



Republic of North Macedonia
PRESIDENT



Your Excellencies,

With the pandemic still dominating the world's agenda, we should not underestimate one of the greatest systemic risks ever posed to the humanity.

Scientists say there might be only one decade left for the world to fundamentally redesign its development paradigms, to change our life habits and reconstruct our economies on sustainable basis. If we ignore this worrying trends, catastrophic consequences will follow for the environment, health, food and water security, in fact, for the overall human safety and development.

So, what we promised in Paris, we must deliver here in Glasgow.

As EU candidate country ready to start negotiations, North Macedonia has already been transposing European climate acquis in its national legislation. By supporting the European Green Deal, we are committed to do our share in turning Europe into the first carbon neutral continent by 2050.

Despite the fact that we are a small European country, we have great climate ambitions. To this end, we adopted the enhanced National Determined Contributions. Our target for 2030 is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 51%, compared to 1990 levels, or, 82% in net emissions compared to the same base year. We designed 63 mitigation policies and measures which are gender-responsive and are linked to 15 Sustainable Development Goals.

By implementing our Long-term strategy on climate action we aim to transform North Macedonia into a low carbon economy, enhancing competitiveness and promoting social cohesion. This “whole of society” approach will help us fight unemployment by creating green jobs, decrease pollution with renewables and develop sustainable habits through education.

We have made these commitments against the backdrop of several structural challenges to our domestic economic growth, worsened by the devastating effects of Covid-19, because we do believe that the only sustainable recovery from the pandemic is green recovery. If the country with the GDP per capita of below 6.000 US dollars is fully dedicated to achieving these ambitious pledges, then each state in the world can do it.



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We have already designed transparent, coordinated and inclusive climate action in partnership with science, businesses, civil society and youth. In the same time, we are fully aware that international financing will be dependent on the effective, functional and just governance at both national and international level.

Dear friends,

50 years ago, W.H. Auden penned the "Hymn to the United Nations". In it he says that "peace means to change at the right time, as the World-Clock Goes Tick- and Tock." For too long humanity's unsustainable models of production and consumption have been out of sync with the rhythm of nature. At this last hour, it is high time to wind back the clock of the climate system, so that future generations can not only survive, but, live in a secure, decent and prosperous world, as well.

Thank you.