

Statement of Austria on behalf of the EU and its Member States
COP 24 stocktake on
Pre-2020 implementation and ambition

Check against delivery

Thank you Mr. President,

The EU and its Member States are here to collectively strengthen climate action to lay a solid foundation for our future. As shown by the recent IPCC special report of Global Warming of 1.5°C and the UNEP gap emission report 2018, we all know that time is of the essence for our future.

The EU and its MS are here to highlight, that we take our commitments in this context seriously.

All 29 Parties to the convention have formally committed to pre-2020 action under the Kyoto Protocol and we are confident to over-achieve our 2020 emission reduction targets.

Keeping future generations in account motivates us to embrace future-oriented thinking and future-oriented action to bring Pre2020 action forward.

Therefore, we urge all Parties to ratify the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol as soon as possible in order to allow for its swift entry into force.

To achieve our pre-2020 targets, the EU has put in place an ambitious mix of structural policies in the field of climate and energy. By 2017, the EU and its Member States had already cut emissions by 22% and we are currently on track for minus 26% in 2020 – far overachieving our existing targets.

Moreover, the EU and its MS are committed to increase our action. We recently adopted a new regulatory framework on renewable energies and energy efficiency. In addition, we are currently in the process of adopting further measures to address transport emissions, including by tightening CO₂ emissions standards for light duty vehicles and introducing emission limits for lorries.

We also want to highlight that we remain committed to the collective goal of mobilizing 100 billion US dollars of climate finance by 2020 and through to 2025

for climate action in developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation. This goal will be reached through a variety of sources – both public and private.

The fact that the EU and its Member States are the largest provider of public climate finance and the largest contributor to key climate funds such as the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund is crucial evidence of our commitment in this regard.

Furthermore, climate action should not be limited to governmental policy action and hence we recognize the importance of non-state actors and their contribution to achieve the objectives and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

To unlock this potential, we need to continue to raise awareness of the benefits of climate action, highlight and share positive examples of climate action, and collectively contribute to enhance implementation.

We want to express our appreciation of the Global Climate Action Agenda, which is supporting these transformations by uniting together Parties and non-Party stakeholders around a shared understanding of the urgency of climate action.

We look forward to using the outcome of the pre-2020 stocktake at COP24 as an illustration of progress in the field of climate action. We hope this process can draw together lessons learned from our action and inspire us in our collective effort to reach the Paris agreement goals for our future generations.