**South Asia is one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change. Some even believe that South Asia will be the number one casualty of climate change. The risks of climate change is no more about the future of our children. It is a daily fight for our lives and livelihood.**

**Underscoring the critical need for urgent action in the region, the Asian Development Bank recently highlighted that the global fight against climate change could be won or lost in South Asia and pacific region.**

**Mr. President,**

**We are running out of time! The tipping threshold is very near.**

**In South Asia, the unprecedented glacial melts in the Hindu Kush mountains should be stopped urgently. The risk of low-lying regions being submerged are eminent without the urgent climate actions.**

**As a vulnerable region, we welcome the progress made on Loss and Damage fund. The fund is a lifeline to provide the critical and urgent support to the most vulnerable.**

**SACEP is committed to forge regional collaboration for a climate resilient South Asia.**

**Thank you**