

United Nations Climate Change Conference 2023

COP28 Global Climate Action High-Level Event



**Intervention by Dr. Sandeep Sengupta, Global Policy Lead, Climate Change
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Thank you Mr. President.

I take the floor on behalf of IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Please allow me – Mr. President – to begin by thanking you for your leadership, and for hosting us here in Dubai over the last two weeks.

The Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action – led by the High-Level Climate Champions – has played a central role in convening and highlighting the important work that non-Party stakeholders do across various sectors in support of the goals of the Paris Agreement. We really appreciate their leadership and support.

On our part, IUCN has been honoured to be associated with the Marrakech Partnership since the very beginning, since 2015 – and, particularly, to contribute to its various nature-related tracks on land use, water, resilience, and oceans and coastal zones.

We strongly believe that investing in healthy ecosystems and nature-based solutions – together with rapid and deep GHG emission reductions across all sectors of the global economy – are essential to keep the 1.5 goal alive and to ensure a climate-resilient future for us all. We hope that this will be clearly recognised in the formal outcomes of the Global Stocktake at this COP.

COP28 has, so far, been exceptional in its recognition of the importance of nature and of the need to tackle the interlinked climate and biodiversity crises in an integrated and synergistic manner. And also, importantly, of the vital contribution that Indigenous peoples make, and the need for better supporting them. We thank the COP Presidency and the High-Level Champions for this.

IUCN has also been proud to contribute to some of the concrete initiatives that have been launched or advanced here under the Global Climate Action Agenda – such as the Ocean Breakthrough, the Mangrove Breakthrough, and the Freshwater Challenge – to name a few.

We look forward to continue to actively engage in the Marrakech Partnership in the years ahead.

I thank you Mr. President.