

Delivered

YOUNGO Joint Intervention GST Closing Plenary

Tuesday 13 June 2023

Raylson:

Ilustres delegados, hoje, a intervenção da YOUNGO será um pouco diferente.

Srinidhi:

Distinguished delegates,

Today YOUNGO's intervention will be a bit different. We appreciate the efforts of the co-facilitators of the technical dialogue for the engagement of non-party stakeholders in co-creating the GST outcomes. However, true inclusion requires overcoming other barriers such as language. The process primarily takes place in English. This limits meaningful participation for many delegates and hinders the full representation of diverse perspectives. That is why today we will speak in English and Portuguese.

Raylson:

Nós somos Raylson do Brasil e Srinidhi da Índia, um jovem preto e uma jovem parda, falando em nome da constituinte de crianças e jovens.

A mudança climática afeta a todos, mas as pessoas pretas, pardas e indígenas estão particularmente expostas. E nós, os jovens, carregamos esse fardo. Então, por favor, escutem com atenção!

Srinidhi:

We are Srinidhi from India and Raylson from Brazil, young people of colour, speaking on behalf of the children and youth constituency.

Climate change affects everyone but Black, Indigenous and People of Color are particularly exposed. And we, the youth, carry the burden. So we require your attention!

One of the concerning aspects we observed during this conference is the presence of young delegates representing fossil fuel interests, often overshadowing the voices of youth NGOs who advocate and work tirelessly for the interests of children, youth, and future generations. It is unacceptable that young party delegates speak on behalf of global youth, as we believe it undermines the authenticity and diversity of our movement.

As young people, we acknowledge the need for innovation and technology. But we do not want to rely on nascent solutions such as CCS and CDR that lack sufficient evidence.

The message we want to highlight today is simple: "Equitable phase out of fossil fuels and scaling up of renewable energy is possible at the same time. It is not one or the other". This

dual approach is crucial to address the urgency of the climate crisis and safeguard the present and future of our planet.

Here, we underscore the importance of providing finance and technology transfer to developing countries without perpetuating the neocolonial dynamics. Also, we cannot continue to make trillions of dollars available to fossil fuel corporations in subsidies, while numerous financial gaps remain unaddressed.

We are now at a critical point, transitioning from a technical to the political phase. The GST is our chance for a drastic course correction. It must result in an update of NDCs that guarantee the livelihood of us, your children and future generations. The 1.5 compatible goals need to be implemented through finance, technology and capacity building that reflects the historic responsibility of big polluters.

Raylson: Pedimos a todos que reconhecem a gravidade deste momento e tomem medidas decisivas que se alinhem ao consenso científico. Lembremo-nos de que as decisões que tomamos hoje moldarão o mundo de amanhã. Nós seguimos unidos. Um futuro equitativo e sustentável não é negociável.

Srinidhii: We urge everyone to recognize the gravity of this moment and to take decisive action that aligns with the scientific consensus. Let us remember that the decisions we make today will shape the world of tomorrow. We stand united and reiterate that equitable and sustainable future is not negotiable!

Thank you!