

## **Second Annual High-Level Ministerial Round Table on Just Transition**

### **Switzerland**

**Monday, 18 November 2024 from 15:00 to 18:00 (AZT/UTC+4)**

Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

Despite our common efforts, Climate Change remains the biggest challenge of our time. Just this week, WMO's State of Climate update revealed that 2024 is on track to be the hottest year on record ever. All over the globe, people continue to suffer from the well-known negative impacts of climate change.

The current situation is not just. It is not just, that some countries are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change than others. It is not just, that some groups – for example women – are often disproportionately affected by climate change. And it is certainly not just, that the most vulnerable people suffer the most from climate change.

The historic decision that we have taken at COP28 in Dubai – to transition away from fossil fuels – offers the unique opportunity to address this injustice by moving forward and keeping global warming below 1.5°. Only by implementing the outcome and objective of the First Global Stocktake (GST) seriously and rigorously, we can preserve the planet as we know it for future generations.

In Switzerland's view, Just Transition is about transitioning away from fossil fuels towards renewable energy at its core.

We also believe that this transition can only be considered “just”, if it is inclusive and based on human rights-centered approaches. That's what parties should address in the context of the preparation and implementation of their new NDCs and NAPs. Clear political signals and objectives with regard to harmful subsidies are another critical element of a just transition, and should be included in national plans. And: A Just Transition needs to support the formulation and implementation of 1.5°C-aligned Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

It is encouraging, that all parties have committed themselves to the main objective of the Just Transition Work programme focusing on pathways to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. Also, there is broad agreement that the work programme puts the most vulnerable at its center.

We thank the Secretariat and the Presidency for organizing this second annual high-level Ministerial Round Table on Just Transition. We sinerely hope that it contributes to accelerating this transition and boosting the ongoing round of negotiations on the Just Transition Work Program (JTWP).

Thank you for your attention.