

The statement of Ukraine at resumed HLS

Madame President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me express my sincere gratitude to the Kingdom of Spain and the city of Madrid for the hospitality and excellent organization of COP 25.

I would also like to thank the Government of Chile for their commitment and leadership and reaffirmed support to the COP 25 Presidency.

Today we live in the world which faces numerous threats of the global nature. The world, which changes every day and where being a passive observer means being a part of the problem.

Ukraine is a country that demonstrates how people can change the world, when they stand together for a better future. The country, where people continue to act and win in the face of numerous challenges.

Ukraine is going through very difficult times. It's the 6th year that we have been facing Russian armed aggression against my country, Crimea and part of Donbas are temporarily occupied, as a result we had a drastic decline in social standards of people's life. And, to be frank, this makes it harder for everyone to see climate change as a priority issue.

But climate change is already visible in Ukraine: there are more than ever heat waves, droughts and extreme weather events. According to projections around 100 Ukrainian cities and villages will be fully or partially flooded with sea level rise by the end of this century.

Immediate threats we are facing should not prevent us from contributing to the solution of the climate change disaster.

Let me give you a few examples on the measures in Ukraine, which we already implement. Ukraine has established energy efficiency fund and provides financial support to households to implement energy efficiency measures.

Ukraine has raised CO₂ tax for big companies and is working at introduction of comprehensive monitoring, reporting and verification procedures for industry.

Renewable energy is growing fast in Ukraine and since 2009 we have had feed-in-tariff system, which will now change to auctioning mechanism.

And we have many more plans. We are planning to introduce economy-wide fuel based CO₂ tax to raise money for additional energy efficiency measures. We are planning to close many state coal mines. And the most important - Ukrainian government is planning to develop a green energy transition vision till 2050, which will be reflected in our updated NDC next year.

To implement all these plans we are looking for partnerships and cooperation. We seek more clarity on Green Climate Fund eligibility criteria for countries, which can apply for funding. Ukraine is ranked 132 by GDP per person and is recipient country in GEF and World Bank programs, but was excluded from recipient countries in GCF.

Speaking about putting into operation Article 6, Ukraine strongly supports the notion of establishing new credible mechanisms, understanding that we are in a different context of new Paris world. Ukraine is strongly convinced that the issue of transition of particularly Kyoto Protocol units to the Article 6.4 can significantly discredit the future markets.

As stressed many times at this session, we call upon all Parties and the Secretariat to abide by the provisions of the paragraph 6 of the United Nations General Assembly resolution 68/262 "Territorial integrity of Ukraine" in what refers to the submissions and statements made by the Russian Federation.

The Secretariat when referring to Crimea in its official documents, communications and publications, including with regard to statistical data of the Russian Federation, should refer to "the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation" as set out in paragraph 11 of the UN GA resolution 73/263 of 22 December 2018.

Russian armed aggression against Ukraine was strongly condemned by the international community and responded by sanctions. As Russia persists in its aggressive course of action, the sanction track must be preserved and further strengthened.

In a region experiencing conflict, we do not need the extra pressures that climate change puts on society. We should do everything possible to prevent the worst consequences of global warming predicted by the scientists and we can do it together!

We are ready to act to be among the leading nations to drive the change towards better and safer carbon free future.

Finally, I would like to stress the role and need for cooperation with civil society and youth. Their motivation, ambition and action are crucial for leading the serious reforms we have to implement.

We believe that the spirit of cooperation among countries will get stronger in the coming years.