

# **KINGDOM OF ESWATINI**



## **ESWATINI'S NATIONAL STATEMENT AT THE COP 30 HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT**

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MR. PRESIDENT,  
HONOURABLE MINISTERS,  
DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

LET ME BEGIN BY REAFFIRMING THAT THE 1.5°C TARGET REMAINS OUR NON-NEGOTIABLE NORTH STAR. DESPITE BEING A NET SINK, ESWATINI HAS SUBMITTED AN AMBITIOUS NDC 3.0 AND WILL SOON PRESENT OUR NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN.

YET WITHOUT THE NECESSARY MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ESWATINI, AND OTHER VULNERABLE NATIONS, TO ACHIEVE OUR TARGETS. DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING INDUSTRIALIZATION, IS OUR PRIORITY. ACHIEVING THIS IN A CLIMATE-RESPONSIVE MANNER IS POSSIBLE, BUT IT REQUIRES THE DEPLOYMENT OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES. IN THIS REGARD, I EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF AN AMBITIOUS TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME AND THE CONTINUED VITALITY OF THE CLIMATE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE AND NETWORK, WHOSE REVIEW MUST BE CONCLUDED HERE IN BELÉM.

MR. PRESIDENT, AMBITION WITHOUT FINANCE IS MERELY AN EMPTY REQUEST. CLIMATE FINANCE MUST NOT INCREASE THE DEBT BURDEN OF OUR COUNTRIES. WE THEREFORE CALL FOR A GREATER SHARE OF GRANT-BASED FUNDING. THIS REQUIRES DECISIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 9.1 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, WHICH IS A LEGAL OBLIGATION AND NOT AN OPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION. DEVELOPED COUNTRIES MUST FULFILL THEIR COMMITMENTS BY:

- ✓ PROVIDING QUANTIFIED, MULTI-YEAR CLIMATE FINANCE PLEDGES;
- ✓ TRANSPARENTLY REPORTING UNDER ARTICLE 9.5;
- ✓ GENUINELY INCREASING ADAPTATION FINANCE; AND
- ✓ ELIMINATING DOUBLE COUNTING AND THE RECLASSIFICATION OF ODA

THE CURRENT GLOBAL CLIMATE FINANCE ARCHITECTURE REMAINS COMPLEX, BURDENSOME, AND SLUGGISH. REFORM MUST INCLUDE HARMONIZED FIDUCIARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS; FIT-FOR-PURPOSE ACCREDITATION PATHWAYS; AND ACCELERATED ACCESS MODALITIES TAILORED FOR SMALL COUNTRIES. REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS MUST HAVE CLEARLY DEFINED ROLES, AND THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE MUST BE RESHAPED TO SERVE THE VULNERABLE WITHOUT EXHAUSTING THEM.

FINANCE MUST ALSO SUPPORT A TRANSITION THAT IS FAST, FAIR, AND JUST. UNILATERAL MEASURES MUST NOT UNDERMINE THIS COLLECTIVE EFFORT.

WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION BY OPENING PAST DECISION, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE URGENTLY FIND A WAY TO IMPROVE THE ARTICLE 6 RULE BOOK. WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT BUREAUCRATIC BOTTLENECKS ARE ELIMINATED AND THAT THE RULE BOOK PROVIDES FOR A PREDICTABLE COST STRUCTURE THAT WILL ATTRACT INVESTMENT, BUILDING A MUCH NEEDED TRUST IN CARBON MARKETS.

MR. PRESIDENT, THIS IS AN IMPLEMENTATION COP. A GLOBAL GOAL ON ADAPTATION IS LONG OVERDUE. IT MUST NOT IMPOSE EXCESSIVE REPORTING BURDENS OR BECOME A COVERT MECHANISM FOR CONDITIONING FINANCE. ADAPTATION IS A PILLAR OF CLIMATE ACTION, AND ITS INDICATORS MUST EMPOWER COUNTRIES RATHER THAN RESTRICT THEM.

AS I CONCLUDE, MR. PRESIDENT, LET US NOT FORGET: THE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE JUSTICE ADVISORY HAS TRANSFORMED CLIMATE ACTION FROM A MORAL AND POLITICAL ASPIRATION INTO AN OBLIGATION UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW. WE MUST ENSURE THAT WE DO NOT FIND OURSELVES LIABLE FOR INACTION. THE WORLD IS WATCHING, HISTORY WILL JUDGE, AND FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL ASK WHETHER WE ROSE TO THE CHALLENGE OR FALTERED.

