



As delivered

National Statement

**JOINT OPENING PLENARY OF THE  
60<sup>TH</sup> SESSIONS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE AND SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR  
IMPLEMENTATION (SB60)**

03 June 2024

Secretary Robert E.A. Borje  
Vice Chairperson and Executive Director  
Climate Change Commission

Co-Head of the Philippine Delegation

The Philippines thanks the UAE COP28 Presidency, H.E. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber; the SB Chairs Nabeel Munir (SBI) and Harry Vreuls (SBSTA); the UNFCCC Secretariat, and Executive Secretary Simon Stiell.

The Philippines aligns with the statement of Uganda, on behalf of the G77.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are now at a **point of no return**.

We need to build stronger and sustained momentum for transformative climate action, based on science and evidence, indigenous and local knowledge.

In this critical decade, we must make more progress towards enhanced resilience, and low-carbon and sustainable development.

**Under the leadership of President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.**, the Philippines now has an economic and prosperity agenda aligned with our climate change goals.

Climate change is now integral to our national policies, guiding planning, implementation, and decision-making processes up to the local level.

But collectively, nations must continue to demonstrate commitment building on our COP28 outcomes: the *GST-1 outcomes*, the *UAE Global Climate Resilience Framework*, and *Loss and Damage Fund* operationalization.

We have to **advance** all our agenda items, including the determination of the *new collective quantified goal on climate finance*.

Excellencies, there is no other way but to make concrete outcomes. We cannot afford further delay in making clear and tangible results. Or else, the worst will continue to be upon us.

The Philippines expresses grave concerns on the destruction caused by extreme weather events in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, and other regions. We need to change these stories of developing countries from that of fragility to agility.

Developing nations are doing what we can, to the best of our abilities, with our very limited resources, for something we are not singularly responsible for.

The Philippines finally completed our *first* National Adaptation Plan. We are the third country in ASEAN to submit a NAP, and only the 56<sup>th</sup> in the world in what is still an alarmingly short list.

Mostly driven by domestic resources and bilateral partnerships, the Philippines is also working on the NDC Implementation Plan, Just Transition Work Programme, Biennial Transparency Report, Long Term Strategy, and NDC updating.

But the impact of our individual and collective actions can be of better speed and scale, if the resolve to change the narrative from victim to victor is adequately, sufficiently, urgently supported.

The call of our time, therefore, is to do more, together, mindful of our responsibilities and commitments under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

For this SB, the Philippines' clarion call is clear:

- First, close mitigation and adaptation gaps. Support development and implementation of NAPs and NDCs by developing nations;
- Second, urgently operationalize the Loss and Damage Fund, where the Philippines stands ready to partake in the process, towards a decision on the Board hosting;
- Third, push for the implementation of the Just Transition Work Programme, to uphold human rights, create decent and green jobs, enhance livelihoods, driven by the development of green and blue economies, with an affordable, clean and climate-centered energy sector;
- Fourth, accelerate the provision, mobilization and delivery of finance, technology, and capacity, from developed to developing countries, considering the evolving needs and priorities of most vulnerable, at-risk nations.

MOIs must be mobilized in a transparent, accountable, predictable, and efficient manner.

- Fifth, ensure transformative climate action for all vulnerable populations: indigenous peoples, local communities, women and girls, children and youth, elderly and differently-abled.

Co-Chairs, Excellencies:

Let us proceed with our work, and restore trust and confidence in our multilateral process that is the UNFCCC. To do so, let us ensure the inclusivity of our process and universality of participation.

The Philippines will continue to engage all Parties and stakeholders to achieve our global goals.

But we must be clear: in our joint work, we cannot be satisfied with providing temporary reprieve for the weak, the least, and the last. This approach will only lead us to a permanent retreat, and certain perdition. This cannot and must not happen.

The Philippines remains resolute that progress can be made, aligned with the timeframes set by the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and within the objectives of the COP Presidencies Troika.

There is no turning back. We must together forge ahead and move forward. For humanity's sake, particularly the most vulnerable and at-risk, let us work together and create the results we want and need.

Thank you. ###