



STATEMENT

BY

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ZIMBABWE**

HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. E. D. MNANGAGWA,

AT THE

**WORLD CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT AT THE
COP 28**

1-2 DECEMBER 2023

Your Excellency, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

Excellencies, Heads of State and Government,

Your Excellency, Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Allow me to express my sincere gratitude to the Government and the People of the United Arab Emirates for successfully hosting this COP28 and for the hospitality extended to me and my delegation since our arrival.

I also wish to congratulate Sultan Al Jaber for his election as the COP28 President and assure him of my country's utmost support during his tenure.

Excellencies,

Zimbabwe, like many other nations, continues to suffer from the negative socio-economic impacts of increased

frequency of droughts, heightened intensity of tropical cyclones, and other severe weather events.

There is need for stronger international cooperation and collaboration in the response to these climate change induced weather fluctuations. No country can adapt to or mitigate these impacts alone. The ambitious emissions reductions expected from developed countries are urgent and critical to prevent a climate catastrophe.

The Paris Agreement established the foundation, and we must now boldly come up with more ambitious emission reduction goals. A just transition, accompanied by comprehensive financial and technological support to developing countries, remain priorities. This is critical to ensure that vulnerable communities and workers in traditional industries are not left behind and that the transition benefits all, while also creating decent green jobs and promoting social and economic stability.

A radical shift, backed by creative thinking and new development models that fundamentally enhance climate resilience are of necessity as we propel and mainstream decarbonization. The global economic system, the ways we produce and consume, and the resources we use to support economic growth must all undergo drastic changes in order to meaningfully implement the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Excellencies,

Zimbabwe is walking the talk on its revised Nationally Determined Contributions. We recently completed the development of our national carbon credit framework which will guide players, benefit communities and protect investors who wish to establish carbon trade-related projects in the country. We are offering diverse opportunities for carbon trading in the energy sector through investments in solar, wind, mini-hydro and geothermal power generation.

The landmark agreement with Blue Carbon, of the UAE is set to further enhance our nature-based carbon offset strategies. Such alliances are transforming how we perceive and utilise our vast forest resources.

The illegal economic sanctions imposed on our country are inadvertently hindering climate action by impeding progress in our quest to address environmental challenges. We reiterate our calls for the immediate and unconditional lifting of these sanctions.

Excellencies,

Investments in research and development as well as technology and innovation will be our allies in this battle to create new solutions to address climate change. Aspects related to sustainable methods for increased agriculture production and productivity remain essential to our ability to feed ourselves.

We welcome the first Global Stocktake at this COP28 which should help us to continuously review, improve and transparently disclose our climate plans.

This COP28 is called upon to persist in the mobilization of resources and adopting clear strategies for achieving the promised US\$100 billion climate finance.

Let us all fulfil our responsibilities and use this gathering as another opportunity to carve out a sustainable future for the generations to come.

May history remember us as those who took bold and resolute action to preserve our planet.

I thank you.