Pre-COP26 Chairs’ Summary

Introduction

On 30 September to 2 October 2021, more than 50 Ministers and high-level representatives met in Milan for the Pre-COP to discuss their expectations for the COP26 outcome, and to provide guidance on outstanding negotiations issues.

Before starting their deliberations, Ministers were presented with key messages from the preceding Youth4Climate Driving Ambition event at which almost 400 hundred young people from 186 countries discussed the need for action across the following areas: Youth Driving Ambition, Sustainable Recovery, Non-State Actors Engagement and Climate-Conscious Society. The key messages are included in Annex 2 and represent a foundation to build from at COP26 and beyond, furthering climate action, youth engagement and empowerment. Ministers engaged actively with youth delegates - formally and informally - and expressed their appreciation for the insights and solutions put forward. Minister Cingolani and the COP President Designate expressed their appreciation for the proposals, insights and dedication of youth participants and look forward to further discussion ahead of and at COP26. Minister Cingolani also stressed the importance to ensure youth engagement not only this year but also, regularly, in the preparatory events for and at future COPs. The Youth4Climate final outcome document in its entirety will be available after October 25th to allow for its finalisation.

The agenda for Pre-COP consisted of seven topics: keeping 1.5 alive, scaling up adaptation, loss and damage, mobilising finance, and finalising the Paris Rulebook – Article 6, the enhanced transparency framework and common time frames. To inform the discussion as well as for transparency and inclusivity, the COP26 President Designate published an open letter ahead of the meeting and issue notes were produced for each topic. Robust and detailed discussions took place in a combination of plenary and breakout groups, and a number of Ministers and Ambassadors were invited to support with co-facilitation. Minister Cingolani and the COP President Designate are extremely grateful to all colleagues who acted as co-facilitators, and to all Ministers who joined physically and virtually across various timezones.

Representatives of the nine UNFCCC observer constituencies were also invited to attend Pre-COP and participate in plenaries. Minister Cingolani and the COP President Designate were pleased to welcome observer representatives to the meeting and thank them for their committed and engaged participation.

Meeting outcomes and next steps

The key points raised by Ministers and next steps are summarised below, with a more detailed summary set out in the below Annex to inform Parties’ preparations for Glasgow. The COP President Designate will also publish a reflection note ahead of COP.

Recalling the findings of the most recent IPCC report, Ministers conveyed a sense of urgency on the need to accelerate mitigation ambition during this critical decade to keep 1.5 degrees in reach in line with the Paris Agreement temperature goal. Ministers also highlighted the central role of the latest science in informing what is required. Many ministers reiterated
their call for those who are yet to come forward with ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) aligned to the Paris temperature goal, as well as Long-Term Strategies (LTSs) to net zero and carbon neutrality by 2050 and/or mid-century to do so ahead of COP26. There was also a clear expectation from many parties that the COP26 outcome should reflect the latest science and address the mitigation ambition gap to 2030, including suggestions to revisit NDCs and plans as soon as possible and ahead of the global stocktake in 2023, and to strengthen the request for Parties to produce Long Term Strategies, taking into account common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances. It was noted that accelerating mitigation ambition would require action across all pillars of the Paris Agreement. The COP26 President Designate confirmed that the incoming Presidency will take forward bilateral consultations on this issue ahead of COP and welcomed written inputs from Parties. He asked Minister Stiell of Grenada and Minister Jørgensen of Denmark to continue the conversation at Ministerial level and report back to him on views.

Building on the outcomes of the July Ministerial, Ministers discussed how to accelerate action towards the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). Ministers recognised the importance of the goal and called for greater action on adaptation. Discussions reflected a breadth of views on how to take forward, including on how to clarify the GGA, the need to understand how progress against the GGA could be assessed, and the supporting role that scientific bodies such as the IPCC could play in this process. Ministers also discussed how to achieve increased finance for adaptation, with strong statements regarding the urgent need to do so. A particular focus of the discussion was options to achieve a better balance and improved access. The COP26 President Designate emphasised that these issues would need to form a core part of the Glasgow outcome, welcomed further concrete ideas from Parties through written inputs and encouraged further discussions between Parties. He will include further reflections on these issues in a note ahead of COP.

Following on from the clear recognition of the need to address loss and damage from climate impacts, Ministers focused on how to progress practical action at COP26. There was a clear consensus that the Santiago Network must be operationalised and functional as soon as possible. Some Ministers called for a dedicated fund for the Santiago Network and for action to be taken beyond the Santiago Network. The incoming Presidency will undertake further consultations with Parties and technical agencies before COP to explore practicalities on the Santiago Network, including the options for interim arrangements to get the network up and running quickly. Ahead of COP the incoming Presidency will consolidate ideas received from Parties on how action on loss and damage can be enhanced, including on the need to better coordinate support to countries to avert minimize and address loss and damage across agencies and funds. In this we will draw on the consultations the UK and Chile have held throughout the year.

On finance, Ministers reaffirmed the critical importance of meeting the $100bn per year climate finance goal. They welcomed recent progress whilst noting that more remains to be done, particularly on the issues of access, quality, and the balance of mitigation and adaptation finance. The COP26 President Designate emphasised his commitment to working with Minister Wilkinson and State Secretary Flasbarth to ensure that the developed countries’ $100bn Delivery Plan gives clarity and confidence on these issues. Ministers also highlighted the importance of successfully initiating deliberations on the new collective quantified (post-2025) finance goal in Glasgow and some Ministers made proposals for possible ways forward. A number of Parties also raised the importance of wider issues, notably including the consistency of finance flows with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and access to concessional climate finance in vulnerable countries. The COP President Designate
intends to set out a summary of views on finance issues, including the initiation of deliberations on the new post-2025 goal, in a reflections note before COP, and will convene high-level discussions on the new finance goal early at COP.

Ministers emphasised that completion of the Paris Rulebook is a key priority for COP26. Discussions across the three issues of Transparency, Article 6 and Common Timeframes showed some recognition of the need to move towards convergence on landing grounds, but many parties repeated previous positions and more work is clearly required. The COP26 President Designate asked Minister Fu of Singapore and Minister Rotevatn of Norway to continue informal bilateral Ministerial consultations on Article 6 in the remaining weeks before Glasgow. Minister Mujawamariya of Rwanda and Minister Sommaruga of Switzerland agreed to continue informal consultations on Common Time Frames for NDCs in the days after Pre-COP, and will report back to the COP26 President Designate before COP. On the Enhanced Transparency Framework, many Ministers reaffirmed the critical role it plays within the Paris Agreement and emphasised the need to advance technical discussion before COP to ensure the mandate can be fulfilled on time. The COP President Designate noted that the incoming Presidency will convene informal virtual consultations in October, working with the SBSTA Chair, who also intends to convene a workshop ahead of or during COP.

In his closing remarks, the COP President Designate recalled the messages from Youth4Climate and from Observer constituencies as he emphasised the imperative of action for all of humanity. With only 30 days until Glasgow, he encouraged all Ministers to continue discussions with their counterparts and to instruct their negotiators to prepare for Glasgow in the spirit of ambition and cooperation. Minister Cingolani concluded the meeting by recognising the urgency of accelerating governments’ efforts to reduce emissions across all sectors in line with science to keep 1.5°C alive, noting the key role of Rome G20 Leaders’ Summit as a critical step towards this goal. He also emphasised the key role of youth in demanding further action from all actors and making proposals to safeguard their future, while reminding colleagues that the world is watching to see the outcome of COP26.

Annex 1 – Key issues raised during Ministerial discussions

Keeping 1.5°C alive

Building on the discussions at the July Ministerial, conversations reflected a sense of urgency following the recent NDC Synthesis Report which highlights that current NDCs could result in an emissions increase of 16% on 2010 levels by 2030 when a 45% reduction is required to keep temperatures below 1.5 degrees.

At the opening plenary, Ko Barrett from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) outlined the conclusion of the IPCC Working Group I Contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report, published in August. She emphasised that we must urgently and drastically scale up action to address climate change in this decade, accelerate efforts to respond to the impacts that are already happening, and prepare for them to get much worse. The report finds that only the most stringent efforts to immediately reduce greenhouse gas emissions will keep a 1.5°C future in reach.
Reflecting the urgency of action, many Ministers called on those who are yet to come forward with ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) aligned to the Paris temperature goal as well as Long-Term Strategies (LT-LEDS) to carbon neutrality / net zero by 2050 and/or mid-century to do so ahead of COP26. Some Ministers emphasised the opportunity presented by the 30-31st October G20 meeting given the importance of increased ambition from the largest emitters. Many Ministers reiterated the need for scaled up support for developing countries, the importance of sharing technology, and that nobody should be left behind as we make a just transition to low carbon economies. Some Ministers suggested creating a forum for discussion on these issues.

Ministers emphasised that Parties will need to respond in Glasgow to the likely gap that will exist between current efforts and what is required by science to achieve the Paris temperature goal. Specific proposals at Pre-COP included: highlighting the importance of the IPCC in providing best available science and recognising its latest findings as the robust basis for action; the need to return to 2030 ambition until the Paris temperature goal is achieved, including some calls for Parties to revisit 2030 NDCs ahead of the Global Stocktake if they are not aligned with 1.5 degrees; and a commitment to submit updated mid-century LTS to carbon neutrality / net zero that are aligned with NDCs ahead of the Global Stocktake. A number of Ministers pointed to the need to recognise the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances, the need for a just transition, the need for scaled up financing, and the important role of technology in achieving such goals.

Further ideas included: further efforts to phase down coal and fossil fuel subsidies, investing in nature-based solutions, focusing on the remaining carbon budget, targets on methane, as well as the need for transformation beyond NDCs through sectoral targets including energy, mobility, infrastructure and biodiversity, and a global approach to carbon pricing. Ministers also mentioned the importance of finalising outstanding elements of the Rulebook to support mitigation efforts, with some emphasising the need to ensure that all COP outcomes are aligned with 1.5C. The COP26 President Designate invited Parties to provide written inputs on their ideas, committed to taking forward bilateral consultations on this issue ahead of COP and asked Minister Stiell of Grenada and Minister Jørgensen of Denmark, who had facilitated breakout groups, to continue their conversations at Ministerial level.

**Scaling up adaptation**

Ministers emphasised the need for greater political attention to be paid to adaptation, and presented suggestions on how to make this a reality through implementation of the Global Goal on Adaptation and increasing the scale and urgency of finance. Ministers recognised the importance of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Adaptation Communications as tools to understand the experiences of countries, guide and demonstrate adaptation action, as well as to set out local and national priorities and needs, with many Ministers calling for Parties to come forward with such plans and Communications ahead of Glasgow.

Ministers emphasised that adaptation is a common challenge, varied in its local applications and that it needs increased political attention. There were a number of calls to improve Parties’ collective understanding of the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) in order to drive domestic and international action and provide the right incentives for further implementation. Ministers put forward a range of views on how progress on the GGA can be achieved. Calls for a robust roadmap/action plan were supplemented with suggestions of what might be included in this
pathway forward. Suggestions which enjoyed some support included: further clarification/fleshing out of the GGA; requests for the IPCC to support further work under the roadmap including providing a special report on adaptation; an agenda item on the GGA; a general framework/indicators to measure progress; and more work on NAPs to understand the experiences of countries. Ministers emphasised the importance of this work feeding into the Global Stocktake. Most Ministers felt that such a way forward should be agreed at COP26 with a clear timeline.

The COP President Designate invited further input from Parties and observers on the way forward on the Global Goal on Adaptation, and will include his views on the state of play in his reflections note ahead of COP.

**Loss and damage**

Discussions underlined that loss and damage is happening now and will increase. The spectrum of loss and damage, from slow onset changes to more immediate impacts caused by natural disasters, requires greater attention that needs to encompass a broad range of action in order to avert, minimise and address loss and damage. Some Ministers highlighted how repeated disasters can result in unsustainable debt burdens, especially when whole economies are affected by disaster events, and called for mechanisms to assure finance in response to disaster. There were also calls for more finance to be made available, and a mapping of sources of funds relevant to loss and damage. A number of Ministers emphasised the importance of streamlining assistance from agencies so it is easier to gain access to and aligns with local and national plans.

There was clear support for the Santiago Network being operationalised as an active body, with some calling for a secretariat to support its efforts. Further clarity needs to be sought to fully understand how to best deliver this. Ministers made suggestions including the involvement of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism, the UNFCCC secretariat or an external organisation that can serve under the UNFCCC’s authority. Some suggested that interim arrangements might need to be put in place to ensure that the Network is functional quickly. There were clear calls from Ministers for the development of the Network to be taken up at COP26 with a view to making sure the network is operationalised as soon as possible. Some Ministers called for a fund to support the functions of the Santiago Network.

The incoming Presidency will consult further with Parties and technical agencies before COP to explore practicalities on the Santiago Network, including the options for interim arrangements to get the network up and running quickly. Ahead of COP the incoming Presidency will consolidate ideas from parties on how action on loss and damage can be enhanced; including on the Santiago Network and how to help streamline international finance relevant to loss and damage, drawing on the consultations the UK has had throughout the year.

**Mobilising finance**

Ministers reaffirmed the critical importance of meeting the $100bn per year climate finance goal, with many welcoming the progress through new pledges made since the July Ministerial. Several noted the high likelihood that the $100bn would not have been reached in 2020 and
expressed the urgent need to provide certainty and meet the goal as soon as possible. In this context, the incoming Presidency will continue to work with Minister Wilkinson of Canada and State Secretary Flasbarth of Germany to ensure the developed country $100bn Delivery Plan is published ahead of COP, to build confidence that the goal will be met going forward, and demonstrate how progress will be made against related issues raised by Parties such as adaptation finance, quality and access.

Ministers reiterated the need to urgently scale up adaptation finance and ensure it is more accessible and predictable. There was a continued emphasis on climate funds and grants as part of significantly increased public support, as well as a recognition of the need to also better mobilise the private sector to finance adaptation action. Differing views were expressed about calls for a strict 50/50 target between finance for adaptation and mitigation, with many emphasising that what matters most is scaling up sufficient adaptation support. The need to improve access to concessional climate finance in vulnerable countries was also raised by many, including to support the development of NAPs. Ministers spoke clearly of the importance of sending a clear signal on adaptation finance in Glasgow, with some Ministers suggesting that there should be a dedicated discussion within the deliberations on the post-2025 finance goal.

Ministers also highlighted the importance of successfully initiating deliberations on the new collective quantified (post-2025) finance goal in Glasgow. They reiterated the need for an approach that is inclusive and incorporates both technical and political elements. Ministers also expressed support for a political discussion in Glasgow to frame deliberations effectively. Several Ministers referenced the importance of agreeing a structure for deliberations with clear timelines, some suggested an ad hoc group or committee for technical work on the goal; and others spoke to the benefits of a cyclical feedback loop between political and technical discussions. Various ministers also raised issues that they wished to see reflected in the new goal, such as: developing country needs, the predictability and effectiveness of finance, balance between mitigation and adaptation, the importance of financial flow alignment, loss and damage, and the question of who will be contributors and recipients for the goal. Some Ministers also suggested that the discussions on the Post-2025 finance goal should include an adaptation element.

During the discussions, Ministers recognized the key catalytic role of public finance in leveraging private finance, de-risking investments and crowding-in private sector resources, and that it should be enhanced whilst acknowledging the urgency of further mobilizing the private sector to increase investments, especially on adaptation. A significant number of Ministers raised the importance of aligning wider financial flows with climate objectives in order to ‘shift the trillions’ required for ambitious climate action and to meet developing country needs; and that this would require increased engagement with private sector actors and initiatives, as well as with the wider global financial system. A number of countries highlighted the need to move away from fossil fuel subsidies in this respect. Many Ministers shared their concerns that the current financial architecture does not sufficiently address the issue of indebtedness and fiscal space, whilst also mentioning opportunities of measures such as carbon pricing and fossil fuel subsidies phase out. There was one specific proposal made for a new international committee to consider such issues systemically. The importance of globally realigning finance to keep 1.5 alive was noted by many.

In his closing remarks the COP26 President Designate committed to working with Minister Wilkinson and State Secretary Flasbarth to publish the $100bn Delivery Plan ahead of COP. He also indicated that the Presidency intended to convene high-level discussions on the new
finance goal early at COP. The incoming Presidency will also continue its outreach and conclude its informal work plan on wider climate finance issues by providing a summary to Parties in advance of COP26. The COP President Designate advised he intends to set out views on finance issues in a reflections note before COP.

Finalising the Paris Rulebook

Article 6

Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to a balanced outcome on Article 6, consistent with the objective of enabling higher ambition in both mitigation and adaptation actions. Many Parties also underlined the importance of robust rules and clear reporting to the eventual success of Article 6 implementation. On the three issues Ministers were asked to focus on - avoiding double use through the Article 6.4 mechanism; the use of pre-2020 units to meet NDCs; and supporting adaptation finance through Article 6 - positions remain divergent. Many Ministers expressed their view that the options for compromise were not consistent with the aim of raising ambition, including in the context of the Paris temperature goal.

Reflecting on the wider Article 6 package, Ministers highlighted other issues of importance, which included expediting the Article 6.8 work programme, overall mitigation of global emissions (OMGE), protecting human rights and the rights of indigenous peoples, capacity building for participation in Article 6 activities, and the design of the Article 6.4 mechanism, including approaches towards baselines and additionality. A number of Ministers also raised the link between discussions on generating adaptation finance through Article 6.2 and negotiations on climate finance. While some Ministers indicated priorities among, and possible trade-offs between, the three issues of focus, in general Ministers did not clearly elaborate on how we might find a balance between all the issues in concrete terms.

In closing the session, the COP26 President Designate thanked Minister Fu of Singapore and Minister Rotevatn of Norway for their work leading on this issue, and invited them to report back to Parties on their bilateral discussions held in the few weeks remaining before Glasgow. Ministers concluded that it would be helpful for the SBSTA Chair to provide a single informal document ahead of COP26 that would complement the Madrid texts, to summarise discussions to date and the options on the table for Parties. The COP26 President Designate concluded by emphasising the need for Ministers to come to Glasgow prepared to engage constructively - and with flexibility - on Article 6.

Transparency

Ministers recognised the fundamental importance of the enhanced transparency framework with several referring to it as the ‘backbone’ of the Paris Agreement and as an important tool to meet the temperature goals. They converged on the need to finalise the remaining operational details of the framework at COP26 so that Parties can start reporting on time.

Many Ministers stressed that decisions to be taken in Glasgow should be in line with the modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) and related principles that were agreed at COP24 in Katowice. This includes how to develop the common reporting tables to report GHG inventories, and the common tabular formats for tracking progress of NDCs and for support; moreover, how to operationalise the specific flexibility provisions in line with the “MPGs". There
was general agreement that the bulk of the work on the enhanced transparency framework was completed at COP24, and most Ministers agreed the task remaining is a technical one. Some different views were shared on exactly how some elements of the enhanced transparency framework should be implemented, particularly on whether all reporting formats should be uniform for all Parties.

Some Ministers also highlighted the importance of capacity building and called for support for developing countries in implementing the requirements under the transparency framework, including a call for this to be included in the final COP decision. Other Ministers, from donor countries, committed to provide such support through multilateral and bilateral channels. Ministers acknowledged that Parties can and should work together to improve reporting over time from Parties’ different starting points. The COP President Designate urged Ministers to encourage their technical negotiators to get the required work done. He noted the SBSTA Chair, Tosi Mpanu Mpanu, stands ready to convene a workshop prior to COP. The incoming Presidency will also convene informal virtual discussions in October, to accelerate Parties’ preparation for transparency discussions at COP26 and that sufficient time should be allocated to ensure the mandate can be fulfilled on time.

**Common time frames**

Ministers highlighted the importance of ensuring any outcome on the issue of common time frames aligns with and upholds the five-year cycle of the communication of NDCs and of the Global Stocktake as set out in the Paris Agreement. Some Ministers explained how their national circumstances strongly influenced their position on common time frames; others stated that domestic systems would not prevent them from agreeing to any particular option.

While there was no clear consensus on the length of common time frames that could be adopted at COP26, there was significant support for a five year option whilst some Ministers called for a ten year framework with a mid-way point at five years. Many Ministers set out that a five year time frame enables Parties to reflect the best available science, the latest market and technological developments and enable full alignment with the Paris Agreement mechanisms, including the Global Stocktake, to inform each cycle of NDCs. Some Ministers highlighted a preference for a ten year time frame due to domestic planning processes, and to provide a longer planning horizon which can also help to drive ambition. A few also indicated it is possible to maintain a ten year domestic framework that remains aligned with five year NDC time frames whilst others urged Parties to accept a plurality of common time frames at COP26.

The COP President Designate thanked Minister Mujawamariya of Rwanda and Minister Sommaruga of Switzerland for their work on this issue. He noted the two Ministers will continue informal consultations immediately after Pre-COP, reporting back to the COP President Designate before COP.

**Final Plenary**

In the final Plenary session, Ministers reflected on the discussions across the two days and the implications for the overall political elements that needed to be agreed in Glasgow. The COP President Designate highlighted the Annex to his open letter sent ahead of pre-COP and asked for reflections on whether it covered the right elements. A number of Ministers emphasised the need for an ambitious outcome in Glasgow - consistent with the Paris
Agreement and its principles - that addressed the gaps in ambition on mitigation, adaptation, finance and loss and damage and completed the Paris Rulebook, whilst emphasising different priorities across the areas outlined. They emphasised the need to show the world that Leaders and Ministers understood the urgency of action and were prepared to respond. They highlighted the significant work still to be done and emphasised their resolve to work together towards a Glasgow outcome that responds to the seriousness of the challenge in a spirit of cooperation.

Annex 2 – Key demands raised by youth during Youth4Climate

Below the key messages agreed by the Youth4Climate youth participants that were discussed with Ministers attending the Pre-COP during the morning of the 30 of September. The final outcome document in its entirety will be available after October 25th to allow for its finalization.

WORKING GROUP 1 – YOUTH DRIVING AMBITION

1. MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION – Request countries and relevant institutions to urgently ensure meaningful youth engagement and involvement in all decision-making on processes with implications on climate change and climate policy planning, design, implementation and evaluation at multilateral, national and local level with an enabling environment.

2. CAPACITY BUILDING – Request countries to urgently scale-up financial, administrative and logistical support to foster the engagement of youth to effectively drive climate ambition and concrete action.

3. FUNDING – Request countries, international organisations and public and private financial institutions to urgently dedicate, and make readily accessible, funds to support youth participation in decision-making processes with implications on climate change at all levels.

WORKING GROUP 2 - SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY

1. ENERGY TRANSITION AND GREEN JOBS – We call for an urgent, holistic, diversified and inclusive energy transition by 2030 that prioritizes energy efficiency and sustainable energy, keeping +1.5 goal within reach; financing for capacity building, research and technology sharing to ensure a transition with decent jobs, providing adequate support for affected and vulnerable communities.

2. ADAPTATION, RESILIENCE AND LOSS & DAMAGE – We demand strengthening of diverse means of implementation to be made immediately available for locally-owned adaptation, resilience and loss & damage measures to ensure proper and continuous solutions reach the most vulnerable groups and regions.

3. NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS – We demand Nature-based Solutions be prioritized as a key strategy to address the climate crisis that also emphasizes the need for a socially just and equitable society especially by recognizing, representing, respecting and protecting local and indigenous peoples’ rights and place-based knowledge.
4. FINANCIAL FLOWS – We urge decision makers at all levels, in public and private sectors, to create a transparent and accountable climate finance system with robust regulation of carbon emissions, eradicating the climate investment trap in the most vulnerable communities, while ensuring equal opportunities for people of all genders, ages and backgrounds, as well as eradicating exploitation of women and child labor.

5. TOURISM – We demand, at COP26, the recognition of tourism’s responsibility in meeting global climate targets, and its vulnerabilities to the impacts of climate change, particularly for tourism-dependent countries (e.g. SIDS). We call for the inclusion of all stakeholders (including youth, women, indigenous communities, and other marginalized groups), in capacity building, monitoring, investment and decision-making processes, towards resilient blue and green tourism recovery.

WORKING GROUP 3 – NON-STATE ACTORS’ ENGAGEMENT

1. INFRASTRUCTURE & FINANCE FOR NON-STATE ACTORS – Support participation of young entrepreneurs, artists, farmers, and athletes, in particular from emerging economies and marginalized groups (ethnic minorities, indigenous people, persons with disabilities, etc.), as well as already existing non-state actors with ethical and sustainable practices in the sustainable development and adoption of climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions, by facilitating access to public and private finance, as well as the development of critical infrastructure (incl. internet access).

2. NON-PARTY STAKEHOLDER ALIGNMENT WITH NET ZERO GOALS – A) Demand non-party stakeholders, in particular the private sector, to align current and future operations and their supply chain with net zero emissions. The transition needs to start immediately and requires clear reporting of plans and achievement of milestones, on at least an annual basis. B) Enhance environmental transparency and accountability of non-state actors by requesting robust and annual climate disclosures that include underlying source data; and ensure these disclosures and data sets are consolidated by a relevant entity.

3. FOSSIL FUEL INFLUENCE ON NON-STATE ACTORS & THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY AS NON-STATE ACTORS – Abolishing the fossil fuels industry must begin rapidly and immediately with a total phase out by 2030 at the latest and secure a decentralised, just transition designed for and with workers cooperatives, local and indigenous communities, and those most affected by the climate crisis and land displacement. Any non-states actors, including UN bodies, fashion, sport, art, entrepreneurship, agricultural entities etc. must not accept any fossil fuels investment, lobbying activities influence from this industry, especially in relation to international negotiations.

WORKING GROUP 4 – CLIMATE-CONSCIOUS SOCIETY

1. SHOWCASING IMPACTS AND SOLUTIONS – Decision makers need to be held accountable in working with youth and communities to address climate change, recognizing and supporting vulnerable populations, ensuring access to various resources such as health services, and amplifying diverse voices. They must support the creation of multistakeholder platforms and mechanisms for sharing climate information and solutions and fostering participation in decision-making spaces.

2. EDUCATION – Call on governments to ensure comprehensive and universal climate change education and climate literacy for all and adequate funding for it according to
international timelines. The main objective is to empower people of all ages with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes to address climate change. Education should have a holistic approach, integrating indigenous and local knowledge, gender perspective, and promote changes in lifestyles, attitudes, and behavior, ensuring climate-neutrality and climate-resilience of educational institutions. Key actions include: Integrating climate change learning into the curricula at all levels by introducing climate change elements into existing subjects, training policymakers, teachers, children, youth, the private sector, and communities, integrating climate change into education policies and education into climate change policies including NDCs and national adaptation plans, ensuring the review of climate education policies and coordination between ministers of education and environment, promoting formal, nonformal, and informal education, peer to peer learning, and extracurricular activities. Youth should have access to funding for youth-led projects and more access to paid internships, exchanges and capacity-building activities.

3. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND MOBILIZATION – Call on governments and other relevant actors to raise awareness on climate change adaptation and mitigation for each person in the world, emphasizing climate refugees, through traditional media as well as using campaigns, arts, sports, entertainment, community leaders, influencers, and social media. We need to empower every person in the world to be part of the climate knowledge and solutions through capacity building programs focusing on advocacy and leadership, as well as to ensure that everyone can participate in the decision-making processes.

4. MEDIA – Training journalists and communicators to convey the urgency and implications of the climate crisis in a transparent, accessible, and conversational manner by simplifying scientific findings, facilitating the understanding of policies and emphasizing the existence and feasibility of solutions, regulating advertising, defining and preventing greenwashing, highlighting climate inequalities, combatting misinformation, and utilizing social media and traditional means of communication.