3 minutes

National Statement by Ms. Ieva Andriulaityte, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania, at the COP31 meeting

Mr. President,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Let me first thank Türkiye and Australia – for their leadership in bringing us together in Antalya to advance our shared efforts to tackle climate change.

Recent years have been among the warmest on record. The accelerating impacts of climate change, compounded by ongoing armed conflicts around the world, particularly Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, are having devastating consequences for communities, causing global energy crisis and placing a heavy burden on households and businesses. In Lithuania alone, climate related losses reached nearly 1 billion Euros in 2024.

These challenges demand urgent and collective actions from all parties. We must strengthen our resilience to climate and geopolitical challenges, reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels and other resources, and improve preparedness for the impacts of climate change.

Lithuania calls on all Parties, particularly the world's major emitters, to submit their outstanding NDCs and accelerate their implementation. At COP31, we must step up efforts to close the mitigation gap, accelerate the global clean energy transition, expand electrification and advance the transition away from fossil fuels, in a just, orderly and equitable manner.

We must also make progress in implementing a long-term Global Climate Resilience Framework.

Moreover, we need to improve access to climate finance, particularly for the most vulnerable and least developed countries. Scaling up international climate finance will require broadening the pool of contributors and mobilising finance from a wider range of public and private sources to deliver on the NCQG climate finance.

Mr. President,

Lithuania remains firmly committed to delivering on its ambitious clean energy and climate targets. By 2030, Lithuania aims to generate 100 percent of its electricity from renewable energy sources. Our total installed solar and wind power capacity has grown more than 8 times since 2020. We are on track to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 70 percent by 2030, compared to 1990 levels. By 2025, we had reduced our emissions by more than 63 percent, while achieving robust economic growth, demonstrating that economic prosperity and emissions reductions can go hand in hand. This year Lithuania adopted its first Law on Adaptation to Climate Change. The Law establishes clear responsibilities for the state and municipal authorities, facilitates transition towards systematic climate preparedness and resilience. Under the Law, all municipalities are required to prepare their climate adaptation plans by the end of 2030.

Finally, Lithuania reiterates its call on the international community to act swiftly and decisively to address armed conflicts worldwide. We cannot ignore the devastating harm for human lives, national and energy security, and deepening triple planetary crises. In this context, Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, in violation of the UN Charter and international law, must end immediately. Russia must be held accountable for the damage

caused by its aggression, including the extensive environmental harm and war-related emissions towards global warming.

Thank you.