

**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF GHANA,
NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDU,
AT THE WORLD LEADERS' SUMMIT OF THE 27TH CONFERENCE
OF PARTIES (COP27), ON TUESDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER 2022, IN
HOSTED BY THE UNFCCC AND THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT,
IN SHARM EL-SHEIKH, EGYPT.**

President of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen

I thank President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, the Government and people of the Arab Republic of Egypt for the warmth of their hospitality to the Ghanaian delegation since our arrival in this ancient, historic country, and express our appreciation to the President for hosting this all-important Conference of Parties, COP 27, the fifth such on African soil.

Today, extreme climate occurrences, such as severe precipitation and floods, prolonged drought and heat waves are happening all over the world, both in the developed and developing worlds. Climate change is a global emergency, and Ghana calls on all Parties to act with equity and a sense of responsibility.

Africa, for her part, must commit herself to resolve the issue of climate change by implementing ambitious measures within her reach. With her vast land, Africa has the greatest potential to help decarbonise the world by absorbing carbon dioxide through regenerative agriculture, that requires less fertilisers, and reforestation with strong biodiversity content.

My government is happy to announce that Ghana is about to launch projects in these areas, which will tackle, at the same time, climate change at global and domestic levels, and social issues, by providing people with dignified and sustainable jobs, and I am also happy to announce that Ghana has launched her Energy Transition Framework, and is co-Chair of the Forest Climate Leaders' Partnership with the United States of America.

As President of the Climate Vulnerable Forum, I am also delighted by the announcement made by the Managing Director of International Monetary Fund, the respected Kristalina Georgieva, on the operationalisation of the Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST), to help vulnerable countries meet their long-term challenges.

As adaptation costs continue to outstrip current international public finance flows, we must, as a matter of urgency, mobilise and scale up adaptation finance inflows, to ensure that vulnerable countries are able to meet their adaptation needs. It is critical, in this regard, that the developed world makes good its long-delayed pledge to mobilise and make available one hundred billion dollars (\$100 billion) annually to the poorer countries to assist in the fight against climate change, and commit, as agreed at COP 26 in Glasgow, to doubling resources for adaptation.

Furthermore, it is plain to all that a radical restructuring of the global financial architecture, as proposed by the African Finance Ministers, to accommodate the demands of the developing world is of urgent necessity. It is evident that with these poly-crises that it is not fit for purpose. I also urge those who hold African debt to commit to debt-for-climate swap initiatives.

I am telling all partners: take a better look at Africa, and see her for what she is – a land of opportunities and growth. I know this may sound unrealistic, taking into consideration the dire situation most of the continent finds itself in today, in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. But, as far as adaptation to climate change is concerned, nothing can happen without Africa. With its vast, arable land, vibrant youth who aspire only to take their rightful place on the global scene, and a deeply rooted sense of innovation, Africa has a massive role to play.

It is Ghana's hope that we will leave this Summit with bold and concrete decisions that will help the world tackle its most pressing challenges, help us achieve our climate goals rapidly, and provide the needed development and prosperity for all the peoples of the world. No one will win if Africa loses.

I thank you for your attention.