

**Speech by the President of the
Kyrgyz Republic H.E. Mr. Sadyr Zhaparov
at the High-Level Segment of the 29th Conference of the Parties to
the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
(November 12, 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan)**

**Dear Mr. Chairman,
Dear Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

First of all, I would like to congratulate Azerbaijan for hosting COP29 and express gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the excellent organization of the World Leaders Climate Action Summit. We are very pleased that such a global event is being held in a brotherly country.

Against the backdrop of accelerating global climate change, today we must agree on coordinated, well-funded climate action to achieve the ambitions of the Paris Agreement.

We support the early adoption of the New Collective Quantitative Goal on Climate Finance and call on developed countries to raise the amount of climate finance assistance to developing countries to 2 trillion US dollars, with easier access to this finance.

For its part, Kyrgyzstan has initiated a mechanism for exchanging external debt for climate and sustainable development projects. We propose restructuring the country's external public debt by applying debt exchange mechanisms for specific green projects, including using the mechanism of the Climate Trust Fund being created in Kyrgyzstan, which will finance projects in the field of ecology and sustainable mountain development. I invite interested countries to participate in the activities of this Fund.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Turkey and Germany, as these two countries have decided to exchange debts for “green” projects.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

According to the Nationally Determined Contributions, the Kyrgyz Republic plans to reduce emissions by 16% of the “business-as-usual” scenario by 2030, and 44% with international support.

We plan to achieve carbon neutrality by developing of renewable energy sources, increasing energy efficiency, reducing coal consumption through gasification, reducing losses in the transmission and distribution of electricity, improving heating systems in cities and raising public awareness of energy mitigation.

In this context, I would like to emphasize the projects being implemented in the field of renewable energy sources. Thus, together with our neighboring

countries, a project has been launched to build one of the largest hydroelectric power plants in the region, Kambarata HPP-1. In 2023, 10 small hydroelectric power plants were commissioned in Kyrgyzstan. In 2024, it is planned to build another 15 small hydroelectric power plants, and the implementation of solar power plant projects with a total capacity of more than 400 MW has also begun.

In the context of climate change, issues of efficient and careful use of water resources are becoming increasingly important. In this regard, we kindly request development partners to support our initiative to establish a Regional Center for the Implementation of Energy-Efficient and Resource-Saving Technologies in Bishkek.

Dear participants,

In the first half of the year, Kyrgyzstan experienced a sharp increase in landslides, with more than 300 incidents causing significant damage to infrastructure, loss of life, and displacement of thousands of residents in vulnerable regions. In addition, we are witnessing intense melting of glaciers and reduction of glacier cover, low water levels, drought, and desertification.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the life of people living in the downstream regions also depends on the processes occurring in mountainous regions and ecosystems. Due to climate change, these water resources of the region are decreasing every year, negatively affecting water and energy, food security and, in general, the socio-economic situation of all countries.

Over the past 70 years, the area of glaciers in Kyrgyzstan has decreased by 16%, in some areas of the country almost all glaciers have disappeared, by 2100 we may lose more than half of them.

Recognizing the importance of the issue of sustainable development of mountain regions, the UN General Assembly, on our initiative, adopted at its 77th session the resolution “Sustainable Mountain Development”, within the framework of which 2023–2027 is declared the Five Years of Action for Mountain Regions.

I invite all participants to Kyrgyzstan for the Second Global Mountain Summit “Bishkek+25” in 2027, during which we will summarize the results of the “Mountain Five Years”.

Dear friends, in implementing the above-mentioned initiatives, we hope for the assistance of international development partners and the support of not only mountainous countries but also all other countries, since the mountains provide water and other resources not only to 1.1 billion mountain population but also to about 2 billion people living in downstream regions.

Only by joint efforts we can reach the set goal of containing global warming and lay the foundation for a safe and sustainable future for our planet.

Thank you for your attention.