

## **Nationaal statement Minister van Klimaat en Groene Groei – COP29**

Your excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear colleagues,

We are gathering amidst an increasingly alarming climate reality.

It's too wet.

Too dry.

Too polluted.

The struggle against water, which has defined the history of the Netherlands, is taking on new forms.

In both the European, and the Caribbean parts of our Kingdom.

In the Netherlands, we overcame our struggle against water by working together, shoulder-to-shoulder.

Across the world, we can do the same.

If we want to turn the tide on climate change, we have to stand together.

We can, if everybody does what is needed, what has been agreed.

And I want to assure you: the Netherlands stands ready. To help. To deliver what has been agreed, even if it is difficult. And to discuss this, with each other, in all transparency.

Ladies en gentlemen,

Our history with water gives me hope, when I look to the future.

Yes, we will have to prepare. Adapt.

But climate adaptation is nothing new to us.

And the knowledge and expertise that we have, we share.

We share it when it comes to water management and drinking water.

To offshore wind and green hydrogen.

And we share our financial innovations too. Dutch pension funds now invest in climate action beyond our borders.

Amsterdam-based asset manager ILX grows climate investment funds by matching public and private funding. Last week, here at COP, they announced an increase of their total fund to \$1.7 billion.

It's precisely these kinds of examples that give me hope.

**The EU has been a steadfast donor, and so are we.** The Netherlands currently delivers 1.8 billion Euros of climate finance per year. Public and private.

Of our public climate finance, 60% goes to adaptation, grant-based, and geared towards the most vulnerable.

Finally, we are spearheading an international coalition to deliver on the promise made since COP26: to phase out fossil fuel subsidies.

I encourage you all to join us, and take the next step in increasing transparency, identifying barriers and take national action.

Ladies and gentlemen,

To scale up our collective efforts, we need everyone. Including the market.

Especially the market, considering the scale of the challenge.

We know that every challenge presents an opportunity.

Opportunities for today, but especially for generations of the future.

We are at a turning point.

The point where we must seize the opportunity to turn the tide.

If there's one constant in history, it's that humanity always finds a way out when we face major challenges.

Always.

And I'm convinced we can do it again.

Thank you.