DECLARATION OF MOCK CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES 26

(MOCK COP26 TREATY)

01 DECEMBER 2020
“We [the youth of Turkey] feel the consequences of your decisions today. As a country, it is your responsibility to take drastic action. We have outlined science based and realistic actions that would greatly improve our nation.”

 MOCK COP26 Delegate from Turkey

“We feel only partly listened to. We are praised for enthusiasm but politicians are not taking us seriously enough. They are not treating this crisis like a crisis.”

 MOCK COP26 Delegate from Iceland

“Stop telling us, the youth, that we are the future, and continue to do nothing.”

 MOCK COP26 Delegate from Argentina

“We call [the Indian youth] to raise our voices, to fight for our future rights, to fight for our health and wellbeing. We say, once again, to all policy-makers that the youth across the world are tired of empty climate promises. We, the youth, are ready to work with you in building a self-reliant, safe, inclusive and sustainable world. The question is, are you ready?”

 MOCK COP26 Delegate from India
Origins of Mock COP26

In 2020, students from the Teach the Future campaign\(^1\) looked for ways to influence the outcomes of COP26 by seeking further commitments to support the provision of universal, scientific climate education.

With the postponement of COP26, the students decided to act to promote their own COP26 event, taking greater account of young people’s priorities.

With the support of individual students involved in Fridays for the Future International\(^2\), the original group of young people grew and spread across the globe. To fill the void left by the postponement of the COP26, the group decided to hold a youth-led Mock COP event, to express the demands of young people that five key themes be addressed, namely:

a. Climate Justice
b. Climate Education
c. Climate Resilient Livelihoods
d. Physical and Mental Health
e. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

This larger group ratified the five Mock COP26 themes and then agreed to a delegate application process, speaker nomination process, budget, and programme. The group then agreed to directly address global governments and demand that the obligations enclosed in this Declaration are adopted by all countries before, or at, COP26 and made legally binding.

Mock COP26 was attended by 330 delegates (aged 11 to 30) from 140 countries, thereby representing the youth of the vast majority of countries that will be represented at COP26 itself. Delegates were not only climate activists but witnesses of climate change and of its impacts in their own communities.

237 (72%) of delegates were from the Global South and 93 (28%) from the Global North. 63% of delegates were female or non-binary and the average age of delegates was 22. The student staff team of 18 young people comprised a 50% Global North / Global South split, with 73% of the student staff being female or non-binary.

Mock COP26 was run entirely online, resulting in just c14 tonnes of CO2 emissions, compared to c40,000 tonnes from previous COPs.

Delegates proposed policies which went through a process of review and voting during six regional caucus events. Delegates voted as delegates rather than as delegations, and each delegate from the

\(^1\) www.teachthefuture.uk/
\(^2\) https://fridaysforfuture.org/
Global South was eligible for a weighted 1.1 vote, which was applied if the weighting affected the outcome of the vote. Some delegates chose to remain anonymous because they feared repercussions from their participation in the conference, due to rules or oppression in their countries.

Delegates submitted high level statements explaining how the climate emergency and ecological crisis is impacting their nation and what they consider should be done to tackle the crisis. These statements are included in Annex 1 of this Declaration. A consistent theme running through these statements was that the delegates were experiencing the impacts of the crisis right now and they want to see action and not just words from the leaders of the world.

As one delegate commented, “even though we may be geographically divided to Global North and Global South we are still united by our common goal to address the climate crisis and this unity and common understanding of the need for bold climate action is manifest in the high-level statements”. 
Declaration of Mock COP26

We, the delegates of the youth-led Mock COP26, drawn from 140 countries of the world, meeting between 19 November 2020 and 1 December 2020,

CONSIDER THAT:

1.a. Governments around the world are failing to meet their legal and moral obligations to tackle the climate and ecological crisis, despite the increasing urgency and projected scale of the crisis;

1.b. Children and young people, as well as women and local and Indigenous communities, are disproportionately affected by the worsening impacts of climate change and ecological damage, and that children and young people in developing country Parties (and in particular in the least developed countries and small island developing States) bear the greatest burden of those impacts, despite contributing the least to their causes; and

NOTE THAT:

2. 197 countries of the world are parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (‘UNFCCC’) and 196 countries are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (“CBD”).

3. 189 countries of the world are parties to the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change (‘the Paris Agreement’).

4. 196 countries of the world are parties to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (‘UNCRC’).

5. The Parties to the Paris Agreement (‘the Parties’) agreed to mitigate the progression of climate change by:

   “Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels”.

6. This is a legal obligation on Parties to the Paris Agreement.

7. Despite this, global average temperatures have risen by an average of 1°C since pre-industrial times.

8. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, (‘IPCC’) reports that in order to limit climate change to 1.5°C by 2050, global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (‘CO₂ Emissions’) must fall by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching “net-zero” by 2050 and non-CO₂ emissions must also show deep reductions. This is endorsed by the Secretary General of the United Nations.
9. In 2013, CO\textsubscript{2} levels in the atmosphere passed the level of 400 parts per million (ppm) for the first time in human history, and are continuing to rise, despite all the climate agreements to date, as shown on the “Keeling Curve” maintained by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

10. The conclusion that CO\textsubscript{2} emissions and anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the main driving force behind the global temperature increase is supported by international scientific authorities, including the IPPC, World Meteorological Organisation (‘WMO’), nearly 200 scientific organisations, and the national scientific academies of each country in the G8 group of nations.

11. The continued rise in CO\textsubscript{2} Emissions and resulting escalation of global temperatures risks triggering key ‘tipping points’ that are likely to inflict irreversible changes to the world’s climate, including but not limited to:

   a. Greenland ice sheet disintegration;
   b. Permafrost loss;
   c. Atlantic Meridional overturning;
   d. Boreal forest shift;
   e. Amazon rainforest die-back;
   f. West Antarctic ice sheet disintegration;
   g. West African monsoon shift;
   h. Indian monsoon shift; and
   i. Coral Reef die-off from mass bleaching.

12. In their high level statements, MOCK COP delegates have not only argued that these effects must be urgently addressed; but have also given first-hand testimony of what these scientific terms represent, through what is happening in their own countries in 2020: from submerging islands, melting Polar ice, the first climate refugees, rising sea levels, loss of coral reefs and mangroves, cyclones and hurricanes, melting glaciers, increased air pollution, drought and heat waves, changing patterns of rainfall and floods, food and water shortages, and advancing deserts.

13. In November 2020, the Parties were due to meet in Glasgow, Scotland for the 26th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC (‘COP26’), co-hosted by the United Kingdom and Italy. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting has been postponed for one year, and COP26 is now fixed for 01-12 November 2021 in Glasgow, Scotland preceded by the 16th Annual Conference of Youth (‘COY16’). In addition a Pre-COP meeting will take place in Milan, Italy on 30 September - 02 October 2021 and prior to this the Youth Summit on 28-30 September 2021. The 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (‘CBD COP15’) due to take place in Kunming, China, from 15-18 October 2020 has also been postponed until 17-30 May 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Climate Education**

14. Article 12 of the Paris Agreement commits the Parties to cooperate in scaling up and strengthening climate education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information on climate change.
15. Education on climate change and biodiversity, based on the best available science and data, needs to be made available at schools and educational establishments at every level, including informal education. School, college and university buildings and estates must lead by example on sustainability as they form the subliminal curriculum.

16. The Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action prepared in 2019 by the Children's Environmental Rights Initiative (‘CERI’), the United Nations International Children's Fund (‘UNICEF’) and YOUNGO (the Children and Youth constituency to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), already signed by twelve countries, underlines the call for climate change and environmental education, and childrens’ rights, including the right to a healthy environment.

Climate Justice

17. The IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C makes clear that disadvantaged and vulnerable populations, some Indigenous peoples, and local communities dependent on agricultural or coastal livelihoods, are at a disproportionately higher risk of adverse consequences of global warming at 1.5°C and beyond.

18. Children and young people in developing country Parties (and in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States) are disproportionately affected by climate change, despite their societies having played far less a part in causing it.

19. Article 9 of the Paris Agreement commits the Developed country Parties to providing financial resources to assist developing country Parties to address both climate Mitigation and Adaptation.

20. This Article underlines the steps that Developed country Parties need to take to mobilise climate finance, especially for countries hit hardest by the impacts of climate change, such as small island states, some of which may disappear altogether as sea levels rise.

21. Article 10 of the Paris Agreement commits the Parties to work together in support and collaboration in the development of technology to address climate change, and also to promote the transfer of technology to Developing country Parties.

22. Article 11 of the Paris Agreement commits the Parties to support capacity building, especially for the least developed countries and those particularly vulnerable to climate change, such as small island developing states.

Climate Resilient Livelihoods

23. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many thousands of deaths and untold damage both to human health and to countries’ economies around the world. Many people have lost their jobs and livelihoods and young people have been disproportionately affected. Climate-related factors, deforestation and air pollution may increase future pandemic health risks.
24. At the same time, it has become clear that both the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate emergency and ecological crisis must simultaneously be addressed. The world cannot resolve one while ignoring the other.

25. This recognition underlines the need for a ‘Green Recovery’ from the COVID-19 pandemic, which does not simply restart CO₂ emissions as usual as the pandemic recedes, but “builds back better” with a cleaner, more sustainable economy, new green jobs and opportunities, and greater investment in long-term green opportunities replacing subsidies and support that entrench the use of fossil fuels.

26. Calls for a Green Recovery, and promotion of jobs in new, sustainable businesses and industries have been made by the United Nations’ Secretary General, International Monetary Fund, International Energy Agency; European Commission, leading academics, and many other political leaders, groups and businesses.

27. The European Union Green Deal and Recovery Plan for Europe emphasise investment in education and training, addressing both immediate unemployment resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and the long-term structural shift away from fossil fuels and towards decarbonisation.

**Physical and Mental Health**

28. The IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C shows how increased global warming will affect human health – from heat-related deaths, ozone-related morbidity, heatwaves, the spread of vector-borne diseases (such as malaria and dengue fever), crop failure and malnutrition, and water stress. The resulting mental health impacts will multiply. Children, young people and other vulnerable groups are particularly at risk from these threats to health and well-being.

29. Countries’ actions under Article 2 of the Paris Agreement on Mitigation and under Article 7 on Adaptation must set out concrete steps for addressing the impacts of climate change on physical health and mental health.

**Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**

30. Article 3 of the Paris Agreement commits the Parties to prepare “ambitious” Nationally Determined Contributions (‘NDCs’), representing both a progression and acceleration of national efforts to achieve net-zero.

31. Article 4 of the Paris Agreement commits the Parties to aim to reach the global peak of CO₂ emissions as soon as possible, and Article 4.3 re-states the need for NDCs to demonstrate a progression and reflect the “highest possible ambition”.

32. Parties are due to submit updated, ambitious NDCs in 2020. As at 30 November 2020, 188 Parties had submitted their first NDC to the UNFCCC Secretariat, and only 2 Parties had submitted their second NDC.
The United Nations Environment Programme’s *Environmental Rule of Law: First Global Report* 2019, found that governments’ failure to fully implement and enforce domestic environmental laws is one of the greatest challenges to mitigating climate change, reducing pollution, and preventing widespread biodiversity loss.

United Nations Secretary General António Guterres said in 2020:

“If we are going to limit global heating to 1.5°C, we need to demonstrate, starting this year, how we will achieve emissions reductions of 45% from 2010 levels this decade, and how we will reach net-zero emissions by mid-century.”

In 2019, youth activist Greta Thunberg told the U.S. Congress –

“Don't listen to me, listen to the scientists”.

Scientists have warned the world about climate change for decades. Such warnings are clear and more urgent now than ever before.

**NOW THEREFORE** the youth-led MOCK COP and the young people that it has drawn together from 140 countries of the world, calling upon world leaders who will be represented at COP26 in 2021 to meet the commitments that they made in the Paris Agreement and to endorse these principles, **MAKE THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION** -

**Climate Education**

1.1 Each country shall ensure that all school age children, regardless of how they are schooled, are provided with comprehensive and up to date teaching regarding the climate emergency and ecological crisis. Such teaching shall be adapted to be age and region specific and to give all young people the information they need to enable them to understand the extent, nature and structural causes of the crisis, the measures which need to be taken to substantially address and reduce the crisis and mitigate and adapt to its consequences. Each country shall implement national laws to ensure free access to impartial climate science and data, and provide legal redress against those making false claims relating to the climate emergency and ecological crisis.

1.2 Each country shall ensure that all school age children, regardless of how they are schooled, are given the opportunity to learn about their connection with nature, including (but not limited to) drawing upon the knowledge and practices of Indigenous peoples.

**Climate Justice**

2.1 Each country shall extend legal protection to the rights of Indigenous peoples, including their land, way of life and livelihoods, supporting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of
Indigenous Peoples. Each country shall also implement appropriate and reasonable mechanisms for Indigenous peoples to be recognised as rights holders, such as identity certificates.

2.2 The UN should formally recognise the human right to a healthy environment, including the right to a safe climate. A UN Universal Declaration on the Rights of Nature should also be implemented.

2.3 Each country shall make industrial agriculture, mining and extractive and other polluting industries responsible in law for upholding sustainable practices and complying with regulations regarding full and swift restoration and clean-up, and the rights of their workers and neighbouring communities. Each country shall ensure that new projects are not undertaken that involve clearing residents of their land without informed consent and/or destroying previously protected ecosystems or sensitive zones. To prevent national governments unduly redefining any protected areas, any changes should be overseen by a national scientific advisory board, whose findings should be made transparent to the public.

2.4 Each country shall introduce a law making the wholesale and deliberate destruction of environments upon which humanity depends a criminal offence of ecocide with penalties appropriate to its severity and consequences for humanity, and in addition, shall support the introduction of a new international crime of ecocide capable of prosecution as a crime in the International Criminal Court.

2.5 Each country shall facilitate meaningful and inclusive youth participation in decision-making in all matters relating to the climate emergency and ecological crisis at all levels, including (but not limited to) the setting of NDCs. Methods could include, for example, making information related to current decision-making available via media frequented by young people, youth citizen assemblies, facilitating consultations with youth, giving youth a seat at the table to vote on proposed legislation, creating more job and internship opportunities for youth, and sending a minimum number or percentage of youth delegates to climate conferences such as COP26.

For the purposes of this policy we define youth as people aged 11-29 inclusive.

2.6 Each country shall implement and enforce laws to protect or, if there is existing provision, enhance, the active participation in decision-making of those in society who advocate addressing environmental issues, social injustice and corruption and to protect their safety and their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

**Climate Resilient Livelihoods**

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5 https://therightsofnature.org/
6 www.stopecocide.earth/
7 https://citizensassemblies.org/
3.1 Each country shall develop and implement a National Adaptation Plan and provide the funding, training and resources necessary to enable people and communities to adapt and mitigate as necessary to protect their livelihoods from the consequences of the climate emergency and ecological crisis, including the transition needed to mitigate the crisis. This is not limited to but shall include the provision of re-skilling and entrepreneurship skills programmes in renewables and ecological approaches.8

3.2 The policies and practices of each country and international agencies shall support sustainable agriculture and regeneration of soils and forests. These shall include measures to assist farmers to move away from agricultural practices which are driving deforestation and are harmful to soil health, food security, water quality, water availability and biodiversity, and to substantially reduce chemical use, greenhouse gas emissions and pollution from agriculture. Furthermore, policies shall support investing in plant-based food alternatives and technological innovations such as cellular agriculture, and implementing policies to combat global food waste.

3.3 Each country shall commit to a Green Recovery: plans for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic shall not entrench and subsidise fossil fuel use but shall commit the country to a just and equitable transition to sustainability and the development of low carbon jobs and opportunities.

Physical and Mental Health

4.1 Each country shall ensure a child's right to play, learn, and engage with the natural world by enacting policies to protect and restore biodiversity, such as establishing protected nature reserves, investing in reforestation, and banning mining, logging, and fossil fuel drilling in those protected areas.

4.2 Each country shall ensure safe, breathable air quality by adopting strong regulations on air pollutants that require industry and commerce to significantly reduce emissions and pollution. In addition, they shall implement additional social measures to ensure clean, quality air, including the promotion of pedestrian green zones, affordable and sustainable public transport, and phasing out of internal combustion engines.

4.3 Each country shall provide the necessary funding for child-friendly mental health services, including (but not limited to) the prevention and treatment of eco-anxiety, and the provision of care that directly addresses climate emergency-related stressors. They shall also recognise the particular vulnerability of children to the impacts of the climate crisis in terms of its impact on their health and well-being, and proactively address those impacts, including undernutrition, unsafe housing, and the increased risk of physical and mental ill-health.

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Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

5.1 Each country’s plans, programmes and laws shall be fully aligned with the IPCC’s call to limit global warming to below 1.5°C. The plans need to take all known greenhouse gas emissions into account including land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF), shipping and heavy industry / international flight. Commitments shall genuinely prioritise the radical reduction in Greenhouse Gas (“GHG”) emissions first and not involve offshoring. Any offsetting shall only be done as a last resort and be carried out through schemes that respect the principles of social justice, ownership and fair trade, and countries shall be transparent about their offshore emissions, and clearly state the impacts of their environmental policy on developing country Parties (and in particular on the least developed countries and small island developing States).9

5.2 Each country’s NDCs shall spell out detailed plans and timetables for a whole-of-society energy transition away from coal, oil, gas and other fossil fuels, which includes a ban on future developments of fossil fuel reserves, and a detailed action plan on the sound management of the life-cycle of renewable energy equipment.

Protecting biodiversity

6.1 Each country shall commit to ambitious targets, and the funding and actions to deliver them, for the protection and restoration of at least 30% of land and marine ecosystems by 2030. These must benefit biodiversity, sequester carbon, and ensure the integrity of Indigenous peoples and local communities’ rights.10

6.2 Each country, at a national and international level, shall phase out all non-essential single-use plastics, taking into account the needs of people with disabilities, and introduce a circular system for all materials which promotes reuse and repair instead of single use and continually uses existing ‘waste’ streams to make ‘new’ products, instead of continuing to rely on oil-based or bio-based virgin materials.

AGREED BY YOUTH DELEGATES AT MOCK COP26

01 DECEMBER 2020

[If you are a representative of a UN member state that would like to sign this Declaration, please send an email to the Secretariat for this Declaration at treaty@sos-uk.org and treaty@mockcop.org]

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9 https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs
10 www.cbd.int/
Annex 1: List of countries represented by youth delegates at Mock COP26

Afghanistan; Albania; Algeria; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Australia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahamas; Bangladesh; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Bhutan; Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Brazil; Brunei; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cameroon; Canada; Chad; Chile; China; Colombia; Costa Rica; Côte d’Ivoire; Cuba; Czechia; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Denmark; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Eritrea; Eswatini; Fiji; Finland; France; Gambia; Germany; Ghana; Greece; Greenland; Grenada; Guatemala; Guinea; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Hong Kong; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Japan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Kuwait; Kyrgyzstan; Latvia; Lesotho; Liberia; Madagascar; Malawi; Malaysia; Mali; Mexico; Moldova; Mongolia; Montenegro; Morocco; Myanmar; Namibia; Nepal; Netherlands; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Palestine; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Republic of Korea (South Korea); Republic of the Congo; Romania; Russia; Rwanda; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Senegal; Serbia; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovakia; Slovenia; Solomon Islands; Somalia; Somaliland; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Suriname; Sweden; Switzerland; Syria; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uzbekistan; Venezuela; Zambia; Zimbabwe.
Annex 2: Transcripts of high-level statement made by delegations

A total of 119 high-level statements were made by delegates. Some delegates from different countries collaborated to create joint statements on behalf of a single state or kingdom. For example, delegates from the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Denmark produced a single statement on behalf of Denmark. The high-level statement transcripts are arranged in the same continental groupings that we use on the Mock COP26 YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/c/mockcop26). Through that link you can view all of the below statements in short video format.

1. AFRICA

1.1 Angola

One of the great challenges facing the citizens of the 21st century is the preservation and protection of the environment, with the need to safeguard intergenerational equity increasingly based on a model of sustainable development.

However, as Young Leaders, we must promote values by changing attitudes and behaviours towards climate change in order to prepare the community for the exercise of a conscious, dynamic and informed citizenship regarding the future of environmental issues. To this end, I intend to encourage all those involved in this great meeting, those who will share and learn practical, simple and economical ways to drastically reduce climate change. The methodology applied will be “Network Learning”, a process of developing and maintaining links of people, information and communication in order to support the learning of others or the community.

Like COVID-19, climate change is a risk multiplier, but with a potentially greater exponential effect on livelihoods and human survival than COVID-19, although its impact is at a slower rate than the virus. Almost no substantial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The population, ecosystems and their unique biodiversity will be major victims is WE ARE KNOWLEDGE that the United Nations Environment Programme’s declaration) demonstrates the body’s concern for the continent which contains 54 countries and a population of approximately 1.5 billion.

In sub-Saharan Africa, extreme weather events will make dry areas drier and wetter, agriculture will suffer crop losses, and diseases will spread to higher altitudes. Combating plastic at sea starts with combating plastic on land and combating climate change must always be a priority.

We cannot be in a hurry when we are discussing climate change. We are not in a hurry, but we have another destiny if not with the world.

1.2 Benin

Nous représentons la jeunesse du Bénin, pays côtier d’Afrique de l’ouest situé dans le golfe de Guinée, d’une superficie de 114.763 km² avec une population de plus de 10.000.000 d’habitants. Régi dans le sud par un climat subéquatorial et dans le nord par un climat tropical continental, le Bénin, pays moins avancé, est une économie essentiellement agricole, donc particulièrement vulnérable à la variabilité et aux changements climatiques.

Depuis deux décennies, les régimes pluviométriques caractérisant les climats du Bénin connaissent des fluctuations très marquées au milieu ou à l’intérieur des saisons. Les principaux risques auxquels
le pays est confronté sont : la sécheresse, les inondations, les pluies tardives et violentes, l'élévation du niveau de la mer, l'érosion côtière et la chaleur excessive.

La prise de conscience des enjeux liés à la problématique des changements climatiques, a favorisé l'adoption par les dirigeants béninois, de politiques conséquentes en vue de l'intégration des considérations climatiques dans les plans sectoriels stratégiques du Bénin. Il importe pour nous de souligner aussi l'engagement de la société civile qui à travers les organismes et milliers de jeunes béninois engagés, mène des actions de sensibilisation et d'éducation à l'écocitoyenneté et des campagnes de reboisement.

Mais, chers leaders béninois et du monde entier, convenez avec nous qu'il reste du chemin à parcourir. Nous jeunes, nous nous indignons du constat que sur 197 pays ayant signé l'accord de Paris en 2015, seulement 07 aient mis à jour leurs engagements pour les réaliser en 2019. Nous nous indignons face au faible engagement des pays les plus émetteurs de GES, pour la construction d'une justice climatique et sociale dans le monde.

Nous vous interpellons, vous et toute la communauté internationale à plus d'actions concrètes vue l'urgence climatique et vous invitons à:

- Respecter les engagements de l'accord de Paris et tous les autres accords internationaux ratifiés dans le cadre du développement durable;
- Valoriser les énergies propres dites renouvelables;
- Promouvoir une éducation environnementale poussée et incluse dans les programmes d'enseignement;
- Encourager les innovations écologiques et les solutions basées sur la nature;
- Financer et mettre en œuvre des programmes d'adaptation aux changements climatiques efficaces.

! Pensez à nous et aux générations futures. Agissez maintenant. Je vous remercie !

1.3 Burkina Faso

Délégués distingués, Observateurs de la Mock COP 26, bonjour.

Aujourd'hui la jeunesse du Burkina Faso est à l'honneur à cette Mock COP26, représentée dignement comme le faisait THOMAS SANKARA.

En effet, le Burkina Faso est situé au cœur de l'Afrique de l'Ouest avec un climat tropical sec et humide. Situé dans la zone sahélienne, il a une superficie de 274.472 km², avec une population estimée à environ 20.000.000 d'habitants.

A l’instar des autres pays sahéliens, le Burkina Faso fait face depuis 2009 à de grandes inondations qui affectent ses populations à Ouagadougou et un peu partout dans le pays. En outre, on y constate la rareté et l’insuffisance des pluies dans les régions de l’Est et du Sahel, ce qui entraîne une augmentation de la famine dans ces régions.

Par ailleurs, le gouvernement conscient de ces enjeux, a mis en place des stratégies pour lutter contre le changement climatique. Il s'agit des campagnes de reboisements organisées chaque année par le gouvernement, des associations, etc.

En dehors de l’engagement du gouvernement, ces dernières années ont été marquées par des esprits positivistes au sein de la jeunesse qui voit l'intérêt de contribuer d'une manière ou d'une autre à lutter contre le changement climatique. Elle s'organise en association, groupement pour organiser des journées de reboisement et faire la promotion de l’agriculture durable.
Dans le but de l’amélioration des mesures pour lutter contre la crise climatique, nous suggérons à ce que des lois soient votées pour limiter l’entrée dans le pays des voitures pollueurs. Ensuite, le gouvernement doit révolutionner le transport en commun en mettant des bus à la disposition de sa population afin de limiter l’émission des gaz à effet de serre. Enfin, la mise en place des moyens et stratégies pour pratiquer définitivement l’agriculture durable doit être envisagée. Tout cela réuni contribuerait à lutter contre le changement climatique.

Ne dit-on pas que la jeunesse est le futur leader de sa nation? Jeunesse Burkinabè, jeunesse déterminée, levons-nous, chantons haut et fort le ditanyè et travaillons ensemble pour lutter contre le changement climatique. Le développement durable est la seule option qui nous reste pour vivre meilleur. Vive le Burkina Faso! Pays des Hommes intègres!

1.4 Burundi

Fellow Delegates, Distinguished observers Ladies and gentlemen, It is an honour to represent The Republic of Burundi at this Mock COP26. The Republic of Burundi is a landlocked country in the Great Rift Valley where the African Great Lakes region and East Africa converge. It is bordered by Rwanda to the north, Tanzania to the east and southeast, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west; Lake Tanganyika lies along its southwestern border. With an area of 27,834 km², its population is estimated at 12 million people.

We are already facing the climate change effects like altered rain seasons, drought, as well as floods. Despite all these issues, we recognize all the efforts our government has already undertaken by signing the Paris Agreement and settling concrete initiatives to achieve our National Determined Contributions. Importantly, we recognize also how youth has already taken climate actions from planting trees to waste management.

However, we still have a lot of young people who ignore the climate crisis. And this is why we want to raise once again our voice to tell our leaders to consider climate education at all levels of education. That will promote a generation of leaders in the public sector, private sector and the civil society with climate actions awareness.

As youth from the Republic of Burundi who are already being affected by different effects of climate change, we appeal to all leaders and Governments to take immediate actions. We call on them to get involved youth in their initiatives.

Climate change is real, the science has proved it. It is all about us to make the change. Thank you.

1.5 Chad

Mesdames et Messieurs

La question du réchauffement climatique est une problématique d’ordre mondial avec son corollaire des crises sociales sur les vies humaines manifestées par l’avancée du désert, la sécheresse, la famine et autres calamités.

Mon pays, le Tchad, un vaste territoire d’une superficie de 1,284,000km² est un pays sahélien, avec une grande partie de sa surface désertique et dangereusement menacé par le changement climatique. Bien que mon pays ne soit pas un grand pollueur de l’environnement, il en subit de plein fouet les conséquences compte tenu de sa position géographique.

La variabilité accrue des précipitations, la recrudescence de phénomènes météorologiques extrêmes tels que les sécheresses, les inondations, les vagues de chaleur, les vents violents en sont les
manifestations actuelles. Or, ces phénomènes deviendront de plus en plus intenses et fréquents dans les prochaines décennies. En effet, les aléas climatiques impactent négativement le fonctionnement et la productivité des systèmes agro–sylvo–pastoraux et halieutiques et rendent de plus en plus vulnérables les communautés et les écosystèmes. Face aux défis posés par les changements climatiques, la réalisation de l’émancipation du Tchad à l’horizon 2030, nécessitera de relever ces principales contraintes environnementales par la promotion d’actions d’adaptation et d’atténuation conformes aux principes de développement durable.

La lutte contre les impacts négatifs du changement climatique a été placée au cœur des préoccupations du gouvernement tchadien. En 2015, le Tchad a entrepris, lors de la COP21 de Paris, des actions de plaidoyer pour des initiatives qui concourent à renforcer la résilience des populations sahéliennes les plus vulnérables face aux changements climatiques.

Reconnaissant son extrême vulnérabilité sociale et climatique, le Tchad a signé et ratifié la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques, les protocoles et Accords dont le Protocole de Kyoto et l’Accord de Paris sur le climat et participe activement aux débats intergouvernementaux sur le Climat.

C’est pourquoi face aux risques et défis majeurs liés aux changements climatiques sur les systèmes naturels et humains, le Tchad a initié en 2016 le processus de formulation de la Stratégie Nationale de Lutte contre les Changements Climatique au Tchad dont la vision est d’assembler à l’horizon 2030 une économie plus résiliente au changement climatique et s’inscrivant dans une trajectoire de développement moins émettrice de gaz à effet de serre.

À ce titre, nous exhortons tous les États du monde de traduire dans les faits la transition énergétique pour une croissance verte, une des recommandations de la Conférence des Jeunes (la COY 15) tenue en 2019 à Madrid. Je vous remercie!

1.6 Democratic Republic of the Congo

Salut distingués délégués et observateurs de Mock COP26.

Je suis Jeancy Kangunza, délégué et représentant de la RDC à la Mock COP26.

Aujourd’hui nous parlons pour représenter la jeunesse de la RDC. Un pays de plus de 80 millions d’habitants, un pays riche et diversifié en ressources naturelles. Soit 3/4 de bassin du Congo, avec une vaste étendue de forêt soit le deuxième poumon mondial après l’Amazonie et avec un puits à carbone considérable.

En RDC, l’augmentation de la température a perturbé le cycle de l’eau, soit le dérèglement de saison de pluie avec de forte pluie qui entraîne les inondations, dégradation de sol, les érosions; ce qui réduit la résilience des écosystèmes en occasionnant la perte de la biodiversité, perte de sol et réduction de moyen de subsistance de la population.

Toutefois, il y a l’effort de jeunes en organisant les campagnes de sensibilisation sur le changement climatique. En 2019, Earth Day Network avait lancé la campagne de sensibilisation à Kisangani. Néanmoins, une grande partie de la jeunesse n’est pas mobilisée jusqu’à présent suite à l’instabilité politique et conflit armés et manque de sensibilisation par l’État lui-même. La RDC a eu à construire une stratégie nationale intégrée de REDD+ avec une idée phare de transférer la gestion des forêts aux acteurs les plus en même d’en assurer le contrôle local en positionnant l’État sur la régulation et le contrôle de plans de gestion effectifs, et sur l’appui à leur mise en œuvre. Aussi l’État devrait faire un deal avec la nature en instaurant l’éducation climatique dans le programme scolaire surtout dès l’école primaire.
La jeunesse de la RDC qui est déjà affectée par les effets de changement climatique nous recommandons que notre gouvernement prenne une action immédiate pour faire face aux effets de cette crise climatique. Comme un pays, c'est de notre responsabilité de prendre les actions drastiques et nous mettons en relief que les actions basées sur la science et le réalisme vont grandement améliorer notre nation.

Merci beaucoup.

1.7 Egypt

Ladies and gentlemen. I would like to thank all the delegations participating in Mock COP26 for youth. I am representing the youth of Egypt which is the most populous country in the entire Middle East with a population of more than 100 million inhabitants.

According to IPCC assessment reports, Egypt is an arid country with a huge desert, which makes it one of the most geographically vulnerable countries to climate change impacts. Consequently, these adverse impacts lead to several risks on development sectors such as agriculture, water resources, energy, and health. As increasing the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events have caused disturbance in rainfall and increasing the rates of drought and desertification which cause a threat to our water and food security in addition to increase the sea level rise which threatens our fertile agricultural lands in Nile delta and may lead to inundation of big parts of our coastal zones inhabited by millions of inhabitants and mega projects. Therefore, several studies observed economic, social, and environmental losses which are expected to increase in the future.

The government has been implementing multiple measures in reducing GHGs emissions to tackle climate change, such as establishing new electrical underground metro lines and renewable energy stations such as Benban solar park, in order to produce 20% of our energy from renewable resources by 2022. As well as, projects related to adaptation to protect seashores, Nile Delta and agriculture, etc.

Despite all of these efforts, we still face too many challenges and extreme weather events by which we didn’t cause. However, we are paying most dearly. And according to the ninth and tenth articles of the Paris Agreement on climate change, developed countries shall provide their support to developing countries particularly the African Ones, precisely, provision of finance, technology transfer, and building capacity. In addition, developed countries shall increase their ambitions to reduce GHGs emissions due to their historical responsibility, as pain drugs don’t cure diseases.

1.8 Eritrea

My name is Luwam, I am 18 and I'm from Eritrea but now live in England and go to college. I'm here to talk about the climate crisis in my country. Because it's important to talk about it to make the world aware of the problems faced by my people so that they can help find a solution to their situation. Specifically, I want to talk about water.

In Eritrea we have only 2 seasons when it rains - the short rains in March and April and main rains from late June to the beginning of September. Most Eritreans use rainwater for almost everything. It is now harder each year to find enough water - for the people, plants and animals (so on). You can see that the trees get dry very easily and people just cut the trees for fire to cook food and also to build buildings. People don't have a chance to make buildings or cook with other materials, many Eritreans are poor and live in the villages.

Every year the temperature seems to get higher and we get less rain. Life for my people has always been hard and we have suffered many years of fighting. Climate change is making life for people which has always been hard almost too hard to survive. I hope that people of the world will look at
what is happening in my country and make some changes in the future to stop climate change getting
even worse. Thank you very much for listening.

1.9 Ghana
Distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. My name is Derrick Nyamedi. I have been
nominated to speak on the behalf of the delegation representing the Youth of Ghana. Ghana is a
country located in western part of Africa with a population of 29.77 million as of 2018.

Here in Ghana we have experienced climate change that has increased in temperature, decrease in
rainfall and rise of sea level, which is reclaiming lives, especially with ongoing sea different input in
Keta which is located in this country.

Very content to their REDD+ program which is progressing steadily in the country. And also, we are
very pleased that the second cycle and territory Institution making climate education a part of their
activities.

1.10 Guinea
Bonjour distingués délégués et observateurs de la Mock COP26.

Nous vous parlons aujourd’hui en représentant la jeunesse de Guinée, un pays d’Afrique de l’Ouest
avec une population d’environ 12.5 millions d’habitants.

Ici en Guinée, malgré que le climat est actuellement propice à l'agriculture, avec notamment une
pluviométrie de 1 200 millimètres par an au nord et au nord-est et de 4 000 millimètres à Conakry, la
Guinée est exposée et sensible au changement climatique et ne dispose que de peu de capacités
d'adaptation. Elle est en particulier affectée par l'augmentation des températures, la baisse des
précipitations moyennes annuelles et la modification de la fréquence et de la répartition annuelle des
précipitations. L'élévation de près de 80 centimètres du niveau de la mer est prévue d’ici 2100. Ces
nouvelles conditions climatiques pourraient générer des conséquences négatives pour de nombreux
secteurs. Toutefois, la Guinée devrait continuer à bénéficier de conditions climatiques plus favorables
que ses voisins du Nord et pourrait devenir un lieu de transhumance des troupeaux sahéliens plus
important, ce qui est susceptible de générer des conflits sur l'usage des terres.

Les jeunes de Guinée reconnaissent que l'action globale pour lutter contre la crise climatique n’a pas
été assez forte. Plus de 2000 jeunes prennent part chaque année à des grèves lors de la journée
mondiale du climat dans notre capitale et de nombreuses campagnes menées par des jeunes
demandent un changement.

En tant que jeunes de Guinée qui sont déjà affectés par les effets du changement climatique à cause
de l’avancée du désert dû à l’exploitation excessif des mines, de l’augmentation du niveau de la mer
et de l’augmentation générale de la température, nous demandons à notre gouvernement de prendre
des mesures immédiates et de s’attaquer aux domaines mentionnés ci-dessus.

Je vous remercie!

1.11 Kenya
Hello on behalf of Mock COP26 Kenyan delegates. Kenya is a country in East Africa with a coastline
on the Indian Ocean. It encompasses savanna lakelands and the dramatic Great Rift Valley. Kenya’s
daytime temperatures average between 20°C/68°F and 28°C/82°F, but it is warmer on the coast.
Kenya is too close to the equator to experience a real winter and summer. However, both a dry and wet season are experienced.

Kenya remains vulnerable as our nation is a climate-sensitive economy that relies heavily on agriculture, livestock, tourism, forestry, and fisheries. In East Africa, it is the most disaster-prone country, experiencing major droughts and floods frequently hence affecting food security and water availability. Since early 1900s, the large lakes like Victoria have experienced warming surface waters and deep water temperatures increasing from 0.2 to 0.7°C.

Like many African countries, it is unfortunate that even though Kenya contributes 0.13% of global GHG emissions, it still remains one of the most vulnerable and the least ready country to combat climate change effects. The countries population is made up of over 9.5 million people.

The youths are mobilizing communities and training them on climate change and sustainable ways on how to adapt to rapidly changing weather patterns. Majority have been conducting climate strikes, petitions and campaigns for a better and livable planet.

As Kayan youth we would like that government commits to combat climate crisis through climate justice. That the government initiates developmental projects which do not interfere negatively with our environment. We also want the government to come up with policies which promote inclusivity and protect our ecosystem.

We want the government to work on our Health and Wellbeing by implementing affordable Clean Cooking to reduce over reliance on wood. We also want the government to commit to NDCs to lower and maintain our emissions and ban Lamu Coal Plant for it will increase emissions.

Finally we want our government to introduce environmental education in our curriculum.

However the government is doing some good work, The government is working hard to ensure we attain the 10% forest cover through rehabilitation of mount forest and ewada water kakamega areas. Solar energy has been implemented in larger parts of the country reducing reliance on electricity. With the devolution, counties are more responsible in allocation and use of natural resources, like rivers and forests hence making them custodians of nature.

On behalf of Kenyan youths we call our leaders to commit to climate action plans and give the green economy an upper hand as a way of reducing unemployment and leading youths in sustainable land projects, thank you!

1.12 Lesotho

Greetings fellow delegates, Mock COP26 staff and the climate community at large. We are representatives of Lesotho, a small mountainous kingdom located in Southern Africa, and landlocked by South Africa. The country lies entirely above 1000m in elevation, earning it the name ‘kingdom in the sky’. Covering an area of 30 355km², the population is around 2.2 million, which is equivalent to just 0.03% of the total world population. This is according to World meter UN Data of 2020. The Government of Lesotho and World Bank (2019) estimated that 49.7% of Lesotho’s population lives below the poverty line, and most Basotho depend on natural resources and subsistence agriculture for their livelihoods. Rainfall patterns are largely influenced by seasonal distribution. Summers are hot and wet while winters are cold with very little or no rainfall. Most of the area is covered by land but the negligible amount of water that runs through Lesotho’s rivers is an essential contributor to Lesotho’s economy.

In recorded time Lesotho experiences wet spells which are correlated to La Ninò and dry spells with EL Ninò which characterizes its climate. Wet spells include floods and dry spells, drought and disease
epidemics such as typhoid outbreak. All the spells lead to food scarcity, exotic plant invasion and destructive insects. The changes in climate also leads to deterioration of rangelands, water scarcity, decrease in quality of livestock and livestock products as well as soil quality. The extreme changes are foreseen to affect three most vulnerable elements which help in economic growth and these are: human communities, natural resources and infrastructure.

Lesotho ratified to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) followed by the Kyoto Protocol in 1995 and the Paris Agreement which are the international organizations that help countries to deal with climate change and therefore following the international guidelines, Lesotho is drawing policies on the environment, water management, agricultural reform and energy amongst others. Lesotho has also set out awareness campaigns throughout the country emphasizing the level of vulnerability to climate change and assessing strategies of mitigation and adaptation leading to the development of the National Adaptation Program of Action in 2007. Lesotho also has a National Climate Policy which is meant to provide a framework for ensuring coordinated action and tools needed to respond to the climate change challenge. Analysis of these policies reveals that most of them are bound to assist the country to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Despite the serious predicted impact of climate change, awareness and understanding of the problem seems to be low in Lesotho. The youth is not engaging, not due to lack of interest mainly but simply due to less knowledge and insight. According to the National Climate Change Policy 2017, one of guiding principles to tackle climate crisis is that the policy recognises the important role of training institutions of different levels inclusive of pre-primary, primary, secondary, colleges and tertiary levels in training and education regarding climate change.

The Lesotho National Human Development Report 2015 which aims to leverage the Power of Youth to promote Human Development states that Lesotho is recognised as one of the countries with the rich biodiversity, clean air and minerals which can equally offer a variety of opportunities for the youth. Even though climate change poses a threat to human development, it can also be seen to create opportunities for the youth through climate proofing and adaptation programmes. The report therefore aims to capitalize on the unique bio-heritage and water resources and simulating a national response through environmentally competent youth and further states that this can be achieved through augmenting awareness and education programmes on extinction of species, importance of environmental conservation and adaptation to climate change and development of youth skills across the broad spectrum of environment and climate change. The subject matter of climate crisis is slowing diffusing in Lesotho. In the next few years, there will be greater awareness and an enormous youth participation.

Lesotho should put into action policies that will protect the natural resources so as to prevent air pollution, water pollution and land pollution from the industries. Biggest polluters must be guided by the policies made by the government on how they should emit their wastes or how they ought to dispose of them. Furthermore, air pollution can also be limited by preventing importation of cars that emit a lot of greenhouse gases and the government should enact the law which emphasizes that every car owner services their cars on regular time intervals.

Lesotho is amongst one of the countries recognised to use almost 100% clean national energy and it is committed to improving the percentage by eliminating the use of non-renewable resources and switching to renewable energy resources. Lesotho targets on using electricity generated purely from water and air whilst banning coal and other non-renewables. This implies that if this target is implemented, Lesotho successfully ensures clean national energy.

In conclusion Lesotho needs to act on climate change before it gets out of control. As it is a small, developing country with a low population climate change is affecting the country’s most vulnerable resources which can equally help to improve its economy. The measures undertaken to fight climate
change are not adequate and sufficient therefore as delegates, we represent the entire youth of Lesotho which is concerned about the climate crisis. Our major plea is that our government should enact awareness on climate change across all institutions across all differing levels. In preparation for leaving all the t’s crossed and I’s dotted when it comes to climate change, the upcoming youth should be aware of impacts of climate change in academia.

1.13 Liberia

Hello distinguished delegates, guest speakers, and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of the Republic of Liberia, a small yet great country that lies along the Coast of West Africa with a population of about 5 million which 60% constitute youth.

Here in Liberia, we are already experiencing the negative effects of Climate Change. Increases in global temperature have led to changes in season pattern which affects our agricultural sector, and many of our coastal communities are gradually being lost underwater. This year alone we have experienced more sun than rain and the heaviest thunderstorm that destroyed homes, businesses, and infrastructures. We have also been affected by massive flooding in vulnerable communities along the coast, women and children were highly affected.

The youth of Liberia recognise that global action and financial support to combat the climate crisis have not been strong enough. We that are from the global south have been left behind in access to information, technology, space, and financial support. Based on the lack of information on climate change, many are not aware about this crisis yet they are the ones mostly affected. The few that are informed are raising awareness, building peer capacity, and giving voice to others.

Liberia should start to implement a short term target next year which is to reduce carbon emission by 10% before or in 2030. We are calling on our leaders to END FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES and switch to RENEWABLE ENERGY starting in 2021. We also want every government facility to be powered by Clean Energy not fossil fuel. Additionally, we want a Green New Deal to be adopted by the Liberian Government and be implemented so that our long term target to become carbon neutral by 2050 can be achieved.

Climate education is rare in Liberia and therefore we ask our government to make climate education mandatory for all elementary and secondary students and implement into the curriculum the science on the climate crisis and what is happening, as well as how students can take actions locally, nationally and internationally.

Lastly, we are calling for the establishment of an Environmental Court in our legal system. This will be a means through which our government can be held accountable for their lack of inactions.

As youth of Liberia who are already affected by the effects of climate change through flooding, thunderstorm, coastal erosion, change in season pattern and overall temperature rise, we are demanding that our government take immediate action and address the areas mentioned above. We are impacted by your decision today, as a country it is your responsibility to take drastic action and we have outlined some realistic actions that would greatly improve our nation.

The youth of Liberia will hold you accountable for your decisions you will make at COP26 next year.

Thank you.

1.14 Madagascar

Bonjour distingués délégués et observateurs de la Mock COP26. Nous vous parlons aujourd’hui de Madagascar, une grande île de l’Océan Indien, avec une superficie de 587,000 km², qui compte 25
millions d’habitants. Notre pays est caractérisé par l’existence de cinq régions climatiques, allant d’un climat chaud et humide à un climat de type semi-aride.

Ici à Madagascar, nous ressentons depuis quelque temps les conséquences du changement climatique: il fait plus chaud ces dernières années, même en hiver; les périodes sèches se sont étendues, compliquant l’accès à l’eau potable ainsi que l’agriculture.

Saviez-vous aussi que l’augmentation de la température de l’océan conduit les algues à produire des toxines ? Ces toxines sont assimilées par les poissons, qui une fois ingérées par l’homme sont sources d’intoxication alimentaire.

Plusieurs communautés de jeunes se sont mobilisées à Madagascar car ils reconnaissent le changement climatique comme un fléau à combattre à tous les niveaux. Nous remarquons des initiatives dans la création d’emplois verts par les jeunes comme le recyclage de déchets, la production de charbon écologique, l’agriculture biologique et agro écologique. Les associations, les écoles et les secteurs privés sont actifs en reboisement. Les actions commencent à naître, mais manquent de cohésion.

Réussir à réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre de 14% à Madagascar requiert la coopération de tous. Les appuis à la sensibilisation massive via les mass-médias, à l’instar de la période d’urgence sanitaire pour le Covid-19, sont souhaitables sur l’urgence face au changement climatique, la déforestation et la pollution. En plus, nous ne devons pas dépendre éternellement des financements extérieurs avant d’entreprendre dans les activités qui réduisent les émissions de gaz à effet de serre.

L’exploitation forestière est principalement informelle à Madagascar, et nous demandons donc à notre gouvernement de rendre fluide et transparente la délivrance de permis d’exploitation pour sa bonne gestion. Et soyons efficaces et durables lors des campagnes de reboisement!

Étant jeunes de Madagascar qui supportent déjà au quotidien les impacts du changement climatique, nous demandons à notre gouvernement de mettre en œuvre des actions pertinentes d’atténuation et d’adaptation au changement climatique dans l’intérêt de tous. Quelques exemples ont été partagés ici, qui ont besoin de votre soutien indéfectible, et le sort de notre pays en sera grandement amélioré.

Merci!

1.15 Malawi

Malawi is a landlocked country in Southeastern Africa with spectacular highlands and extensive beautiful lakes, it occupies a narrow curving strip of land along the East African Rift Valley. Malawi’s population is estimated to be about 19,129,595 people with more people in rural remote areas. In Malawi there are two main seasons, the dry season which lasts from May to October and wet season which lasts from November to April and temperatures vary seasonally. They tend to decrease on average with increasing elevation.

I believe that there is no country that is not experiencing the drastic effects of change. Global warming is causing long lasting changes to our climate system which threatens irreversible concerns if we do not act.

Climate change is pushing Malawi further into poverty and the ones being hit most are women. During the past years Malawi experienced a drastic change in climate such that many people were affected by floods and drought which also caused shorter growing seasons, poor crop yields, food shortages and hunger and the spread of diseases where in Malawi 29% of people already live in extreme poverty.
Women’s weak position in Malawian society also means that they have less access to resources such as income and credit and no voice in decision-making, making it more difficult for them to find other alternatives or other sources of income or influence action on climate change in Malawi. People are struggling to cope with the effects of climate change.

Climate action needs to be integrated into all national development planning levels. If we manage knowledge and share information and together we can develop better policies and strategies that consider emerging issues and build the future, we want and the nation we need or would want to have.

By working together, we can leave our planet even better than we found it. As a person you can join in by recycling and reusing paper, if a person cannot recycle nor reuse at least a person can reduce using it especially thin plastics and avoid cutting down of trees carelessly without replacement.

1.16 Mali

Salut chers distingués délégués.

Moi c'est Severin Togo, je suis un activiste climatique et délégué de la Mock COP26 pour le Mali.

Bonjour, moi c'est Adama Sangaré, un activiste climatique et délégué de la Mock COP26 pour le Mali.

Nous nous adressons à vous aujourd'hui pour représenter la jeunesse de notre pays le Mali qui est un pays en voie de développement en Afrique de l'Ouest avec une superficie de 1,241,238km² et avec une population de 20,933,072 habitants. Ici au Mali, comme les autres pays du continent, nous sommes affectés par les effets du changement climatique et nous subissons toujours les pires effets de la crise climatique comme la sécheresse, l'innovation et toutes ces conséquences ont engendré la pauvreté et l'immigration clandestine.

Nous reconnaissons que nos propres activités des 100 dernières années ont largement augmenté la température de la planète. La jeunesse malienne reconnaît que l'action globale pour combattre les crises climatiques n'a pas été assez. Plusieurs jeunes ont entrepris des actions collectives pour lutter contre la crise climatique, il y a beaucoup d'organisations des jeunes qui demandent le changement. Comme recommandations, nous recommandons à notre gouvernement, nous demandons à nos dirigeants de prendre immédiatement des actions urgentes parce que nous sentons déjà les conséquences de vos décisions.

Au niveau de l'agriculture, nous demandons à notre gouvernement de réglementer la production agricole comme le coton qui demande beaucoup de pesticides et l'exploitation du sol et la végétation, aussi de réduire la production du riz dans la zone office pour la bonne gestion du fleuve Niger.

Dans le domaine minier, nous demandons à l'état de revoir le code minier du Mali «sur la période de stabilité de 20 ans», revoir les conditions d'obtention de permis d'exploitation minière, nous demandons aussi au gouvernement la fermeture de certains sites miniers pour non-respect des textes d'application, car les activités minières ont un impact négatif au Mali.

En effet, nous demandons à nos dirigeants de rendre l'éducation à l'environnement obligatoire dans les écoles primaires et secondaires et de mettre en place un manuel scientifique sur la crise climatique. Il est de votre responsabilité de prendre des actions drastiques et nous demandons aussi des actions réalistes basées sur la science qui peuvent largement développer notre pays.

Merci pour votre attention.
1.17 Morocco

Climate change isn’t just words it’s a real thing! I’m Fatima Ezzahra Fattoukh the delegate of Morocco in Mock COP26 and I can’t believe the fact that we are living in a world where young people are striking and working really hard to convince world leaders that climate change isn’t just normal and we must worry about, while they are ignoring the gravity of the crisis.

My home, my country, my continent is literally burning because of you dear Global North countries while no one is acting. We are the victims.

My country; Morocco already knows it will be affected by climate change, it’s just a question of how badly. We are already feeling the effects; observations has shown rising temperatures, less precipitation, and an increase, widening the gap between water supply and demand. These are facts and reality is alarming.

We, as climate change activists are fighting to preserve our past, our present and for a better future. Our voices must be heard and considered. It’s time to act. It’s time to redouble our efforts.

“Earth is what we all have in common.” Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Manal Bidar, I am a 17-year-old climate activist and I’m from Agadir in Morocco. When I was first introduced to climate change, I never expected it to be real and I never imagined that it could put in danger my own future and the future of millions of young people around the globe. Indeed, It seems that the most affected are always the least protected. My country Morocco is for example one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. Moroccan regions are today affected by droughts, floods, heat waves, and etc.

However, my country is also one of the most committed countries in terms of climate action. Morocco was ranked second in the whole world in climate performance in 2019. Morocco has also the largest solar powered plant in the whole world which is Noor in Ouarzazate. Besides, in June 2001, at the initiative of his Majesty the King Mohamed VI and presided by Her Royal Highness the Princess Lalla Hasna, The Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment was established to raise awareness on the environment and advocate for climate action through many initiatives like the outstanding African Youth Climate Hub. Besides, sustainable development was integrated in the highest level of legislation in the Kingdom, which is the 2011 Constitution. Moreover, Morocco was also one of the first countries to ratify and sign many agreements on climate change like the Paris Agreement, The Kyoto Protocol, The NAMA, and etc. Morocco expects today to dedicate 15% of its overall budget of investments into climate change adaptation.

Unfortunately, all of these efforts furnished by my country are still not enough to stop climate change. All of the initiatives and actions led by countries and young people today are still not enough to stop climate change. The speech I am delivering right now will not definitely be enough to stop climate change. This issue requires us to be more united than ever. We are young people, we are the last generation that can end climate change, we can and we will for sure! Thank you for your attention.

1.18 Namibia

Good day fellow delegates and observers of Mock COP26. Today I represent the land of the brave Namibia, one of the most eye-catching diverse countries in the world and number one travel destination.

Namibia is famous for the highest dunes in the world and for the Etosha National Park one of the world’s greatest conservation areas. Namibia has low rainfall and overall lower humidity, we experience winter and summer at opposite time as Europe and North America, our population is estimated in 2.5 million according to UN data.
So far my country has experienced mild effects of climate change mostly regarding our agricultural perspective because of the irregular rainfall, we have experienced a burst of drought that have caused our plants to dry out or received more rainfall that has flooded and drowned our crops.

Most of the people that live in the northern part of my country rely on traditional medicine due to the increase in the effects of climate change, this place stays in use for medication, may face extinction in the near future.

Namibia has the greatest tourist attraction including our beautiful sunset that may be covered by smog that will face consequences.

Earlier last year, Namibian youth stood up together against the leaders slacking in the movement of climate change, Namibian youth demand that cycling should be the main transportation method as it is environmentally friendly. The youth also believe in the importance of awareness campaigns in informing people on the different ways we can contribute on how we take action on climate change such as using biodegradable products and etc.

As mentioned before, our country hasn’t experienced severe impacts of climate change but only mild ones, we as a Namibian nation stand together with the entire world to help fight and reduce the carbon emission that is entirely destroying our world. Let us take action today, let us help plant more trees, let us use biodegradable materials to save our planet and let us stop climate change.

1.19 Niger

Bonjour distingués délégués et observateurs de la Mock COP26.

Représentant la jeunesse nigérienne, le Niger a un climat tropical sec avec une population de plus 17.7 millions habitants et d’une superficie de 1,267,000km² dont le ¾ est désertique. Pays enclavé et confronté aux effets du changement climatiques dues à l’augmentation de la température mondiale, entraînant ainsi des inondations dans plusieurs régions, une crise alimentaire causée par la sécheresse etc.

Ainsi, convaincu de l’impact du changement climatique, des milliers de jeunes ont participé à des grèves et des marches pour le climat dans notre capitale (Niamey), de même que des nombreuses campagnes menées par des jeunes exigeant le changement.

Selon les perspectives prises à la COP21, le Niger devrait améliorer ses objectifs de développement à faible teneur de carbone pour rester en dessous de 1.5°C dans le réchauffement

Au Niger l’éducation climatique est rare et nous demandons donc à notre gouvernement de faire l’éducation environnementale à tous les niveaux éducatifs et intégrer dans le programme, la science sur la crise climatique pour que les jeunes puissent savoir comment agir face à la crise climatique au niveau local, national et international.

En tant que jeune d’ un pays (Niger) déjà affecté par les effets du changement climatique dont les fortes pluies causant des inondations, sécheresse et l’augmentation de la température allant de 47 à 48°C. Nous exigeons que notre gouvernement prenne des mesures immédiates et aborde les domaines mentionnés ci-dessus.

En tant que jeunes, nous ressentons très fortement les conséquences de vos décisions, donc il est de votre responsabilité de prendre des mesures drastiques. Toutefois, nous encourageons les efforts déjà fournis dans la lutte contre le changement climatique.
1.20 Nigeria

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of Nigeria, a tropical country on the Gulf of Guinea with an estimated population of over 205 million individuals.

In Nigeria, we are presently experiencing the adverse effects of climate change. Increased global temperatures have led to rise in sea levels around our coastal areas, flooding which has led to loss of lives, properties and fisheries investments, drought and desertification which has led to land degradation, communal/herder/farmers conflicts, and loss to agriculture industry resulting from extreme weather conditions.

The Nigerian youths are aware that global actions to combat the climate crisis have not been strong enough. Up to 10,000 youths are taking actions to solve the climate crisis through concerted efforts to achieve the universal goal of averting climate emergencies.

Nigeria should update/formulate and implement new climate policies and laws, sponsor projects and scientific researches that will ameliorate climate crisis, support global climate agreement to achieve net-zero carbon dioxide emissions, introduce compulsory climate education in academic curriculum at all levels and provide support to climate organizations and affiliations. The Nigeria government should include youths in all key decision making processes concerning climate governance/issue at all levels.

With the surge in Nigerian CO\(_2\) emission over the years and its attendant contributions to climate change, Nigeria youths are continually faced with challenges such as rise in sea level and temperature, natural disasters, perpetual communal clashes, food insecurity, etc. We are demanding that Nigeria government take immediate actions to avert these crises and reposition Nigeria on the climate global map.

We hope that Nigeria not only wake-up to her responsibilities but also her continental role as the giant of Africa to champion the course of climate change to ensure a prosperous and sustainable continent. Thank you.

1.21 Republic of the Congo

Bonjour à tous les délégués et observateurs de la Mock COP26, je m'appelle Legran Plavy, je suis le délégué qui représente la République du Congo. La République du Congo est un pays situé en Afrique centrale avec une population de plus de 5.5 millions d’habitants. Le Congo fait partie de la région du bassin du Congo avec la RDC, la RCA, le Cameroun, le Gabon et la Guinée équatoriale. Les forêts du Congo à savoir la forêt du Mayombe au sud et la forêt équatoriale au nord couvrent près de 65% du territoire. Ces forêts abritent plusieurs espèces protégées comme le chimpanzé, le gorille et l’éléphant et sont également l’habitat des populations autochtones appelées les pygmées ou Baka.

Le Congo fait face à de graves problèmes environnementaux, dans les grandes villes Brazzaville et Pointe Noire la pollution de l’air, la pollution des cours d’eau et de l’océan par les déchets plastiques, l’érosion et la consommation de la viande des espèces menacées tel que le chimpanzé, le gorille et l’érosion sont des problèmes majeurs. Les forêts du pays sont en proie à la déforestation causée par l’industrie minière et l’exploitation forestière; outre la déforestation ces activités ont pour la conséquence: la pollution de nombreux cours d’eau, la prolifération de maladie telle que le paludisme dans les villages, la destruction de l’habitat de plusieurs espèces menacées et la mise en danger des populations autochtones. Récemment durant la saison des pluies de terribles inondations se sont produites à travers le pays, l’année dernière plus de 300,000 personnes ont été touchées et cette
année durant le mois de Novembre plus de 80,000 personnes sont touchées. Le gouvernement a même décrété l’état d’urgence humanitaire.

Ces dernières années, la jeunesse congolaise a lancé plusieurs initiatives via des associations et des festivals pour sensibiliser la population sur la protection de l’environnement. Des associations comme Kintuenia, Green B service, la fondation l’Envol et les Mamans du Mayombe, des festivals comme le festival de la mer, le festival To Sangana et le festival de la mer. De plus, des ONG internationales telles que Rénatura Congo, ESI Congo et WCS Congo n’hésitent pas à impliquer de jeunes volontaires congolais dans leurs projets de conservation communautaire.

Selon les accords de Paris le Congo a prévu de réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre du pays de 55% d’ici 2035 nous espérons que le gouvernement congolais tiendra ses engagements. De plus, nous souhaitons que l’éducation à l’environnement soit incluse dans les programmes scolaires et pour finir nous espérons que le gouvernement du Congo travaillera de concert avec sa jeunesse pour trouver des solutions aux problèmes environnementaux du pays car notre avenir en dépend.

1.22 Rwanda

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. I’m Leonard Iyamuremye from Rwanda. We speak to you today representing the youth of Rwanda, a small and beautiful nation, also called country of thousand hills with a population about 12 million people.

Here in Rwanda, we are very privileged that we are not yet seeing the worst effects of the climate crisis except few consequences like; flood,drought,land slide, but we can see our brothers and sisters in other nations already suffering. We recognise that our own activities over years ago, such as mining and industry, have contributed greatly to the rise in global temperatures and will stay if unstopped wisely.

Youth of Rwanda recognise that global action to combat the climate crisis has not been strong enough. More than 100 young people took part in climate strikes in our capital city in September 2019, and there are many youth-led campaigns demanding change.

Rwanda should improve its target of being carbon neutral from 2020 to 2050 to align with the science to stay below 1.5°C in warming. Additionally, Climate education is rare in Rwandan primary and secondary Schools and therefore we ask that our government make climate education in schools’ curriculum and communities knowledge sharing on climate crisis.

As youth of Rwanda, we see the consequences around the world from the high carbon emissions our countries are emitting. As a developing country, our country has a responsibility to mitigate and adapt to climate change in every action and strategy used while seeking ways of stepping forward for developing, by empowering climate friendly project and nature based solutions and continue being an example of other African countries in having green cities.

Moreover, improving climate crisis and environmental education and climate activism especially in young people should be the key to success. Thank you.

1.23 Senegal

Hello, My name is Mamadou Sylla. I am a young environmental advocate from Senegal. My name is Maureen Damen, and I am a 16 year-old climate activist from Senegal and we are youth delegates from Senegal.
Located in the West side of the African continent, Senegal does not escape from the horrendous effects of climate change. At the economic level for instance the driving sectors of the economy are still struggling to take off. Agriculture and breeding are the principal victims of climate change.

In many regions near the coast, like in Saint Louis, people live in constant fear because of the acceleration of sea progress, sea level rise and eventually coastal erosion with its many consequences: loss of economic activities, loss of homes, displacement often in bad conditions and sometimes even a psychological shock.

In the regions of Fatick and the Casamance, the growing phenomena of the salinisation of lands is another threat to the ecosystem and a huge blow to the economic development of these areas. These consequences are just the tip of the iceberg. Many other sectors including tourism, health, social are still affected by climate change.

In our country, women and children are very impacted. It is growing inequalities, health problems and migration. A gleam light from the chaos is that the Senegalese youth is very dynamic and addresses the problem through many ways: e-activism, focus on environmental education, awareness, reforestation campaigns and lobbying to politics.

Yet, the youth lacks support from politics and government. We still have hope and we want our government to face the climate emergency now by adapting a climate education system, by empowering more renewables energies, by rewarding and promoting green industries and projects.

We think that solidarity, togetherness, and fairness are core values to overcome the current global climate crisis. There is a pressing need to change mentalities and tackle issues of today and tomorrow. We can achieve this only through education. Therefore we call on nations worldwide to invest in eco-citizenship and global citizenship education; an education which insists on ethics and the core values that bond us together all as beings. In the same perspective, We continue demanding climate justice now. One other step to reducing inequalities and building a sustainable world is to ban the currently visible neo-colonial gaze. Obviously, countries from the Global South often give more than they receive in global negotiations. We advocate for fair cooperation on eye level.

We are in this together. We should sincerely and fairly act together. We are optimistic and we have hope. And we believe that leaders from around the world will tackle the climate crisis by adapting and facing the climate emergency.

1.24 Somalia

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of Somalia. Somalia is a country located in the horn of Africa with a population of 15 million.

Here in Somalia, we are already experiencing the effects of climate change. Increased global temperatures have led to increased sea levels around our coastal area. Floods, frequent drought, unexpected rainfall and locusts are some of the impacts of climate change in our country. This has caused shortage of food and water which has caused conflict between communities to compete over the little resources.

The youth of Somalia are trying their best to address climate change issues in their country as well as the region. Youth organizations such as Somali Greenpeace Association have trained more than 300 young people to what climate change is and their impacts. They also planted trees and have done advocacy campaigns to address climate change issues in the country and globally. The response of our elected leaders were encouraging but not doing enough to empower young people.
Somalia should improve its target of being carbon neutral from 2050 to 2030 to align with the science to stay below 1.5°C in warming. Additionally, a Green New Deal should be adopted by the Federal Government and be implemented. Climate education is rare in Somalia and therefore we ask that our government make climate education mandatory for all elementary and secondary students, and implement into the curriculum the science on the climate crisis and what is happening, as well as how students can take action locally, nationally and internationally. We strongly urge our federal government of Somalia to implement its national adaptation policies.

Somalia has committed to:

- Sustainable Land Management to Build Resilient Rural Livelihoods and Enable National Food Security;
- Integrated Water Resources Management to Ensure Water Access and Supply to Vulnerable Populations and Sectors;
- Reducing Risks among Vulnerable Populations from Natural Disasters;
- Rehabilitation of Fanoole Hydro-Electric Dam and Irrigation Infrastructure;
- Domestication of Indigenous and the Introduction of Economically Important Plant Species;
- Marine and Coastal Environmental Governance;

As youth from Somalia, we see the consequences climate change impacts such as flood, drought and natural disasters. We encourage our government to adapt Sustainable Land Management to Build Resilient Rural Livelihoods and Enable National Food Security.

In conclusion, we encourage national leaders to adapt resilience plans for the country. Also demand from developed countries who are the main polluters to reduce their carbon emissions and stay under 1.5°C.

Thank you.

1.25 Somaliland

My name is Mohamed Ahmed Aqli. I am a climate activist and I am a Somaliland delegate to Mock COP26. Somaliland is located in the horn of Africa particularly near to Djibouti, Ethiopia and Somalia and its population is around 4 million. The climate condition is hot and dry with less rainfall and regular drought.

In humanitarian situation in Somaliland has become increasingly fragile towards the end of 2016, especially in the Awdal, Togdher and Saxil regions when severe drought hit, killed 70 percent of areas livestock, devastating the regions pastoralist economy and forcing tens of thousands of families to flee their grazing, their farming were failure and nearly 1 million people needed humanitarian particularly farmers and pastoralists (60% of the population) according to Somaliland authority. In May 2018 Sagar cyclones hits the coast of Somaliland particularly Awdal, Saxil, Sanaag and Marodijex regions causes a lot of destruction of people’s property, farms, livestock, homes, many deaths, many were displaced and over hundred of people were rendered homeless according to Somaliland Authority. Crop and livestock losses are widespread, increased biodiversity loss, increased rural urban migration and water shortages common in Somaliland and this is a reality evidence of climate change.

In my country the youth are less taking climate action because they are not understanding the climate crisis going in the country due to lack of knowledge about climate education except a few climate activists like me taking climate action such as climate education, environmental awareness and planting trees.

We want to see global leaders to tackle the climate crisis in my country to reduce carbon emission of their countries, funding clean development mechanism and supporting climate change adaptation
initiatives in my country and we need to see a government environmental protection such as planting trees.

Finally, Somaliland is a climate crisis brought drought and flooding that leads to loss of thousands of lives. We must now begin taking action to address the impact of climate change on Somaliland, Africa and around the world.

1.26 South Africa

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of South Africa, a country that is located at the Southern tip of Africa with a population of about 59 million people. South Africa is a relatively dry country. Rainfall usually occurs during summer, although in the southwest around Cape Town, rainfall occurs in winter.

In South Africa, we are already experiencing the effects of climate change. South Africa experiences drought due to delayed rainfalls and decreasing dam levels. Both the inland and coastal areas of South Africa are affected by floods.

Although South Africa is affected by climate change, it is also the largest emitter of CO\textsubscript{2} in Africa, and it is amongst the 20 largest CO\textsubscript{2} emitting countries worldwide. South Africa depends heavily on coal for energy, and this contributes to GHG emissions.

The youth of South Africa recognizes the impacts of climate change and are taking action. In June 2019, hundreds were protesting in Johannesburg and Cape Town. They were demanding urgent action on climate change from the government.

Yola Mgogwana is a 12-year-old South African. She is based in Cape Town and led a strike of more than 2000 children outside the parliament. The strike was against the lack of action from the government regarding climate change.

The South African government should commit to its climate plan to address waste management. The government wants to reduce the amount of waste going to landfills by 40%. We are all aware that human activities such as pollution are the biggest drivers of climate change. Along with protecting our water sources, the government needs to focus on protecting areas of ecological and climate stabilisation importance. This means protecting wetlands, oceans and rivers in order for a sustainable future.

South Africa is one of the biggest emitters of CO\textsubscript{2} in Africa and as a means to combat this the government should consider strategies such as increased intra-regional trading, this will reduce CO\textsubscript{2} that is emitted through means of trade. South Africa should resort to using renewable resources to generate energy instead of burning fossil fuels to generate energy. In a country where wind and solar generated power could be utilised in many regions, it is a serious change that needs to be implemented. South Africa’s emissions are planned by 2025 and 2030 and should be in a range between 398 and 614 Mt CO\textsubscript{2}–eq, as defined in national policy – however, we have not seen that shift as of yet. This needs to be addressed.

Moreover, the government of South Africa should provide food and shelter to people who are displaced due to climate change conditions. Climate change migration within South Africa is an issue that the government must address. The government should also provide the necessary tools to help those in need – this includes secure shelter, jobs, and food. Our country needs social justice to achieve climate justice.

As the youth of South Africa, we are demanding that the government take immediate action and address issues that affect the people and nature due to climate change. We are already affected by
conditions such as floods, drought, rising sea levels, and a rise in the temperature. We have outlined actions that you can take to ensure that our country is implementing strategies that will benefit all citizens. We have given you the areas that we need you to address. It is now your responsibility to take drastic action.

1.27 Tanzania

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of the United Republic of Tanzania, based on East Africa with a population of 59,73,218 people which is equivalent to 0.77% of the total world population.

Here in Tanzania, we are already experiencing the effects of climate change. Include higher temperatures, more flooding and droughts, and a rise in sea level and threatens agricultural production and livelihoods for millions of Tanzanians.

The youth of Tanzania have been able to joining environmental organization and participating various governmental, non-governmental, school or community programs and projects against climate change; joining clean-up drives at school, beaches and community; participating in tree planting and go green activities; garbage picking and recycling; bringing environmental awareness virtual and real to people of all ages. And more than 1000 young people took part in climate strike in 2020, and there are many youth-led campaigns demanding change to mention a few are Earth day network, Tanzania youth biodiversity network, Raleigh international. And the response to elected officials and leaders has been too small since they didn't take seriously the issue of climate change.

Basically Tanzania should take climate change seriously and address the climate strike in a policy level so that it will be easy to implement climate action. However climate education in Tanzania and therefore we ask that our government make climate education mandatory for all elementary and secondary students, and implement into the curriculum the science on the climate crisis and what is happening as well as how students can take action locally, nationally and internationally.

Moreover, the government should observe the constitution of the country and address the provision of the environment (meaning that to address the right to a safe and clean environment). Additionally leaders should provide support to youth activists and NGOs that deal on climate action.

As a youth from Tanzania who are already being affected by the effects of climate change through high temperatures, more flooding and drought, rise of sea levels, threat of agricultural production and livelihood, we are demanding that our government take immediate action and address the areas mentioned above. We feel the consequences of your decision today. As Tanzania it’s your responsibility to take drastic action and we have outlined some realistic and science based action that would greatly improve our nation.

1.28 The Gambia

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26! I am from the republic of The Gambia, a country in West Africa. with a population of 2.4 million and a tropical climate with distinct dry and rainy seasons. The Gambia like many other countries is experiencing sea level rise and research has shown that the city would completely submerge by the end of the century. Responding to the climate and ecological emergency is of existential concern to us.

The youth of this country have been taking decisive actions to combat climate change. From participating in tree planting, wetland restoration, organizing climate strikes, raising awareness in remote places of the Gambia to responding to emergencies in value for human life to help eradicate poverty and hunger in the hardest hit areas.
Gambia should improve its target of providing renewable energy to most Gambian households by 2030 to align with the science to stay below a 1.5° degree Celsius of warming. Gambia should also improve in its conservation and preservation of biodiversity by engaging in massive forest restoration projects and putting a stop to industrial fishing.

Climate education in the Gambia is very low and as delegates from The Gambia we want our government to implement climate education as a core subject in the school curriculum to help youth equip themselves in building a more sustainable future.

As delegates from Gambia, a country which is primarily low-lying and a 1m rise in sea level could potentially deluge over 8% of the country's land area. We are demanding that our government take decisive action to combat these challenges and to do more to prepare this country with the challenges ahead. We ask world leaders, especially big polluting countries, to commit to their climate pledge under the Paris climate agreement inorder to protect countries at risk of sea level rise.

1.29 Tunisia

Tunisia’s status, like the rest of the countries in the South of the world, is threatened by climate change, and we are witnessing its effects every day. Although we were not a major contributor to global pollution, heat waves are strong and have a negative impact on many sectors such as agriculture and water resources, which threatens our food security.

The intensity of floods increases every year which makes the infrastructure more vulnerable.

Climate change threatens the security of the Tunisian citizen. YFCT is the first youth-led environmental movement in Tunisia, which makes it a unique novel notion for the public.

Youth For Climate-Tunisia discusses politics with governmental representatives, unlike many environmental youth-led organizations, the aim of which focuses on society. Youth For Climate-Tunisia has also introduced the term “climate justice” to the Tunisian youth as well as their rights to a better future. Most importantly, however, Youth For Climate-Tunisia has demonstrated the lack of Tunisian climate policies, especially those agreed upon in the Paris Agreement. Youth For Climate-Tunisia addresses politicians and governmental figures in a straightforward and direct way.

The movement also creates a bond between climate justice and social justice as they are both interdependent, and demonstrates how the climate crisis is proportional to all forms of discrimination.

Acknowledgement of the seriousness of the impacts of climate change in Tunisia must be recognized by the leaders of the country in order to accelerate serious climate action to protect current and future generations.

The Tunisian youth demands of foreign countries to consider the extent to which these impacts harm us. Developed and developing countries that contribute most to global warming must start putting into practise their climate policies and achieve their sustainable development goals. We demand of foreign countries to reduce carbon emissions. We demand an international plan, the aim of which is to reach 0 emissions by 2025-2030.

Because, at this rate, coral life and plant life are going extinct, oceans and marine ecosystems are dying, plastic is running through our veins, and the Antarctic and Greenland ice are melting at an inhumanely fast rate, and this will harm the future of the next generations.
**1.30 Uganda**

In Uganda, climate change has affected people negatively in many ways, that is to say, it has led to displacement of people from their homes through floods. It has also led to rise of water borne diseases like cholera, typhoid among others which has burdened the health sector. It has also led to loss of lives through landslides for example in Kasese, Western Uganda. It has also affected the people economically in that people who mostly depend on agriculture as their source of income has a lot of effects upon them like losing their crops through floods, which has also brought famine in some parts of the country.

To some extent, it has also brought rise to domestic violence in that men who mostly get incomes from farming are frustrated since they cannot provide needs for their families which makes them resort to drinking alcohol and later go back home and beat their wives. There is a high cost of living as food is scarce and the food prices increase. Children miss out on class as they travel long distances to look for water. Girls can even be raped on the way. Early marriages of girls and early pregnancies as parents marry off their children just to get dowry and food to eat or a place to stay as homes are destroyed by floods.

The youth in our country are taking climate action by organising peaceful strikes like “Fridays for Future”, for example Nakate Vanessa, our sister. The youth also install eco-friendly stores in schools, also sensitize girls in schools about how to handle climate actions and organising tree planting campaigns in school.

We would love to see global leaders for the following in our country; Face the climate emergency now and treat this as a crisis. We want them to shut down the fossil fuel industries like Vanessa says, we cannot eat coal and neither can we drink oil.

We want global leaders and decision makers to add climate action to study to syllabus, strengthen laws to govern the ecosystem and increase funding in climate activism.

What we want to see global leaders do in other countries includes the following; we want them to organise international tree planting days, we want the world decision makers to face the climate emergency and do more concerning educating the people about climate through climate action.

**1.31 Zambia**

Greetings distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of Zambia, a landlocked country that lies in the central position of southern Africa. Zambia is already experiencing the impacts of the climate crisis. Increased global temperatures which have led to drought, dry spells and flash floods. Less rainfall as a result of climate change has also led us to experience power shortages on a daily basis due to the country’s dependence on hydroelectric power and high demand due to industrial plants. However, the youth of Zambia recognize that global action to combat the climate crisis has not been strong enough which has brought about many youth-led campaigns demanding change.

Zambia notes with great concern that threats posed to our socio-economic development by climate change are increasing in frequency, intensity and scale. Yet, despite the clear evidence, the collective efforts of the international community to address this challenge continue to lag behind the desired ambition that has been guided by the latest developments in science. It is against this scenario that Zambia put forward an ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution to make a practical and moral
contribution to the global goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and maintaining the 1.5 degrees Celsius average global temperature rise.

The Government of Zambia has created a policy environment that allows both state and non-state actors to take actions on mitigation and adaptation through the NDC implementation plan. The Government of Zambia has also embarked on formulating climate change legislation to provide a legal framework for climate action in the country and strengthen efforts of various players to achieve meaningful outcomes.

Growing up as youths in Zambia, we learnt about climate change after completing high school through documentaries on television and our own independent research. Our current school curriculum does not cover the climate crisis nor does it raise much awareness on climate change mitigation and adaptation methods. We feel climate education is important because it will help young people understand and prepare them to adapt to the adverse impacts of the climate crisis at an early stage. It will empower learners to take appropriate actions to adopt more sustainable lifestyles at an early age. We hereby appeal to the government to make climate education a priority and included in the Zambian school curriculum.

While Zambia is still pursuing her aspirations on socio-economic development, it is mindful of the need to maintain a healthy environment in order to achieve sustainable development. As climate change affects agriculture and food security, it makes it difficult for children and people living with HIV/AIDS to meet their special nutritional needs. Thus, their health deteriorates and their wellbeing is affected.

Contribution of Zambia’s GHG reduction with scenarios for limited and substantial international support implementation of the domestic efforts with substantial international support is conditional upon strong commitment of international climate, bilateral and multilateral finance in addition to provision of domestic resources.

As a minimal contributor to global GHG emissions, Zambia places significant importance and priority on adaptation to the effects of climate change in order to enhance the resilience of its population, ecosystems, infrastructure, productive and health systems. Areas of concern that Zambia sees as gaps in achieving desired results on climate change: Countries like Zambia are not receiving adequate financial technological and technical support to match the level of ambition.

National capacities to meet reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement remain low. The procedures and modalities for accessing support, particularly funding to implement climate change programmes remain daunting and a serious bottleneck to developing countries.

The uncertainty in the carbon market under the Paris Agreement has so far not helped send a positive signal to the private sector to leverage their meaningful participation. Zambia therefore calls for these negotiations to place urgency on concluding on outstanding matters for the operational of the Paris Agreement and demonstrate commitments towards supporting developing countries’ NDCs as we approach the 2021 milestone.

1.32 Zimbabwe

On behalf of the delegation of Zimbabwe, we would like to thank all countries present today for coming together to tackle the climate crisis. Zimbabwe is a landlocked country located in Southern Africa with a population of just over 14 million individuals.

Zimbabwe has been adversely affected by climate change in the agriculture, water, energy and health sector. It is of great importance to note that Zimbabwe is an agro based nation and agriculture is a major economic enabler. Zimbabwe used to be the breadbasket of Africa but this is no longer the case
the sector constitutes 60-70% of employment and about 19% of GDP. In this way, the sector provides a major source of livelihood for over 70% of the country’s population.

The impacts of Climate Change on Agriculture cannot be overemphasized for it has contributed to food insecurity issues, malnutrition resulting in death. It is clear to see that the world's poorest communities are the hardest hit by climate change and Zimbabwe has not been spared.

According to the meteorological services of Zimbabwe, since 1987 the country has experienced its six warmest years on record. This has seen the country experience extremes of weather over the past two decades.

Climate change has the potential to undermine many of the positive developments made in meeting the Global Agenda. The 2019 natural disaster - Cyclone Idai saw farmers in eastern Zimbabwe who were already affected by drought face another natural disaster.

According to the UN, the cyclone was one of the worst weather catastrophes in the history of Africa and plunged millions of Zimbabweans into further food insecurity. We cannot separate climate change from human rights issues, this can be seen through the aftermath of Idai which saw a loss of livelihoods, identity rights and health effects due to a loss of clean water sources.

Our National Commitment is to reduce our GHG emissions by 33% per capita by 2030. The country through the Government of Zimbabwe with support from UNDP under the Climate Promise project has started working on its ambitious revised goals. This process has been inclusive from the beginning where youth, women, people living with disabilities have been engaged. We continually seek for meaningful youth engagement and support with the implementation of projects that are measurable in the achievement of our national goals. Sector targets to be highlighted in our renewed NDCs are: Energy Sector, Agriculture Forest and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Waste, Industry and Process sector, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Zimbabwe’s access to Climate Finance (GCF project) and Youth Climate rights.

In support of article 6 Action for Climate Empowerment youths are taking climate action through capacity building activities, policy review, research, advocating and collaborating with the government for cleaner production and resource efficiency.

Climate change adaptation is of key concern as we have low adaptive capacities. We call for help in adapting to the changing climate so that everyone gets justice since the ones least responsible for contributing to climate change are the ones being greatly affected.

We call on the Global North leaders to assist developing nations with the finance and technical capacity to move away from fossil fuels and have a just transition leaving no one behind. The youth of Zimbabwe call on the government to continue joining hands with us to achieve climate justice.

Zimbabwe applauds all countries that are part of this momentous occasion. We urge all leaders to see the youth as partners and act with us for the good of our continent, develop laws that are sustainable which perceive the environment, people and the economy as interdependent. Thank you.

2. AMERICAS

2.1 Antigua and Barbuda

Hello fellow delegates and observers of Mock COP26; we bring you warm Caribbean greetings from our beautiful twin island home of Antigua and Barbuda – where the beach is just the beginning. As a small island developing state that is highly driven by tourism – our population of just about one
hundred thousand people remains forever vulnerable both economically and environmentally to the negative effects of climate change.

We are constantly faced with the threats of record breaking hurricanes; devastating flooding, prolonged drought conditions and even increasing global temperatures that have given rise to blooms of sargassum seaweed that overwhelm our coastlines annually – all of which have forced business closures and increasing social hardships across our communities.

However the conversation we are having today isn’t a new one – is it?

Our leaders have been talking about ways to combat climate change for a number of years now and as youth living in Antigua and Barbuda; we do recognize and continue to support our nation on the steps that we have and continue to take to combat climate change. We are very proud to be one of the first countries within our region to ban single use plastic bags and styrofoam products. Additionally our government has committed to reducing carbon emissions and promoting green practices within our society.

While these initiatives are all great – WE CAN AND MUST DO BETTER! Especially if we are serious about achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

So we wish to use this opportunity to not only call on our government but on all leaders around the world to prioritize climate education – so more people can understand just how important climate action is needed and the ways in which we can all play our part by taking personal responsibility to ACT NOW for the future! Thank you.

2.2 Argentina

Distinguished delegates and observers, we address you today representing Argentina, a country located in the south of Latin America with a population of 45 million inhabitants. As a peripheral country, we are the first to suffer the consequences of the climate crisis. Due to our population’s vulnerability, our country is not prepared to protect its citizens and territory against climate change. This year, the consequences of the climate crisis have been devastating. We’ve suffered massive forest fires, caused by the expansion of the agricultural frontier and the increasingly prolonged droughts enhanced by climate change.

Our reality is not casual, it’s causal. Multiple species have gone extinct because of deforestation, and there are more climate refugees every day. The climate crisis is also a social crisis, and the most vulnerable are the first ones to face its consequences.

Despite our government’s lack of interest, there is a part of society that has been firmly taking action and communicating the urgency of the social-climate situation: the youth, who are leading the social and climate movement in the country.

Based on the progressive rise of the global temperature, the climate crisis should be an unquestionable priority. We are the generation that put the climate debate on the agenda, and the fight will not be over until we achieve all our goals.

In the Paris Agreement, governments pledged to limit temperature rise below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. However, Argentina’s proposal is shameful: it allows for an increase of 100Mt CO₂ in its carbon emissions by 2030 compared to the 2014 emissions. If every country followed our lead the global temperature would rise 4°C by 2100.

In the next year, Argentina must present new goals and advances. To carry out the goals of the Paris Agreement, we demand our national representatives:
An energetic transition, to stop depending on fossil fuels;
To reevaluate our food production system: local and seasonal production and consumption, as well as the reduction on the use of agrochemicals;
To pass and make effective environmental laws that protect the population, arrange the territory and regulate the use of land.

We need developed countries, who are the biggest issuers of greenhouse gases, and world leaders, to help us economically, to remain in line with the Paris Agreement and help us mitigate the impact of climate change in our country.

We are experiencing and witnessing the effects of the climate crisis. We demand that all governments take action to mitigate and reverse the effects of the climate crisis. Stop telling us, the youth, that we are the future, and continue doing nothing now. The moment to act is NOW, otherwise, there will be no future to protect.

2.3 Bahamas

Good day to all distinguished delegates and viewers of Mock COP26. I, Leandria Albury alongside my co-delegate, Ken-Reesha Price, are delighted to join you all here today in this initiative #ForTheYouthByTheYouth to highlight the ongoing global climate crisis, an issue we are both very passionate about. We are ecstatic to be a part of this event and are proud representatives of the beautiful sunny isles of The Bahamas. Our voices are lifted in unison today to speak on behalf of the youth of The Bahamas, an archipelagic nation of over 700 beautiful islands and 2,000 cays with a population of approximately 400,000.

The Bahamas, as a Small Island Developing State, faces a host of infrastructural challenges that are heightened by our climate issues. Although we contribute to less than 3% of the world’s Greenhouse Gas emissions, our geographical location and makeup, as well as our small land mass causes us to face the brunt of climate problems caused by Global Warming. Bahamians grapple constantly with threats of land mass loss as a result of increased sea temperatures that melt ice caps and raise sea levels which causes land regression of our low-lying islands. Conversely, increased frequency of intense hurricanes in our yearly hurricane seasons threaten our livelihoods by destroying our already fragile ecosystems. These intense tropical cyclones such as hurricane Dorian leave a path of destruction that we, the Bahamian people, constantly must fight against to secure our economic and social well-being.

Staring down the barrel of a stark environmental future, the youth of our nation have begun to rally together to usher in the dawn of a sustainable Bahamaland. They have undertaken many initiatives to meet this target. This includes starting projects such as the 100K tree planning initiative which aims to sequester our carbon emissions. Additionally, individual schools within The Bahamas have begun to adopt climate education curriculums on the advice of students of these institutions. These curriculums allow schools to build in organizations, clubs and groups which are a part of spreading educational awareness on the urgent matters of climate crisis, protection and reformation of ecosystems, sustainable living, and climate justice. Finally, as seen here with myself and Ken-Reesha, there are many Bahamian youth, too numerous to name, that are putting themselves front and centre in the development of critical climate policy, a forum where youth were once shut out.

Though we the youth of The Bahamas have come a long way in tackling climate related issues, there is still a long road ahead of us before we see substantial change within our country’s actions. Today, we are here to share with you some of the changes we would like to see implemented in The Bahamas in order to see the radical change needed to secure our future. We would like to see the Bahamian government increase its involvement in raising awareness of the climate crisis, promote
local research and data collection around the effects of climate change and re-evaluate our current climate policies to ensure that they are on track to achieve outlined goals.

As youth of the great Bahamland who are already being affected by climate change through sea level rise, an increase in natural disasters and overall temperature rise, we are urging our Government to take immediate action and address the areas mentioned above. We feel the consequences of your action or inaction, will be a great determinant to how effective The Bahamas' response to climate change will be. We have outlined some realistic and science-based actions that would greatly improve our nation and allow us to continually move “Forward, Upward, Onward Together”.

2.4 Belize

Greetings distinguished delegates and observers of the Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youths of Belize; a small developing country in the Central American region, sharing borders with Mexico, Guatemala, and the Caribbean Sea. Our population of over 400,000 is a rich combination of cultures that span across our humble 8,867 square miles with a 60% forest cover, the largest within Central America and the Caribbean. Belize has a subtropical climate with wet and dry seasons, and temperatures range from 74°F to 84°F. Despite yearly variability in weather, changes imposed by climate change is altering weather patterns.

Given our geographic location, we are directly exposed to the imminent threats of climate change. Considered one of the most affected by weather related events, further global contributions to climate change can quickly escalate the effects of climate and disrupt the environmental, social, and economical aspects of our nation. Presently, the hurricane season is catastrophically active. Belize, although not directly impacted, is on the verge of enduring surreal effects. The cataclysmic flooding has led to the displacement of people and livestock, and caused extensive damage to infrastructure. Altogether, displaying the fragility of our country when mother earth retaliates against the injustice being imposed upon her.

Upon contemplating what our future holds, with the elevated impacts of climate change, Belize is expected to suffer major losses in agriculture, fisheries and tourism industries. The present and future of our local farmers, fishermen and people who are dependent on these sectors are now uncertain. From a holistic approach, climate change has impeded the development of the social, economic, and environmental sectors.

In light of the effects of climate change, limited action is being undertaken to effectively mitigate and build the resilience towards climate change. The government alone cannot overcome this humongous threat. As such, many youths have taken the torch to bring awareness to the issue and recruit others to aid in the battle of environmental justice. However, it is crucial that unwavering support and meaningful dedication be expected from the local, private state and international partners to ensure that the foundation of these initiatives are firmly set to adapt and mitigate climate change.

What young people want leaders to do to combat the climate change crisis is to revamp the following resilience mechanisms: (1) Educational Awareness Programs, (2) Financial Funding, (3) Stringent Policy: Implementing strategic policies that will monitor our carbon stock emission whilst enforcing laws that regulate carbon emissions. It is our desire, as youths, that leaders safeguard the place we call home, to feel safe that our futures are amongst the highest priorities of the state. Finally, we ask that leaders be consistent with the overall growth and sustainable development of our country.

The Belizean population is equivalent to only 0.01% of the total world population.

Comparing geographic size, Belize, a small country with relatively minor contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions have a lot to lose. As we grasp the surreal reality of climate change, we
must demand change and hold all countries accountable to their policies for lowering their GHG emissions. Ultimately, on behalf of the Belizean young people, we ask all world leaders to cease all political gain, individualism, and exploitation of our natural resources for economic gain and understand the severity of the issue and work together for a brighter and sustainable future. After all, you owe us this much. Thank you.

2.5 Bolivia

Distinguides delegades y observadores de la Mock COP26: Hoy hablamos en representación de las juventudes de Bolivia, un país situado en el corazón de Sudamérica, que debido a su topografía accidentada alberga importantes, complejos y delicados ecosistemas caracterizados por su mega biodiversidad.

Bolivia, históricamente, es uno de los países que en términos de emisiones tiene una responsabilidad muy baja, sin embargo, es el segundo más vulnerable de la región y el quinto menos preparado para enfrentar y reparar los daños y pérdidas del cambio climático, reflejado en su incapacidad de gestionar desastres naturales, como los incendios en tierras bajas. Sin embargo, en nombre del Derecho al Desarrollo, las políticas de crecimiento económico, el urbanismo, así como la expansión de la frontera agrícola y ganadera, ha ocasionado que el modelo de desarrollo del estado boliviano se plantee abiertamente extractivista. Como consecuencia, la gestión de los ecosistemas es pésima, reflejándose en procesos agresivos de sobreexplotación y una alarmante deforestación. Por otro lado, estas prácticas extractivas que contaminan y consumen absurdas cantidades de agua, tienen efectos en el proceso de regeneración de lluvias en la región. Hay evidencia científica que afirma que la época de lluvias va empezar más tarde y durará cada vez menos, incrementando no solo el estrés hídrico sino también los eventos climáticos extremos; afectando a 2/3 de la población, si no a la totalidad del país.

Los esfuerzos para tomar acciones por el clima desde la juventud en Bolivia son dispersos, tanto por la etapa de consolidación y la heterogeneidad de los sectores que la conforman. No obstante, uno de los más grandes hitos a nivel nacional, fue la primera LCOY, que abrió un espacio independiente a más de 700 jóvenes. El reto que enfrentamos es la inclusión de sectores más vulnerables y menos representados, como pueblos indígenas y comunidades rurales, quienes muy pocas veces tienen la oportunidad de participar y levantar la voz para avanzar hacia una transición justa e incluyente.

En muchas ocasiones, las políticas de desarrollo bolivianas muestran una total desconexión con su sociedad y la evidencia científica disponible. Las resoluciones consensuadas durante la LCOY, reflejaron la preocupación por: impulsar un cambio en la matriz productiva y buscar alternativas a la dependencia de la extracción de minerales e hidrocarburos; proporcionar información periódica y más transparente respecto a las metodologías de cuantificación de emisiones de Gases de Efecto Invernadero; apoyar, incentivar e incluir el trabajo de la comunidad científica, de la sociedad civil, y sectores vulnerables en la toma de decisiones; y por último generar espacios de participación para la incidencia nacional e internacional de les jóvenes.

Bolivia a pesar de no ser un país históricamente responsable de las emisiones causantes de la crisis climática, tiene la responsabilidad de iniciar un proceso de transición justa para conservar y proteger especialmente sus frágiles ecosistemas y proteger a su población más vulnerable. Como jóvenes reclamamos acciones climáticas más contundentes, y ser incluides de manera más efectiva en este proceso.
2.6 Brazil

Distinguished delegates, representatives and observers of Mock COP 26. We speak to you here as representatives of the Brazilian youth. Located in the global south, it is home to 6 biomes and more than 305 Indigenous ethnicities.

The climate crisis in Brazil is caused mainly by the degradation of biomes and by the lack of socio-environmental policies aligned with nature, popular demands and with the goals that were defined to curb it.

In the energy sector, there is little investment in clean and renewable energy, and several incentives to the fossil fuels sector and to hydroelectrics, which generate a high environmental cost.

The agriculture and husbandry sector is based on large-scale properties (latifundium) of monocultures for exportation, often carried out on stolen public lands and traditional territories, generating major conflicts over land. Land use changes, driven by deforestation and agribusiness, continue to be the largest responsible for greenhouse gases emissions in Brazil, with 72% of the total.

The current government's disbelief in science and climate change allying the dismantling of the environmental area (decrease in the Ministry of Environmental, funds for inspection, etc.), resulted in a 9.6% increase in Brazil’s gross greenhouse gas emissions in 2019, investing in measures that go against the Paris Agreement and that paralyze Nationally Determined Contributions.

Brazilian youth is and has always been synonymous with fight and resistance. All around the country, young people come together in groups that seek to bring a plurality of views and attack the injustices of the climate crisis with social cuts, fighting against governments that seek to diminish and invalidate our voices in discussions and decision-making.

Environmental racism goes beyond the rural scenario and invades the urban, affecting minority populations in a disproportionate, inhuman, and unconstitutional way. We believe that there is no environmental justice without social justice and that it is not possible to separate one struggle from another.

Thus, national leaders must seek to implement laws, investments and public policies that can really combat the socio-environmental crisis that we are experiencing.

In the field, we want small and medium-sized, agro-ecological and low-carbon productions that respect the diversity of native seeds and the preservation of the soil and promote the security and food sovereignty of the people.

In cities, we want the implementation of environmental education in public and private networks, fair urbanization projects, with safe housing and universal basic sanitation, urban gardens, popular fairs and healthy school meals.

In industries, we want polluters to be held responsible through tougher regulation, fines and taxes according to their carbon consumption, and this amount should be returned to the country in the form of a fund for the preservation and mitigation of environmental damage and an energy sector that invests in solar and wind energy.

We want preserved and restored biomes, resumption of public lands, demarcation of indigenous and traditional territories, an increase in preserved and reforested areas, with carbon credits for a standing forests economy.

Regarding the global leaders, we do not want just beautiful words and promises, we want action. We want leaders from developed countries to think of the most affected regions and not of themselves, recognizing their role to guarantee a world with less division between the global south and north.
Therefore, we want the voices of diversity to be heard so that we can make actual sustainable progress. Being a youth that resists and fights, we do not accept the statement that “we are the future”. We are active citizens today and we represent the present’s fight so that there even is a future.

2.7 Canada

Hello, today we represent the youth of Canada in the fight for climate justice.

Here in Canada, our country is warming at twice the rate of the global average and three times the global average in Northern Canada. On average, wildfires in Canada burn 2.5 million hectares a year which is double the 1970s average. The ice melting incredibly fast in Northern Canada can be blamed on land surface temperatures increasing by 3.6 degrees over the last 70 years. Although these disasters affect all Canadians, the majority of the impact is felt by marginalized communities, specifically Indigenous peoples.

Since 2018, there have been a huge number of student climate strikes in Canada, with the largest happening in September 2019 when 900,000 people participated. Strikes took place across the country, in every province and territory, and in hundreds of cities and towns, both large and small. From the huge numbers we saw at those strikes, and others before and after, it is clear that young people want to see meaningful climate justice, and expect our leaders to deliver.

Climate Strike Canada is the overarching network of students, young people, activists, and allies that connects all of the climate action surrounding the Canadian youth environmental movement. Some of the recent actions Climate Strike Canada participated in were Shut Down Canada 2020, the Not Going Back Campaign, and the Take-Back Canada Campaign.

In September of this year, Canadian university and college students formed a coalition called the Divest Canada Coalition to pressure Canadian educational institutions to fully divest from the fossil fuel industry. The coalition demands not only full divestment but that the funds be reinvested in sustainable and just alternatives by 2025. We want to see the following from the Canadian government:

- Implement a Green New Deal which is a rapid, inclusive, and far-reaching transition to slash emissions, meet the demands of the crises we face, respect the rights of Indigenous peoples, and create over 1 million green jobs.
- Implement a Just Recovery which is a united global response to this COVID-19 pandemic that ensures a just recovery and transition to a better future for those most in need in the wake of this crisis.
- Phase-out of all fossil fuels. It is vital that Canada do this as soon as possible. An immediate end to fossil fuel subsidies should be the first step, followed by phasing out all fossil fuels, including oil, coal, and natural gas. This should be completed by 2030 at the latest.
- Implement climate education. Adding the climate crisis and climate-related mental health issues to the education system is important as children have the right to know that their future is in danger and we can’t let kids grow up sheltered from that reality.
- Implement an Ecocide law. This would make mass destruction of the environment a crime, which would safeguard climate policies, and mean there is no way for corporations to continue their destructive practices. A crime of ecocide is vital to stop the future destruction of the environment in the coming years and decades. Canada should lead in the introduction of this, both domestically and at the international level.
Overall the Canadian government needs to get on track to hit or exceed the 2020 and 2030 emission targets. We call on world leaders to (listen to the science) and (treat the climate crisis like the emergency it is).

2.8 Chile

Estimadas Delegaciones de la MOCK COP 26, Equipo organizador y Sociedad civil: Como Delegados Juveniles de la Conferencia en línea MOCK COP26 y en representación de las juventudes de Chile, queremos agradecer de ser parte de este evento a nivel mundial y por la confianza en las voces juveniles.

En segundo lugar, creemos que es nuestro deber resaltar la deuda histórica de las últimas Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático (COP) respecto al compromiso y desafío que tenemos con la actual Crisis Climática y Ecológica. Además, resaltando como constante interferencia la inacción por parte de los países con mayor contribución en las emisiones globales y la falta de trabajo colaborativo en las naciones.

Hacemos un llamado a la futura delegación de nuestro país como a las demás a nivel mundial a la escucha de las juventudes y de los pueblos originarios en la COP26 en Glasgow, además de la acción en base a pilares centrales como la ambición, la inclusión y la cooperación donde todos los compromisos acordados se alineen con los actuales requerimientos de la sociedad civil a nivel local, nacional y global.

Permitiéndonos como país mitigar nuestro impacto, preocuparnos de las consecuencias del cambio climático que podamos sufrir, la explotación de nuestros recursos, de los pueblos originarios, de las actuales y futuras generaciones. Además, de la transición a un modelo de desarrollo sostenible incluyendo a todos los actores de Chile.

A partir de lo anterior, creemos firmemente que se necesitan abarcar las siguientes temáticas como país en la COP26:

1. Participación y voz juvenil
2. Participación sociedad civil en su conjunto.
3. Constitución ecológica
   i. Justicia ambiental e interregional.
   ii. Acceso a la información.
4. Agua.
5. Derechos humanos
7. Deuda con los países del sur global.

Finalmente, ser enfáticos en los compromisos con la región de Latinoamérica y el Caribe respecto a la mejora de las políticas públicas, el derecho a un desarrollo sostenible y la mayor democracia ambiental, Además destacamos nuestro especial interés en el trabajo cooperativo para la presión de las naciones con mayor nivel de emisión a escala global, potenciando la generación de nuevas propuestas que logren el cumplimiento de las NDC de Chile y de las partes, respondiendo así a la necesidad que tenemos como país ante la urgencia climática.

2.9 Colombia

Colombia es el país más biodiverso por kilómetro cuadrado del mundo. En un área que representa sólo el 0,7% de la superficie terrestre, albergamos alrededor del 10% de la biodiversidad del planeta, y además, 14 de cada 100 especies encontradas en nuestro territorio no se encuentran en ningún
otro lado del mundo. Existen 91 tipos de ecosistemas que regulan el clima local y global, fundamental en el contexto del cambio climático, y de los cuales alrededor del 50% se encuentran en alguna categoría de amenaza.

Si bien Colombia no contribuye en gran medida a la producción de gases de efecto invernadero, esta sí se ve afectada por ellos. Lo vemos en ejemplos como el derretimiento acelerado de nevados y glaciares; pérdida de diversidad biológica, afectación de población tanto rural como costera, devastación de páramos con pérdida de fuentes y cursos de agua; incremento de deslizamientos e inundaciones; mayor desertificación e incidencia de fenómenos climáticos extremos; y, reducción de la productividad agropecuaria. Precisamente en los últimos días, el 98% de una de las Islas más representativas del Caribe Colombiano, fue arrasada por el primer huracán categoría 5 que golpea las costas de nuestro país, esto dejando en evidencia la falta de planeación territorial y la incapacidad de adaptar nuestro territorio, por parte de las autoridades, al cambio climático.

El cambio climático golpea a las poblaciones más pobres y, por ende, las más vulnerables del planeta. Los países en desarrollo tendremos que pagar cerca del 75% de los costos del impacto del Cambio Climático, a pesar de que la mitad más pobre de la población mundial es responsable de solamente el 10% de las emisiones de dióxido de carbono. Somos las y los jóvenes colombianos y en general del Sur Global quienes comprobamos y viviremos estos estragos, ya que, más del 80% de los jóvenes del mundo vivimos en países en vías de desarrollo. Estas marcadas diferencias con el Norte hacen que nuestra prioridad de cara a las consecuencias de la crisis climática sea la adaptación a ella, para que no ahonde mucho más en nuestras profundas brechas socioeconómicas.

Las juventudes en Colombia tenemos el reto histórico de construir una sociedad en paz, que no solamente supere los estragos producidos por más de medio siglo de conflicto, sino que también, supere los estragos que se han producido y se producirán gracias a esta crisis climática ¡Somos la última generación que puede hacer algo al respecto! De la misma forma, exigimos que se nos garantice el ejercicio seguro de escucha de nuestras demandas y no se ponga en riesgo nuestras vidas, somos el país mas peligroso del mundo para ser un líder socioambiental.

Consideramos que la COP no ha representado las necesidades del Sur Global, como Colombia, mientras tanto los responsables de la crisis climática se han beneficiado moderando el debate. Las cualidades de países como Colombia dejan claro que nuestra mayor exigencia debe encaminarse a tener mayor ambición en términos de adaptación, sobre todo con los y las jóvenes del sur global presentes.

Somos hijos e hijas de la guerra y herederos de la crisis climática. Pero seremos quienes cambien el destino que nos quieren imponer.

2.10 Costa Rica

Costa Rica is a Central American country with a population of roughly 5 million people. Is worldwide recognized for their leadership in environmental actions. Despite their small territory, it has 6.5% of the global biodiversity. 98% of the country’s electricity comes from renewable sources, leading the way of biodiversity conservation through protected areas and strategies of forest restoration, is the first tropical country to have stopped and subsequently reversed deforestation.

Our goal is to achieve Zero net emissions by 2050. Despite our efforts, due to our geographical position in the global south, we suffer the impacts of climate change firsthand. People already burdened by poverty and those highly dependent on agriculture and fishing are the most affected. According to a 2013 National Geographic report, the Osa and Nicoya Peninsula will disappear completely because of the melting of the poles. In the last month, the country has been victim of
collateral damage provoked by two hurricanes that primarily affected rural settlements and coastlines, and devastated the central American region, taking human lives and causing severe economic losses.

Internally, we have our own challenges, the congress has delayed the ratification process of the Escazú agreement just when our society demands access to adequate and reliable information, along with more and better opportunities to participate in a meaningful way in the decisions that affect us. We struggle with environmental problems that directly affect our communities. Lack of clean technologies, poor management of urban waste and monocultures without sustainable practices, are contaminating water sources and causing illness to the population. In fact, Costa Rica is the largest consumer of agrochemicals in the world per cultivated land. The European Community is still selling us pesticides that have already been banned in their own countries.

Regardless of the massive vulnerability to climate change hazards, it is the powerful and influential minorities with particular economic interests that are trying to establish extractivist practices such as oil and gas extraction, mining and bottom trawling, justifying itself in the creation of employment in the face of the urgency of economic reactivation.

According to the Costa Rican commitments regarding the Paris agreement (NDCs) all climate and environmental policies must be based on human rights, risk reduction, use and improvement of technology, and the adaptation to ecosystems and communities with emphasis on vulnerable populations, assuring gender equality and an effective citizen participation in negotiation and decision-making processes.

However, there is still a gap between these commitments and the political decisions when economic reactivation becomes a priority without taking into account that the worst consequences of environmental deterioration, whether they be economical, social, or well being related, will increase poverty.

Last year at COP25, given the lack of consensus on Article 6 and carbon markets, Costa Rica promoted the San Jose Principles, avoiding double counting and banning technologies that are incompatible with reducing emissions, regrettably they did not include a direct human rights approach. In this regard, young people urge the government to develop mechanisms to link the climate issue to the economy and social development, starting with facilitating the political participation of affected populations with the guidance of expert and multidisciplinary specialists.

Therefore, it is necessary to build a country plan that prioritizes the mainstreaming of environmental actions in all productive, economic and social processes as a Human Right. Invest in clean energy alternatives, environmental education, promote green and blue economies as well as models of circular economy; and foster food sovereignty that ensures the livelihood of communities in a healthy environment. We need effective citizen participation in demanding new policies that leave no one behind, putting people at the center of climate action ensuring a just transition to a new climate economy.

2.11 Dominica

Distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26, today I proudly represent the youth of Dominica, a small tropical island in the Caribbean with a population of 72,050 people. The Kalinago, the Indigenous people of Dominica make up about 2% of that population.

Here in Dominica, we are already experiencing the effects of climate change. Increased global temperatures have led to more intense storms, with more rainfall. In 2015 an entire village was displaced due to major landslides during a tropical depression. Two years later a catastrophic hurricane ravaged our island. Hurricane Maria caused the loss of approximately 226% of GDP. Our
tourism industry is under threat, as is the fisheries sector. Dominica is known as The Nature Isle of the Caribbean and for most part that is always considered.

The climate is a common topic on youth led media programs as we strive to increase awareness of the changing climate. The Dominica Youth Environment Organization (DYEO) is however the only national youth-led environmental organization in Dominica. In collaboration with other NGOs, DYEO coordinates events and programs aiming to encourage and enhance the involvement of youth in the preservation of the natural environment. On August 14th 2017, the Non-State Actors (NSA) of Dominica met at a workshop, organized by the DYEO in collaboration with the NSA Advisory Panel to deliberate on the Impact of Climate Change. Dominica was also represented at the COP24.

The government of Dominica has accepted that climate change is real and under the Climate Resilient Act committed to establishing an executive agency, “the Climate Resilience Execution Agency of Dominica (CREAD)” in order to rebuild Dominica as the first climate resilient nation in accordance with a single Climate Resilience and Recovery Plan.

Dominicans are aware of climate change and the youth would like to call on the government to:

- mandate all national works executed to remain in congruence with the obligations of the UNFCCC and to establish a system of reward for the various sectors in compliance.
- promote and finance appropriate education programs in schools on climate change and build an information center with relevant data.
- set up a multi-faceted commission to map out strategies, develop white-papers and create an enabling environment for gathering and disseminating information on national developments relating to climate change.
- give support to entities involved in Climate Change endeavors and continue to promote projects that will reduce the use of fossil fuels.
- To adhere to Cotonou agreement.

We have established that climate change is real now we need to move quickly in order for plans for reducing the impact of climate change to be effective.

2.12 Dominican Republic

Cordialmente saludamos a todos los delegados y observadores del Simulacro de COP26. Venimos en representación de la juventud de la República Dominicana, nación ubicada en una exuberante isla tropical del Caribe, compartida con Haití, con una población de aprox. 10 millones de personas. La crisis climática es un fenómeno global. Shukla y colaboradores (2019) demostraron que las actividades antropogénicas que implican un cambio de uso de la tierra para la agricultura y la avicultura/ganadería han contribuido al aumento de la erosión y desertificación de la tierra, las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero y, como consecuencia, un aumento de la temperatura global a partir de dichos gases.

A nivel nacional, el uso insostenible de recursos, con prácticas como la pesca intensiva, la silvicultura disfuncional y la agricultura han contribuido a los efectos sobre el cambio climático.

En República Dominicana, el análisis de Vulnerabilidad al Cambio Climático muestra que el 40% del país tiene niveles de vulnerabilidad que van de alto a muy alto. Esto puede afectar severamente a la población, con eventos como mayor frecuencia de tormentas, riesgo de inundaciones, olas de calor, sequías severas y la aparición de enfermedades y virus emergentes.

La juventud de Rep. Dom. ha dado pasos importantes para combatir el cambio climático. Las acciones de reciclaje, gestión de residuos y uso de materiales de bajo impacto se han incrementado a lo largo de los años. Los jóvenes, a través de algunas iniciativas, han contribuido a aumentar la
resiliencia de las comunidades vulnerables, que viven en zonas de mayor exposición a los efectos del cambio climático.

Esperamos que nuestro gobierno reduzca la inequidad para aumentar los medios de vida y la resiliencia de las comunidades vulnerables en áreas con niveles más altos de exposición a los efectos del cambio climático.

El cambio climático es nuestra verdad y nuestro presente, y también lo es la juventud. Como generación de acción y cambio, podemos decir que nunca es demasiado tarde para tomar las ruedas de la sociedad y conducirla hacia un futuro más sostenible.

2.13 Ecuador

During the last decades, Climate Change has located us in a historical moment without precedents and in this complex challenge, education is the goal. Moreover, we request to push up a deep research to know how to face the crisis of our territory as well as we need to have a constant updating and democratization of solutions for this problem to be a tool of the sustainability and regeneration pathways. We also need a pedagogical innovation to generate consciousness about the consequences of Global Warming. Generate curiosity about the nature around us and interest in this climate emergency to promote the transformation of our actions to the future.

NOW, Because of the general crisis and progressive way of CC we try again to create a dialogue circle for exposing our claims because of Population demands and the world and Ecuadorian scientific forum to take measures to regulate and benefit the human communities influence decreasing in CC. This initiative about the CC, and the societies, and the ecosystems is called “Climate Justice”. Climate Justice says we must allow a deal between 1st world nations with higher pollutant and greenhouse gases production levels because of scientific and research data that allow us to understand the physical evidence in undevelopment countries. Through the scientific talent and information of local territories we can explain and argue the progress of greenhouse effect (f. ex. Glacials decreasing in Andean mountains, species displacement to higher heights because of higher temperatures).

Indigenous people and nationalities have close ties to the earth and for thousands of years have managed to protect it in an impressive way, however, climate injustice and racism have brought intolerable facts with them. Many communities have been forced to abandon their lands with no date of return. And if immediate reforms that guarantee social justice are not proposed, none of the facts will change. In this sense, we demand the protection of the human rights of environmental defenders. Ecuador is a country with great biodiversity and with political and citizen commitment. We can be a benchmark in the fight against climate change. Education and climate justice must be the engines of transformation with an education for transformation and a science-based and strategically planned energy transition. Promoting a transition from the extractivist economy of the Global South towards a more bioethical economy and respecting diversity and human rights. We will make it.

We will be tireless in the fight to achieve a more humane and ecological world.

2.14 Grenada

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. I am Raheem and this is Renatta. We are pleased to join you today to represent the youth of the beautiful tropical island of Grenada, located in the South Eastern Caribbean sea with a population of 112,000.

As a Small Island Developing State Grenada is faced with real and severe negative challenges of climate change which has placed a burden on the country’s economy for at least 20 years. Water and food security, coastal issues and natural disasters have already affected Grenada. By 2050 it is
projected that our Capital, our Airport and our main beach will be underwater. In 2004 Grenada was plagued by the devastating impacts of Hurricane Ivan. Destroying homes, damaging infrastructure and obliterating our agriculture, this hurricane wrecked our country’s economy. Many of our export crops such as nutmeg were destroyed. The financial cost of Hurricane Ivan caused over 200% of the country’s GDP in damage and destroyed 90% of homes. Imagine if 90% of Scotland was destroyed in a 24 hour period and damages cost 200% of their GDP. We are bound to the motto 1.5 to stay alive.

The effects of climate change in Grenada affect the entire island, thus international climate action is essential for us. For our Nationally Determined Contributions, Grenada has committed to reducing 40% of 2010 GHG emission by 2030. Thus the GOG, with youth input and advice, should concentrate on tackling the following areas:

1. Take the initiative to reduce fossil fuel consumption and carbon emissions by following through on our NDCs in areas of renewable energy.
2. Commit to prioritizing environmental sustainability in our developmental process.
3. Proper implementation of a system to strengthen the country’s water supply against drought.
4. Insist on substantial financing assistance from international institutions in order to be able to effectively carry out these essential initiatives.

The Youth in Grenada are starting to rally and call on our leadership to urgently address these needs because they will affect our future quality of life. Our youth has taken the initiative to participate in project proposal writing workshops, climate resilience workshops, climate debates, and climate strike just to name a few. We believe we have done the best we can, given the resources we have. Now we are asking our government to step up and give us the spaces we need to become a significant part of the conversation. Young people around the world, we need your help to advocate for change, we need your support to make your governments and world leaders understand what is happening in countries like Grenada. We cannot do this alone. We need you, our allies, to fight for our right to continue to safely live on our beautiful island.

As the youth of Grenada, we have, already in our short lives, seen the effects of climate change. We call upon the incoming President for the COP26 to help guide the negotiations so that we in the Caribbean can stay alive. Thank you.

2.15 Guatemala

Honorable delegates and observers of the Mock COP26.

Hoy les hablo en representación de las juventudes del País de la Eterna Primavera, Guatemala. Un país con millones de habitantes ubicado en América Central. Es pluricultural, multilingüe y con diversidad de recursos naturales. A pesar de ser un país lleno de hermosos lugares turísticos, animales exóticos y que cuenta con 360 microclimas, compuesto de la topografía, humedad, temperatura, altitud, luz y cobertura vegetal de sus diferentes territorios; es un país con poca conciencia ambiental.

Guatemala es uno de los países más vulnerables a los efectos del cambio climático. Se encuentra en los primeros lugares de asesinatos de los defensores del medio ambiente según Global Witness. Un ejemplo de esto es que en 2018 Guatemala quintuplicó el número de asesinatos.

Actualmente se conocen 29 casos de conflictos ambientales relacionados con megaproyectos turísticos, extracción de petróleo en áreas protegidas, eccidios, monocultivos, centrales hidroeléctricas, mala gestión de residuos, conflictos industriales, así como conflictos por la biodiversidad y conservación que atentan contra la degradación del medio ambiente.
No es nada nuevo que en Guatemala existan muchos grandes proyectos que han violado los derechos humanos y las condiciones de vida de muchos guatemaltecos. Podemos mencionar dos de los muchos casos: la resistencia pacífica “La Puya”, en la que desde 2012, las comunidades mayas Kaqchikel de San Pedro Ayampuc y San José del Golfo se han opuesto a un proyecto de extracción de oro por el cual no fueron consultados y por el cual muchos se han encontrado deficiencias y errores en la Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (EIA). Otro caso es la criminalización de Bernardo Caal, líder indígena maya q’eqchi’, quien ha sido encarcelado injustamente durante dos años por liderar la defensa del territorio frente a proyectos hidroeléctricos que han traído violencia, pérdida de agua, biodiversidad y medios de vida de las comunidades de Santa María Cahabón, Alta Verapaz.

A nivel internacional, Guatemala es considerada como región de reserva ecológica, además ocupa el Segundo Pulmón de América como mayor productor de oxígeno después de Brasil por sus extensas Selvas tropicales. Las diferentes comunidades que abarcan grandes áreas geográficas, poseen la más grande biodiversidad genérica de América Central que proveen servicios ecosistémico y absorben grandes cantidades de carbono en beneficio de la humanidad.

Por eso hoy le exijo al Gobierno de la República de Guatemala el actuar ante las condiciones climáticas que afectan el país, tomar medidas inmediatas basadas en la ciencia y abordar las áreas mencionadas anteriormente. Además la protección de los pueblos originarios y su reconocimiento estatal, pues son ellos quienes son los guardianes de la madre tierra, además exigimos la ratificación del Acuerdo de Escazú y su implementación en las leyes internas del país.

Como delegado de la juventud guatemalteca esperamos que nuestro gobierno comience a aceptar esta responsabilidad y actuar. Gracias.

2.16 Guyana

Guyana, is about 215,000 sq km in size and lies on the northern shore of South America. Considered a Caribbean country due to its historical, political and cultural ties to other countries in the caribbean, Guyana sits firmly in South America and is bordered by Venezuela to the West, Brazil to the south, Suriname to the east and the Atlantic to the north.

Guyana is considered a net carbon sink due to low carbon emissions and vast areas of virgin forests. This however, does not prevent us from feeling the impacts of climate change. 80% of Guyana’s population and our entire agriculture sector is on the low coastal plain, which sits several metres below sea levels. This puts Guyana at risk of flooding and frequent inundation from overtopping. The youth movement in Guyana is a very critical component in the fight against climate change. More young people are becoming cognisant of environment and issues of climate change. There is still work to be done. The next frontier is to understand, for Guyanese, the long term effects of certain actions for the climate and the environment. Luckily, the leaders have promised to tackle issues of climate change, biodiversity, land and environmental degradation.

Guyana has made tremendous strides in the fight against climate change, with the implementation of the Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS), we have secured substantial amounts of resources from the Norwegian Government for activities to reduce our greenhouse emissions. However, this might not be enough to create a climate resilient economy. With financing specifically for climate action, we can improve on our MRV system, not just for the forestry sector but for all the sectors such as mining and transportation which contribute tremendously to our greenhouse gas generation. These types of financing, for a developing country, is not easy to access.

As youth of Guyana and of the world, we have tremendous responsibility to protect our future. For some of us, the older generation, even with all the pressures of the world, will not act or not quickly enough to keep global temperatures below 1.5C. We need to take action now because there might be
another chance when given the opportunity to make decisions that shape our future. If opportunities don’t exist, we should create them. Thank you.

2.17 Haïti

Chers organisateurs de MOCKCOP26, Chers collègues délégués, Qu’il me soit permis de vous saluer et de vous féliciter en même temps pour votre courage et votre détermination dans la lutte que nous menons pour la santé et la viabilité de notre chère planète.

Bien avant de me présenter, je voudrais remercier d’une façon spéciale ces jeunes qui ont pris cette noble décision d’organiser une COP virtuelle cette année. Cela nous montre clairement que nous pouvons gagner la bataille si nous utilisons toutes nos forces et c’est également un vibrant message que nous envoyons aux décideurs du monde entier. Je suis MACIUS Djivenson, j’ai 23 ans et je suis fervent activiste climatique en Haïti.

Moi et ma collègue Anna Jovin avons conjointement rédigé cette déclaration pour montrer au monde entier comment nous sommes victimes des aléas climatiques en Haïti. En effet, Haïti est un magnifique pays de la région Caribéenne avec une superficie de 27750 km². Il partage la partie orientale de l’île d’Haïti dont la partie orientale est occupée par la Rep Dominicaine. Grâce à sa position en latitude, Haïti bénéficie d’un climat tropical caractérisé par l’alternance entre une saison humide de Mai à Novembre et une saison sèche de Novembre à Mai.

Chers leaders du monde entier, Je voudrais vous rappeler que Haïti est classée, selon la Banque Mondiale, parmi les 10 pays pauvres les plus exposés aux effets du changement climatique. Cette magnifique île de la région caribéenne va très bientôt disparaître de grandes et urgentes actions ne sont pas entreprises tant au niveau national qu’international. Haïti subit Indubitablement de plein fouet les conséquences irréversibles du changement climatique.

Des phénomènes météorologiques extrêmes comme: Sécheresses Anormalement Longues, pluie et inondations inédites ont très visibles et ils ne s’arrêtent pas de causer des pertes et dommages considérables causant poussant le pays vers l’extrême pauvreté. Donc, le changement climatique nous attaque à tous les points de vue et ne fait qu’aggraver la situation d’un pays qui, depuis de longues années, était déjà rongé par des crises de gouvernance, de corruption de sous-développement.

Aujourd’hui, je parle au nom de tous les sans-voix de mon pays, Aujourd’hui, je présente cette déclaration au nom tous mes compatriotes qui sont sévèrement affectés par cette crise climatique. Je trouve ça complètement injuste pour un pays comme Haïti de payer les conséquences des activités des grandes puissance séconomiques mondiales. À cause de vos activités polluantes, Haïti devient la cible des inondations meurtrières causant des de nombreuses victimes chaque année. Des sécheresses sans précédent poussent les agriculteurs à abandonner les cultures pour migrer plutôt vers l’Amérique latine et les Caraïbes Anglophones afin d’améliorer leurs conditions matérielles. Cela cause également une grande fuite de cerveau et ça a un impact social très considérable. Avec l’augmentation de la Température, les écosystèmes terrestres et marins sont complètement affectés. La santé des enfants, des femmes est plus affectée par la pollution atmosphérique à grande échelle. La faim, la migration, la morts ont quelques conséquences insupportables.

Alors face à cette crise climatique qui nous détruit, les jeunes, la société civile et d’autres Secteurs ne restent pas les bras croisés. On est tous conscients de ce que nous subissons. Mais Malgré les faibles moyens du pays, on veut poser des actions pour atténuer les conséquences Du réchauffement climatique. En 2015, Haïti a présenté ses contributions prévues déterminées au Niveau National, voici quelques traits importants de La CPDN de mon pays: Les défis sont nombreux pour le gouvernement et le peuple haïtiens. Haïti doit prendre les mesures nécessaires pour, à la fois, propulser son développement, s’adapter aux changements.
Climatiques et contribuer à la réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre. Pour cela, il nous paraît important de lier la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique à l'objectif de pays émergent d'ici à 2030 fixé dans le PSDH. Ainsi, notre CPDN est articulée autour de quelques. Enjeux qui nous paraissent prioritaires: La gestion intégrée des ressources en eau et des bassins versants; La gestion intégrée des zones côtières et la réhabilitation des infrastructures; La préservation et le renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire notamment parle Développement de la bio économie; La transition énergétique pour réduire la dépendance aux énergies fossiles; l'information, l'éducation et la sensibilisation.

Les engagements pris dans la CPDN représentent un besoin en financement global de 25.387 milliards USD. Haïti s'attend donc à une véritable conjonction des efforts de la communauté Internationale pour continuer à soutenir la lutte contre le changement climatique en vertu du principe «des responsabilités communes mais différenciées», consacré par la Déclaration De Rio sur l'environnement et le développement.

Cependant ça ne suffit pas. Comme jeunes nous avons des recommandations à faire tant au niveau national qu'international:

1. L'Etat Central doit accorder une meilleure fraction budgétaire au Ministère de l'environnement. Donc le budget actuel ne dépasse pas 1% du budget de l'Etat;
2. Donner plus de possibilités aux jeunes de participer dans les processus de décisions;
3. Rendre obligatoire l'éducation environnementale dans les institutions scolaires et universitaires.

Au niveau national, nous exigons les mesures suivantes de la part de la communauté internationale:

1. Appliquer une vraie justice climatique en vers Haïti car il est anormal qui ne produit que 0.91 Tonne de CO2 par Hab de payer les conséquences des travaux des grands pollueurs;
2. Nous demandons aux instances internationales de nous favoriser l'accès à des technologies Rationnellement écologiques dans le cadre de processus d'adaptation.

Nous aimerions voir un relâchement de technologies brevetées sa fin que nous puissions réellement avoir accès aux connaissances et aux technologies en matière d'adaptation. Nous aimerions demander à la CCNUCC de prendre en considération nos doléances dans les Négociations internationales, nous ne voulons plus être une goutte d'eau dans un océan.

Je voudrais terminer tout en recommandant tous les jeunes du monde entier à se joindre à nous car la lutte contre les changements climatiques est collective et doit être inclusive. Je voudrais demander également aux instances internationales concernées repenser les modes de production, de repenser le système. C'est pas le climat qu'il faut changer mais c'est plutôt ces système capitaliste destructeur de la planète. Chers leaders, vos financements ne suffisent pas si nous ne pouvons pas réellement avoir accès aux technologies faibles en émissions, vos financements ne suffissent si ceux qui nous financent, continuent à polluer. Le changement climatique nous mettons dans une impasse et pour s'en sortir on doit utiliser sans discrimination tous les moyens que nous avons à notre disposition. On ne peut pas. Combattre les changements climatiques sans l'inclusion, la participation de tous.

Ensemble, nous pouvons concrétiser ce rêve de devenir une planète saine et viable.

Merci beaucoup.

2.18 Honduras

Declaración de la reunión de alto Nivel Mock COP 26. Honorables Delegados, Excelencias, Observadores. Esta declaración es presentada en nombre de más de 4.8 millones de jóvenes en nuestro país representando más del 50% de nuestra población.
Honduras por su ubicación geográfica, es un país con alta vulnerabilidad a los efectos del cambio climático, especialmente a los eventos meteorológicos extremos. Prolongadas sequías que han afectado a 3,5 millones de personas en todo el territorio nacional y a más del 50% del sector agroalimentario; y hoy en día más 1.8 millones de afectados por los tormenta ETA y huracán, IOTA.

512,000 hectáreas de bosque perdidas, incremento de las enfermedades transmitidas por vectores como el dengue, así como graves pérdidas en el sector ganadero de mi país, generando inseguridad alimentaria, pérdidas económicas y una creciente migración.

Por lo tanto, pedimos a nuestros gobiernos que según su capacidad adopten:

Medidas para cumplir una trayectoria de emisiones consistente con la limitación del aumento de la temperatura global a 1,5 grados por encima de los niveles preindustriales y a participar en un proceso de negociación internacional justo en el marco de la UNFCCC.

Hacemos un llamado a una adecuada integración y participación significativa especialmente de los jóvenes en NDCs, planes de desarrollo, y políticas públicas.

Solicitamos enfáticamente la seguridad y las libertades civiles de los defensores de los derechos humanos, los defensores del medio ambiente y los defensores de la justicia social sean mantenidas y respetadas por todas las partes e instituciones.

En segundo lugar, hacemos un llamado a todas las organizaciones sociales y partes interesadas para:

- Liderar con el ejemplo estableciendo y siguiendo una política de sostenibilidad organizacional; y desinvertir en la industria de los combustibles fósiles.
- Continuar su abogacía para incrementar la transparencia en torno al alcance de las inversiones en empresas de energía no renovable y combustibles fósiles.

Al sector no gubernamental, universidades y facultades para:

- Integrar cambio climático, la sostenibilidad organizacional y nuestro rol en la adaptación y mitigación en planes de estudio, investigación y en programas de desarrollo de capacidades
- Implementar políticas para participación proactiva de universidades en estrategias de mitigación y adaptación, incluida la intensificación del reciclaje, construcciones ecológicas, accesibilidad mediante transporte público y alimentos sostenibles.

Destacamos la importancia de la equidad intergeneracional y la integración de un enfoque basado en los derechos en la acción climática, y creemos firmemente que la juventud debe estar en el centro de las negociaciones sobre el cambio climático. Ha llegado el momento de enmendar los errores del pasado y tomar medidas para lograr un futuro más saludable; y un planeta más saludable.

2.19 Jamaica

Climate change has impacted all of us in some way, whether we know it or not. It is a global emergency that needs to be addressed now. The Caribbean is one of the most disaster-prone regions in the world. Hurricanes are the most frequent high-impact hazard and they are becoming stronger and more destructive as a result of global warming. The year of 2020 now has the record for the most storms within a hurricane season. These storms pose an increased threat to life and property.

Jamaica, whose capital Kingston is the largest city in the English-speaking Caribbean, is particularly vulnerable to climate stress and severe weather shocks. The UN Sendai Data Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction estimates the total damage to Jamaica from hurricanes, storms and flooding over the past 46 years at USD14.3 billion.
The island state of 2.9 million people experiences frequent rain storms that cause inland flooding and on during the same year, extended droughts that lead to water shortages. Rising sea levels have left Jamaica more exposed to coastal erosion and flooding from storm surges. 60 percent of the population lives within 2 km of the coast.

This problem intensifies at the realization that Jamaica as well as other Caribbean states still battle with high poverty levels and the task of creating high standards of living for their peoples. Redirecting these economies toward low carbon development pathways, while surviving the increasing impacts of climate change creates new needs for collaboration through multifunctional hubs which includes residents and organizations alike. It requires sacrifices, lifestyle changes, and commitment to survival.

Yes, Survival. It requires finance, technology, and other functional capacities. It requires a shared goal with determined teams working together to act boldly and decisively.

Youth activists across Jamaica are providing climate-centric educational tools through youth networks, they are leading on key climate change mitigation initiatives in entrepreneurship, some through international partnerships and they are lobbying for a more flexible and informative approach to climate change information sharing and utility platforms.

However, these efforts still require much attention from the government and affiliated agencies to assist through policy updates and representation to the wider community. It would help to propel these initiatives should leaders within these states become more open to listening and partnering with the local youth networks to clearly communicate climate change in terms of human rights and the destructive effects of our human activity.

It is clear that climate change is reeking havoc on all lives presently having the potential to astronomically worsen into the near future. Hope is however not lost but we must act now.

2.20 Mexico

Excelencias, honorables invitados, delegados, damas y caballeros. El día de hoy nos presentamos en representación de las juventudes mexicanas.

Excellencies, honorable guests, delegates, and all protocols observed. We speak to you today representing Mexico’s youth. Mexico is a developing Latin American country with a population of 126.2 million people. It is one of the world’s leaders in biodiversity and multiculturalism.

We were one of the first countries to ratify the Paris Agreement and submit it’s NDC’s in 2015. Historically, we have been part of numerous international agreements; therefore, as youth, we’re committed to continue promoting multilateral cooperation, in order to successfully accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement targets.

In Mexico, we are already experiencing the effects of climate change: Mexico’s temperature has already increased between 1.2 and 1.7 degrees during the last decades. This drastic change has led to a higher intensity and quantity of hurricanes, floods, and desertification. The latter occurs due to the imbalance of our country’s ecosystems and biodiversity. One of their most important functions is acting as a natural barrier against infectious diseases, such as COVID-19.

In a National Youth Survey on Climate Change (NYSCC), implemented by the Mexican delegation to more than 1,000 young people, 97% considered that climate change has an important impact on their lives; in the last year, 25% have been affected by a climate-related disaster; 44% said that their health has been affected by the climate crisis and 95% have experienced negative feelings, such as anxiety, frustration, powerlessness or anger.
Even as a developing country, Mexico was part of the top 10 greenhouse gas emitters in 2017. Despite the vulnerability our country is facing against the climate crisis, Mexico’s lack of political will and environmental policies is increasing. This can be visualized in the government’s actions towards the construction of the Dos Bocas oil refinery, the refurbishment of the six oil refineries, and the extraction of non-conventional sources of hydrocarbons.

We as youth are constantly told that we are the future, but in reality, our worries, interests, and proposals are rarely taken into account. We are narrowed to be spectators of an adult world that writes our story and destroys our hope. Fortunately, that is already changing and we are beginning to raise our voices and demand our decision-makers to wake up and act now.

More than 13,200 young people across the country took part in climate strikes in September 2019, and there are many youth-led campaigns demanding change. Furthermore, 99% of the surveyed young people consider the government is not acting accordingly in order to tackle Climate Change on time.

Delegates, we are among a group of young people whose aspiration and passion for change is undying. Youth that sees the effort of those that came before them, carries their legacy, and with that, we have made our own.

Here’s to the generation that knows what they deserve.

2.21 Paraguay

Buenos días / Buenas tardes / Buenas noches:

En representación de la juventud de Paraguay, un país sudamericano, extendemos un cordial saludo a las distinguidas delegaciones y espectadores del Mock Cop26. Nuestro país está gravemente perjudicado por los efectos de la alteración climática; atravesando sequías prolongadas, ocasionales ciclones, temperaturas elevadas, incendios forestales y descensos históricos de cauces hídricos.

En ese mismo contexto, es necesario enfatizar que los sectores mayormente desfavorecidos son los pueblos originarios y poblaciones minoritarias. A causa de la deforestación y erosión del suelo, para posterior producción agroganadera y monocultivo de soja transgénica, comunidades enteras cumplen la obligación de desplazarse de sus territorios o convivir con el poderoso enemigo de la repercusión de los agrotóxicos, reincidente en la vulneración de sus derechos humanos básicos.

Por otra parte, los jóvenes se han comprometido a promover la conciencia socioambiental y el activismo en contra de la degradación de la biodiversidad a través de militancias, huelgas digitales y presenciales y espacios de debate sobre materia ambiental. Desde el 2011, Paraguay cuenta con una Política Nacional de Cambio Climático y con estrategias sobre la adaptación y la mitigación de los efectos del clima. Sin embargo, nuestro país es altamente vulnerable frente a la problemática mencionada, evitando el cumplimiento de la ley planteada.

Es urgente que nuestras autoridades examinen e implementen métodos estratégicos de solución y resiliencia a los impactos del cambio climático. Asimismo, es necesario reformar e instaurar un sistema educativo en el cual los niños y jóvenes aprendan sobre la gravedad y la base científica de la crisis climática, logrando así que las instituciones reflejen el principio de sostenibilidad. Paralelamente, la justicia climática es un asunto omitido en Paraguay, esto nos impulsa a exigir el esclarecimiento de casos ilícitos en aspectos socioambientales, así como la ratificación del Acuerdo de Escazú.

El momento de la acción climática es ahora, ya no existe un “después”. Por ello buscamos el compromiso de los niños, niñas y jóvenes a exhortar a los gobiernos el cumplimiento de los compromisos asumidos sobre las Contribuciones Nacionales Determinadas y articular iniciativas que
2.22 Peru

Hi! We are the delegates of Peru for this Mock COP26. As you may know, Peru is located in the western region of South America. Our country is very unique, as we are one of the few countries to have 3 different regions: the coast, highlands and of course the rainforest.

Our participation in events like this is very important, considering that we constantly suffer from the effects of climate change. Natural disasters such as flooding, droughts and landslides have affected our people and lands. Our Amazon rainforest is under attack and is constantly being threatened by problems such as mass deforestation, cattle grazing and illegal mining. Our highlands are affected by the glacial retreat manifested in our snow-capped mountains.

The Peruvian youth are becoming aware of these issues, as we begin raising our voices for change. Organizations such as Fridays for Future have set up manifestations and other events to incite our government to take action. Taking into consideration our recent political crisis, we have seen how much of an impact we can have in our government and in the decisions being made. Our voices have been heard for the first time in decades and we will not remain silent again.

Through our work as climate activists, Peru has achieved to create centered goals regarding adaptation and mitigation of climate change. Moreover, Peru has looked towards being more inclusive in its measures and dialogues of climate change.

Right now, we are looking towards creating a better and more efficient climate education for our population to be more conscious and aware of what is going on and to be motivated to take action.

Another point to be made is the improvement of climate justice. In Peru there are laws related to environmental education, illegal mining and other new ones related to climate change however there is no authority that regulates whether these laws are enforced or not. With our participation, we seek to establish mechanisms for its compliance.

For our country to do a better job, we ask for the youth to be involved in the decision-making of climate policies. In the end, we are the ones that will have to live on this planet in the future, and we should be respected and taken into account.

We are proud to participate in Mock COP26!

2.23 Saint Kitts and Nevis

Distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26, greetings. Today representing the youth of Saint Kitts and Nevis, a small dual island federation nestled within the northern gems of the Caribbean Archipelago with a population of just over 50 thousand.

Here in Saint Kitts and Nevis, the climate realities can no longer be ignored. As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), we are faced particularly by rises in temperature and rise in sea levels. The increased temperature trends have led to intensified and extended drought periods, affecting agricultural production which is mostly dependent on rainfall water. Compounding the situation is the onset of strengthened hurricanes at increased frequencies. With over 60% of the population residing in
coastal areas and a significant coastal tourism sector, the country is significantly vulnerable to sea-level rise and the threats of accelerated coastal erosion and flooding.

The youth of Saint Kitts and Nevis are largely nescient of the realities our country faces. Despite this, there are some youth-based environmental groups such as the one I am representing, the Caribbean Youth Environment Network in St.Kitts and Nevis. Together, these groups continue to perform awareness and action-driven projects that are sustainable and match local and international targets. Thousands of youth have been engaged in their projects to increase the citizenry's awareness that the fangs of climate change have already clamped down on our world.

My country proposed an emissions reduction target of 22% and 35% of our GHG emissions projected in the business as usual (BAU) scenario for 2025 and 2030 respectively. However, although actionable, I believe further steps can be taken. I am imploring that the government look into directly injecting climate education as an independent, mandatory subject into our curriculum as they review the education system. Furthermore, I suggest implementing projects to develop climate-smart communities that can be used as a global model.

As a proud youth of local soil who have experienced climate change first hand, I am demanding that our Government take immediate action and address the concerns aforementioned. Climate change is real and playing peekaboo only exacerbates the situation. As greenhouse gases and temperatures rise, so must our ambition and drive to make aggressive but targeted steps, backed by science, to curb the crisis. We have already paid for our lack of action with our lives, our descents should not.

Thank you.

2.24 Suriname

Greetings and salutations distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. I speak to you today representing the youth of Suriname, a country which lies on the north-eastern Atlantic coast of South America, bordering with Guyana to the West, French Guyana to the East, and Brazil to the South. The country has a tropical climate of a semi humid type with four seasons. Suriname is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

The country’s small population, major economic activities, and infrastructure are concentrated along the low-lying, heavily urbanized coastal zone. The country has already experienced extensive coastal erosion, and has suffered damages from heavy rainfall, flooding, higher temperatures during dry seasons, and high winds. Climate change has a significant impact on the sustainable development of Suriname.

Up till today there are many youth-led organizations taking action against Climate Change. More than 1000 youngsters participated in various projects such as tree planting, clean-up days and climate awareness campaigns. The youth of Suriname is convinced that the country should improve its target of being a high forest cover and low deforestation (HFLD) country committed to maintaining 93% of its forest cover. We hereby pledge to our government to implement Climate education as well as enhance its legislations in the forestry, mining and agriculture sector in order to protect our forest. Suriname’s primary old-growth tropical forests are of global importance, not only in terms of forest carbon, but also because of the interconnectedness of biodiversity, forest conservation and climate change. In order to effectively achieve this we also pledge to the international community to acknowledge the significant contribution that Suriname provides to the global response against climate change and provide adequate financial support to help maintain this treasure.
2.25 Trinidad and Tobago

Hello, distinguished delegates and observers of MockCOP. I humbly speak to you today, representing the youth of Trinidad and Tobago, a small tropical island republic in the Caribbean Sea, with a population of 1.3 million people and a wealth of natural resources.

Small island developing states, like TandT, are already experiencing effects of climate change. Our coastlines are receding. Coral bleaching is happening in beautiful Tobago. Our seasons are drier with erratic rain making it difficult for agriculture and wildlife to survive. The days are now blisteringly hot and are a nightmare in most schools, office buildings, and residential homes, given that they are designed for ambient temperatures of past times. In TandT we are out of reach of the Caribbean hurricane path due to the nature of the ITCZ, however, low-lying or badly drained areas are still plagued by flooding leading to loss of life and infrastructure and proliferation of waterborne diseases. It demonstrates inefficient watershed management, badly regulated land use and poor waste management.

The youth of TandT are conscious of the lacklustre efforts to adapt to the future. They have participated in marches in the capital city, they have spoken out on social media and to our politicians, and they have created their own civil society organisations to coordinate and represent the mission for a sustainable future. Many aspects of sustainable development are covered, from the humblest beach clean-ups to vigorous campaigning to the government. Sitting idly is not an option at this point. We refuse to inherit a foggy, lifeless imitation of a developed society.

TandT currently aims to reduce emissions by 15% by 2030 through the implementation of renewable energy and energy efficiency means together with moves to improve public transport - such as increasing the amount of CNG Maxi Taxis. This is notable given TandT’s status as the second highest carbon dioxide emitter per capita in 2019, according to the World Bank. We, the decision makers of tomorrow, want to see efforts to achieve this NDC fast-tracked.

Diversification of the economy is necessary to ensure that TandT adapts but also as new citizens emerge as leaders and consumers that have learned the knowledge to make better choices. Climate education is sporadic among schools. It appears as being dependent on the whims of each school’s budget, individual priorities at schools are primarily done by CSO's inputs. Standardising climate, environmental and sustainable development education across the education system should be a TOP priority; to empower students and ensure exposure to basic background science and how they can take action on all scales. The old system needs to modernise to meet needs of changing economies and even future types of work in various fields, besides the emergence of green jobs.

I wish to remind the leaders in TandT that Fossil fuels are being phased out globally. Also, that FOOD needs to take centre stage, as food insecurity is a dominant SIDS issue. We need support for small and medium sized enterprises. The youth of TandT are the inheritors of this country, in whatever condition it is passed down. The consequences of reactive government affect the entire country, and we demand that our leaders accept the responsibility to implement steps for long-lasting, drastic change that we all need to live free and healthy. Thank you.

2.26 United States of America

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We're speaking to you today representing the youth of the United States. We believe that as a nation we have the most responsibility to address climate change given that we’ve historically emitted more greenhouse gases than any other country.
In 2020 alone, over 13,000 Americans lost their homes in the West Coast wildfires— one of many natural disasters worsened by the emission of greenhouse gases. Additionally, there have been 12 named tropical storms so far just this past year. Subsequently, many people have lost their homes and livelihoods.

Unfortunately, we as young people recognize that our leadership has chronically failed to make the drastic changes needed to confront the climate crisis. Recent administrations have not given the crisis enough attention; even undermining current efforts by withdrawing from the Paris Agreement and propping up fossil fuels.

The good news is youth are organizing in mass numbers in order to demand the drastic action we need. We’ve taken matters into our own hands because our future depends on it. However, we know that we need our nation’s leaders to step up as well.

We ask our leaders to mandate climate education in order to inform the next generation on climate science.

The climate crisis has already taken a major toll on people’s well-being. Physical health is threatened by factors such as poor air quality.

We must also overhaul our current food system given how it worsens climate change. Thus, we must facilitate a swift transition to sustainable agriculture nationwide and support regenerative practices.

Furthermore, it is critical that we account for frontline and vulnerable communities. Our leaders must ensure that minorities have access to critical resources such as disaster support and clean water. Additionally, policymakers must provide a just transition and a federal jobs guarantee for all affected workers.

While we agreed to a 28% decrease in emissions by 2025 below 2005 levels in Paris, young people would actually like to see a 75% reduction by 2030, and achieve net-zero by 2040. For that, we’ll need to enact a portfolio of aggressive policies across every sector that rise in stringency over time. We’d also like to greatly increase our contribution to the Green Climate Fund in order to help developing countries with mitigation and adaptation.

Once the new administration takes office, we’d like to see more aggressive GHG reduction targets set everywhere else as well. Additionally, we urge other first world countries to financially help developing countries with adopting renewable energy. We also advise other first world countries to strongly consider enacting carbon tariffs on imports as a new global compliance mechanism.

All this definitely won’t be easy. However, we believe that a sustainable emission-free future is not only possible but necessary for the benefit of future generations. So let’s all do what it takes to make that future a reality. Thank you.

2.27 Venezuela

Estimados delegados, distinguidos observadores e invitados de la MOCKCOP26, hoy tenemos el honor de formar parte de la delegación venezolana ante este importante encuentro en representación de todos los jóvenes venezolanos. Venezuela, es un país situado en américa del sur que cuenta con una ubicación geográfica que le concede una gran diversidad, principalmente de recursos naturales, hídricos y energéticos, así como de una biodiversidad que hoy se encuentran en peligro.

Venezuela hoy enfrenta un Ecocidio.

Durante los últimos 20 años, la discusión acerca del cambio climático y el desarrollo sostenible ha marcado la pauta en las relaciones multilaterales de los Estados y organismos internacionales de la
región de América Latina. A partir de la proclamación de los objetivos de desarrollo del milenio en 1999 y la firma de la Carta Interamericana Democrática de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, la cual incluye al ambiente como prioridad en las democracias de nuestra región. Se ha generado mayor interés en promover un proceso de transformación promoviendo políticas de sostenibilidad y gestión ambiental.

Sin embargo, gran parte de estos esfuerzos han quedado en acuerdos de papel y no en acciones concretas por parte de los Estados para avanzar en un proceso que incorpore y defienda los mecanismos de protección ambiental y desarrollo sostenible, algo por lo que hoy los jóvenes alzamos nuestra voz ante nuestra preocupación por nuestro futuro inmediato. Esta ausencia de acciones concretas y negligencia por parte del Estado, y políticas del desarrollo llevadas en el mundo han llevado a Venezuela a contraer una emergencia climática y que actualmente sigue sin ser visibilizado y reconocida por la ausencia de libertad de prensa que existe en nuestro país. Es por ello que creemos que la educación climática y las políticas públicas de mitigación debe ser una respuesta no solo en Latinoamérica, sino, a escala mundial.

Durante los últimos 5 años Venezuela se ha visto gravemente afectada por la entrega concesiones ilegales en el amazonas venezolano, donde 12% del territorio nacional, cifra que representa 111 84, 70 km² de la región de Guayana en Venezuela, más 1 082 000 hectáreas de áreas protegidas por la humanidad (UNESCO) y 40% de las especies animales de Venezuela que representa 300 de ellas aproximadamente, se encuentran peligro dentro de la zona llamada Arco Minero del Orinoco.

Esta entrega de concesiones ilegales para la minería en el sur del país, han sido ejecutadas bajo la entrega de territorios a grupos armados irregulares que desplazan y persiguen poblaciones indígenas enteras para tomar el control del territorio y la industria minera ilegal.

Esto representa una grave crisis para el medio ambiente y la preservación de las poblaciones indígenas de toda Venezuela, quienes sufren una grave crisis de salud pública, educación y servicios básicos para la vida cotidiana, además del asedio militar. Esta grave crisis climática ha aumentado durante el último año con las constantes fugas de petróleo precipitadas en 2 refinerías petroleras del país, 4 campos de extracción petrolera en toda la región costera de Venezuela y desastres naturales afectando gravemente a 10 estados de nuestro país.

Sin ningún tipo de respuesta por parte del Estado venezolano, el cual niega los derrames petroleros, generando una grave crisis para la población civil que se ve afectada por estos derrames en su vida diaria, causando una vulneración de derechos económicos, sociales y ambientales en Venezuela.

Ante ello, la juventud de Venezuela, donde estudiantes, defensores de derechos humanos y organizaciones juveniles de todo el país, hemos iniciado una iniciativa de incidencia internacional para denunciar y protestar ante estos graves casos de violación a los derechos ambientales y la generación de propuestas en materia de desarrollo sostenible.

Sin embargo, ante la ausencia de democracia, criminalización de la protesta y la censura, representa los grandes desafíos para la juventud venezolana en su lucha por el cambio climático y el ambiente en Venezuela. Hoy les hablamos a los líderes de todo el mundo sobre este grave hecho en la nación venezolana, que escuchan a los jóvenes y nos acompañen en esta lucha para lograr los cambios necesarios.
3. ASIA

3.1 Bangladesh

As a developing country Bangladesh has many problems in many areas. Moreover, we're suffering from climate change issues very badly. People from different regions suffer from different types of disasters, like floods, cyclones, drought and salinity are the regular problems in Bangladesh.

Already 6.5 million people have been displaced because of climate change.

Climate change has a major impact in our agro based economy. Crop farming is the primary source for 150 million people and accountable for food security In urban and rural areas. But according to World Bank, in 1972 the agro sector has 52% contribution in our GDP but going on to 2016 and 2017 there was only 14.79% contribution in our GDP. Moreover 40% fertile land is already lost due to climate change.

Bangladesh is the most climate affected country in the world. Our people are facing a climate crisis and COVID-19, indignanty we're hit by super seven upfront and deadly flood in COVID-19. Our people are dying, We are losing our loved ones and our lands and our house.

Global communities to scale up their ambition to reduce emissions and should be compassionate to our most affected communities in Bangladesh. So in Mock COP it is a great opportunity for me to amplify my voice on behalf of my community.

So COP26 has been postponed but climate action not! So we asked all global leaders to support our affected communities And it's ambition to reduce carbon emissions for our people and planet.

Bangladesh is one of the developing countries that most severely suffer from global warming. So being the most densely populated country, It is very vulnerable to climate change. Especially children that now essentially represent 40% of the population. Warmer temperature causes the Himalayan glaciers to melt, rising sea levels and disasters are predicted to threaten more lives. Changes in temperature and rising water level will result in direct pressure on many climate sensitive species and cause increased devotion and the declaration of salt qualities. And declination of salt quality and upland forested areas.

Bangladesh government has identified and addressed the problem. Therefore many things could also be changed if we all come together and leave no one behind. Thank you.

3.2 Bhutan


 Beautifying the eastern edge of the Himalayas, the remarkable Buddhist Kingdom of Bhutan, is sandwiched between two powerful giants India and China. It has only 38,394 square kilometers of territory with the population of about seven hundred thousand people. Bhutan is the only country where its development is measured in terms of Gross National Happiness (GNH) instead of Gross National Product (GNP) and where the mandate of environmental conservation is enshrined in the constitution.

Although we do not contribute towards climate change, we have started to face the brunt of it. The most prominent impact of the climate change seen in Bhutan is the fast retreating glacier leading to Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) that will have serious impacts on our economy and the livelihoods.
However, our visionary kings and the great leaders have always mainstreamed the environment in any development and planning processes. Our constitution mandates us to keep 60% of its forest covered for all times to come. As a result, Bhutan is a carbon negative country where we sequester more carbon than we produce.

Almost all the industries and factories are run by hydroelectricity and no fossil fuels are being used. Usage of chemical fertilizers in agriculture are kept to bare minimum and well regulated. In order to promote clean transport systems, government exempt taxes on import of electric vehicles and provide subsidies. However, rather than merely abiding by the policies, the youth of our country have not been able to contribute much in fighting climate change. We hope people like us will come forward and work collectively with the nation to combat the climate crisis.

Looking at the efforts of our government, we feel that we are doing our part to combat the climate crisis but climate change being a global issue we need global actions to make the world a better place to live. TASHI DELEK.

3.3 Brunei

Dear excellencies, climate change is already upon us. Brunei, a country in Southeast Asia with expansive rainforests and a population of over 400 thousand people, is already experiencing more frequent and severe rainfall, floods and forest fires.

Brunei contributes only 0.025% of global greenhouse gas emissions, yet vulnerability assessments show that Brunei has medium to high climate change exposure\(^\text{11}\). Brunei’s minimum temperature has already increased by 1.25 degrees Celsius since 1979\(^\text{12}\). By 2100, Brunei’s average temperature is predicted to rise further by up to 4 degrees Celsius\(^\text{13}\). Climate change will exacerbate weather-related disasters, affecting Brunei’s food security, increasing the frequency of forest fires, and so forth.

The youth of Brunei recognize the urgency of climate change. They actively participated in a climate-themed, green leadership camp in 2019 organized by the NGO, Green Brunei. This year, 51 youth representatives reviewed Brunei’s first climate change policy\(^\text{14}\). Some participated in a recent climate change forum.

Brunei aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 50% by 2035 compared with the Business-as-usual scenario\(^\text{15}\). To achieve this target, Brunei has devised 10 strategies. I would like to share the top 3 strategies, predicted to yield the highest impacts. First, Brunei aims to boost the share of renewable energy from the current 0.14% to 30% of the power generation mix by 2035. Second, Brunei will enact a system of carbon trading, building upon its other strategy of making a greenhouse gas inventory reporting mandatory by 2025. Third, Brunei seeks to maintain its 72% forest cover.

Considering Brunei’s dependence on fossil fuels for a long time, I believe that Brunei has been ambitious in its climate policies. I would only ask the government to follow through all plans rigorously. If possible, raise ambition even further. We ask Brunei to raise its target for renewable energy share to 50% by 2035. Brunei receives plenty of solar energy. Supporting its further investment would diversify


\(^{13}\) James Kon, “Brunei Faces Four Degree Celsius Temperature Rise by 2100 ”


\(^{15}\) “Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy”
the economy and help Brunei surpass its climate goals. Another potential area to raise ambition is carbon pricing. Since about 46% of GHG reduction compared to the BAU scenario is attributed to the carbon pricing, we ask the government to set low thresholds to challenge industries more to emit less.

As a youth resident of Brunei, I call upon all governments to immediately take united climate action. Thank you.

3.4 India

Namaste, distinguished delegates, policy-makers, organisers, and observers of Mock COP26. As youth delegates of India, we are honoured to be part of this historic moment of youth action against climate change.

On 2nd October 2016, India pledged, in the Paris Agreement, to reduce the emissions intensity of GDP by 33%–35% below 2005 levels, increase non-fossil-based energy to 40% and create an additional carbon sink of 2.5–3 Gt CO2e by 2030. However, the actions of the Indian government seem to be contrary to keeping the national emissions below 1.5°C by 2030.

Just within the lockdown, over 41 coal mines have been auctioned and policies such as the EIA 2020 have been pushed in the name of economic revival. India’s NDC’s also fail to include pertinent issues relating to water and Indigenous rights.

We want to emphasise that transitioning towards clean energy should not happen at the expense of natural resources, wetlands and local communities. India needs a just transition plan keeping in mind rights of marginalised people to phase out fossil fuels. We must also promote rural and local community entrepreneurship skills rather than exploiting these to create green and climate resilient livelihoods. We call on policy-makers across the world to rewrite anti-environment, anti-youth policies and to include climate and environmental literacy in education in a holistic manner.

We reiterate strongly to all by recommending the following changes:

1. Policy-makers need to listen to and involve youth while setting targets and youth must immediately be allowed a safe space to dissent and protest;
2. We need bottom up approaches involving local communities while planning climate policies and actions;
3. Climate change needs to be a part of mainstream politics and party manifestos;
4. We need to set up a National Focal Point for Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE);
5. We need to look at sustainable finance, National Gross Environment Product and other such innovative models in order to rethink the global and local economic model;
6. We must keep in mind the fragility of our system, as seen by COVID, and realise how interwoven health and climate are. We need to reduce our waste production and pollution which are causing severe health issues. Food security, sustainable agriculture and farmer rights are also essential to wellbeing and climate change Mitigation.

We call the Indian youth, to raise our voices, to fight for our future rights, to fight for our health and wellbeing. We say, once again, to all policy-makers that the youth across the world are tired of empty climate promises. We, the youth, are ready to work with you in building a self-reliant, safe, inclusive and sustainable world.

Question is, are you ready?
3.5 Indonesia

Distinguished Delegates and Attendees of Mock COP26, on behalf of the youth of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to extend our utmost gratitude to all parties involved in this monumental event.

Indonesia has been blessed not to have experienced the worst effects of climate change, but the future for us isn’t a bright one. Out of the 17,508 islands that is Indonesia, 1,500 will be gone due to rising sea levels by 2050, threatening the lives of millions in our coastal communities.

Whilst some of the Indonesian youth had already recognized the need for global action on climate change, many are still left unknown on the issue. Therefore, we are demanding our government to integrate climate education into the national curriculum to help students understand what is happening and know what they can do about it. We have seen impressive youth-led campaigns with their unique initiatives tailored to tackle the most pressing challenges faced by communities all across the archipelago.

Indonesia is the eighth largest GHG emitter, and our emissions continue to rise. Although in the Paris Agreement countries were set to limit global warming below 2°C, our government has made no plans to set the country on a low-emissions pathway. Indonesia has the second biggest rainforest in the world, but since the start of the century we have lost 36% of our tree cover; that is 10 million hectares of rainforest. We have to massively reduce emissions and continue to do so until 2050 if we want to reach our NDC targets.

The European Union Emission Trading System is a successful concept Carbon Emissions Trade illustrated through the significant reduction in emission and development of the carbon market in Europe. Indonesia hopes to apply a similar system in the Southeast Asian market.

Nonetheless, the Emission Trading System should not be limited to regional but also to the global scope. A clearer guideline complemented by an intergovernmental panel on climate change that provides uniformity and serves as the foundation in estimating global emissions should be able to promote the efficiency of the emission trading system.

Major and rapid change is exactly what we need in the fight against climate disruption. Change that will make our planet more liveable, sustainable, and inclusive. And no group has more power than us, the youth. Because when we march, the world will follow. Thank you.

3.6 Israel

Hi, Salam, Shalom, my name is Luna Abu-Yunis and I'm 14 years old. I'm a climate activist in Strike for Future Israel and Mock COP26 delegate for Israel. It's a pleasure for me to present Israel here, and to raise awareness about the Israeli climate situation, and hopefully lead to a change.

I started my climate activism 2 years ago, the activity in Israel was at its start. I saw people passionate about a better future for them and the country. I started to be aware of climate change, and why it’s crucial to stop it!

Climate change is the greatest threat that humanity has ever faced, it’s affecting us globally and locally. It's affecting our health, safety, future, and life. Last week, Israel faced heavy flooding and power outages nationwide over the weekend. Many people have been rescued from floods across Israel.

Usually, in September-October, it starts to cool down gradually, but this year something different and worrying happened: until less than a month ago the weather was still warm, even though it was
already the end of October, and in the last two days storms, hail, floods and heavy rains suddenly broke out across the country.

As a result of changes in the climate and starting to see the consequences of it on Israel. Youth climate activity in Israel has been highly increased.

Since founding the movement in Israel, youth are working day and night to defend their future Israeli government policy towards climate change is only ignorance, the minister of energy has announced his plans on natural gas instead of using renewable energy. They also put a goal of 30% of renewable energy until 2030, a percentage that doesn't make sense compared to Israel's effect on global emissions.

One of the important activities that the youth movement is doing in Israel, is meeting with parliament members, as they called in Israel Knesset members.

The goal of the meetings is to invite decision-makers to work for tackling climate change. I'm so grateful that some parliament members are making these promises on climate change, but we need you all, 120 parliament members to act today to stop the climate crisis, and dedicate your career to it before it will be too late.

We're not asking for lots. We're asking for a safe life, for us and the new generations coming, for the people we love and care about, for the life on our planet, our only home.

3.7 Japan

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of Japan with a population of 100 million people. Currently, in Japan, electric power is managed mainly by thermal power plants, which occupies around 70%, and there are only 15% of renewable energy generated in Japan.

Because of that, Japan emits a lot of CO₂ that ranks in 5th in the world. Even after the number of populations are considered, the amount of CO₂ emissions per person is 5th highest in the whole country. Though in this miserable situation, the Japanese government doesn’t try to stop thermal power plants and the unbelievable thing is that they are planning to build 15 new coal-burning plants right now. These are the reasons that Japan was awarded for “Fossil of the Day” two times. The effects of climate change are also appearing in Japan, like fierce typhoons, heavy rains, and extremely hot days. The number of these things are dramatically increasing these days.

Based on this situation, we hold LCOY, and exchange views and work with local governments, especially Yokohama, Kyoto and Osaka. We have also submitted a statement to local governments to declare a climate emergency. This movement is gaining momentum, with about 5,000 people participating in last year's Global Climate March. We, the youth, suggest the Japanese government to end its dependency on coal-fired power and raise the NDC targets that have caused it to win the Fossil Award in COP24. We also call for an increase in the education budget on climate issues and investment in renewable energy projects to push to a sustainable nation. In order to achieve a sustainable society, we call on Japanese megabanks to end their financing of coal-fired power generation and on Japanese manufacturers to freeze construction projects of thermal power plants overseas.

Reflecting on receiving two Fossil Awards, we are ready to move forward with the transformation of Japan as a developed nation into a model nation for carbon reduction in the world. To this end, we will keep monitoring Japan’s future climate change efforts and continue to push for “actionable recommendations” to provide more concrete, scientifically informed opinions to Japan and other countries cooperating with other youth groups. Thank you for listening.
3.8 Kazakhstan

Hello everyone and welcome to Mock COP26 – Global youth initiative addressing climate change. My name is Alexandra Mussina and I am honored to be a representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

One may recall the most significant characteristic Kazakhstan cherishes, which is diversity. And, yes, diversity in Kazakhstan may be seen in each and every thing: whether those are the outlooks on the world (both European and Asian; or those are the natural diversity of landscapes and biological species, living here; or the multiethnic and multicultural population of Kazakhstan.

The core values Kazakhstani society has developed throughout it’s tough and complicated history are the friendly international relations and the peaceful relations within, which we share among others. In spite of the fact of being called a melting pot metaphorically, Kazakhstan is becoming the melting pot (quite) literally.

Climate change represents one of the biggest threats to the peace and security in the region of Central Asia right now. Those are mainly reflected in the escalating droughts and water shortages. We have the glaciers melting, which significantly influences the water supply in the region. In fact, right here, in Almaty, we have the glacier called Tyuk-Suu, that has been reduced twice in the past 70 years. And this scene is very scary for me and for the upcoming generations, since the peace and war are put at the stake due to the climate change. Moreover, the IPCC predicts that if the world follows the scenario of the 3 degree Celsius warming, Central Asia will experience 6 degree Celsius warming in the region.

Another aspect we should consider is that Kazakhstan is considered to be a trend-setter in Central Asia. Therefore, we have to address the issue right now. Kazakhstan is one of the biggest regional traders (suppliers) of oil and other subsoil natural resources in the World. And those (supplies) are significantly co-dependent on the private companies and investors to the region. We have to address and follow the sustainable and green innovations in order to fight climate change, adapt and mitigate the consequences of it.

And this issue has to be addressed now. Thank you for your attention (and see you).

3.9 Kuwait

Greetings honourable delegates and distinguished observers of Mock COP26. I speak to you today representing the youth of Kuwait. Kuwait is a small country in the Middle East and is roughly 170km from East to West and 200 km from North to South. It has a population of around 4.1 million. Here we experience a hyper-arid desert climate and in the summer months, our highest peak temperature average is 46.9°C.

Kuwait heavily relies on its petroleum industry and it makes up 50% of its Gross Domestic Product. The Kuwait oil reserves are considered to be the fourth largest in the world, and it is the eleventh largest oil manufacturer. In 2018 Kuwait emitted 23.1 metric tons of carbon dioxide per capita, this was a decrease from its 1970 value of around 51 metric tons per capita.

90% of the total population and urban area is in the coastal areas of Kuwait. Through climate change, sea-level rise is expected to severely impact these areas. Recent trends have indicated the severe loss of coral reefs and fish due to increasing temperatures of the Persian Gulf. Cases of severe heat stress are predicted to occur more frequently.

What progress has been made to mitigate the harmful effects of climate change? In 2019 Kuwait submitted its First Biennial Update Report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat. This report stated that several strategies are already in place for reducing its carbon footprint and in 2035, cumulative carbon dioxide emissions will decrease by 60,000 Gg.
The delegation of Kuwait hopes that Kuwaiti leaders can turn to their youth and engage them more in environmental affairs associated with climate change.

3.10 Kyrgyzstan

Thank you, the organizational board for an amazing job you are doing!

I am a delegate from Kyrgyz Republic. The mountainous country with a sharp continental climate meaning a very hot and dry summers and very cold winters.

Population in our country is very dependent on agriculture. Water streams feeding lands are formed partially from a glaciers located in our country. Sadly, due to climate change, glaciers are shrinking very fast and irrigation in summer time is expected to be faced with problems.

Abnormal weather was recorded in the recent years, whereas temperatures were higher and precipitation distribution is expected to change in the future as well.

As a country from a region highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, adaptation measures were elaborated in a green economy development program 2019-2023 and a civil society is getting more aware of the problems that would arise in the region due to climate change. Nevertheless, work on different levels is crucial for success. Awareness raising strategy should be developed on a high level that would demand bottom up approach for an adaptation to climate change. Moreover a strengthening of a capacity of local governmental bodies that are involved in adaptation should be done. Due to a difficult political situation at the moment processes are slowed down but we hope to reach stability, to collaborate with our neighboring countries and work together towards a sustainable future.

Fighting climate change demands not only finances what is often problematic for developing countries but institutional change and change in the mental concepts of our generation. Algorithms that worked before in all the countries might not work therefore we need to re-think existing sets of our minds and institutional settings.

3.11 Malaysia

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, honourable guests, and observers of Mock COP26, we are speaking to you as the delegates from Malaysia, a country in Southeast Asia with a population of 31.5 million people.

A recent survey completed by UNICEF and the UN Development Programme in 2020 revealed that 92% of youth in Malaysia recognise that climate change is a crisis. And 9 in 10 youth have personally experienced environmental and climate-related effects within the past three years.

Evidently, many Malaysians are already experiencing the widespread and intense effects of climate change. To us, it isn't a crisis arriving in 2030 or 2050, it is one that we are already living with now.

22% of Malaysians live in flood-prone areas and flooding disasters are a regular occurrence in Malaysia. For instance, in December 2019, monsoon floods displaced up to 15,000 people at a time nationwide. And in October 2020, heavy rain induced flooding in Sabah Malaysia affected 60 villages and displaced 400 people. Floods continue to have a devastating impact on our communities and are only predicted to intensify in strength and frequency as the climate crisis progresses.

Climate change is also expected to contribute directly to Malaysia's water resources falling by up to 25% and our crop yields falling by up to 10 to 15%. With 7.3% of our GDP coming from the agriculture sector, climate change will threaten our water security, food security, and our economy, including the
livelihoods of many farmers and fishermen, with one study predicting a 67% loss in revenue for Malaysian paddy farmers between 2020 and 2029.

Malaysia experiences seasonal haze almost every year that has not only impacted the air quality, but has also halted productivity and access of education to children due to closures of schools. Cumulatively, the sea level had also risen up to 0.05m in Malaysia and by 2050, the numbers are on track to rise up to the point that it will submerge more than half of the country.

On the aspect of climate justice, the delegate of Malaysia is delighted to say that the progress made by the government of Malaysia in assembling its environmental crime unit to be highly commendable.

According to a report by WHO, it was highlighted that the major health-related impacts of climate change on Malaysia consists of undernutrition, climate sensitive impact such as malaria and cholera, and heat related diseases.

The delegation would next like to highlight local youth initiatives such the coordination of efforts by youth-led civil society organisations to send youth delegation to the Conference of Parties, organising climate education efforts conducting lobbying sessions with the relevant ministries and encouraging dialogues for discussions.

To conclude the speech, the delegate of Malaysia would like to urge its audiences to highlight efforts of mitigation and adaptation, calling for the mobilisation and empowerment of youths and also holding its respective governments accountable to their commitments to the Paris Agreement. This delegation would also like to take the opportunity to command the staff of Mock COP26 for their excellent efforts in organising such an amazing avenue for the youths and hopes that the caucuses will yield an excellent global statement. Thank you.

3.12 Mongolia

Hello, delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We are representing the youth of Mongolia, which is the second largest landlocked country in the world located between China and Russia.

Here in Mongolia, we have been living a nomadic lifestyle and coexisting in harmony with nature under harsh climate conditions. According to Mongolian Ministry of Environment, the mean air temperature increased by more than 2 degrees Celsius between 1940 and 2014, which is more than twice the global average.

Almost 50% of Mongolian 3 million population are employed in animal husbandry. Approximately 70% of the grassland of Mongolia is impacted by desertification while barren land expanded 3 times bigger. Climate change had a vast impact on herders as they need pasture not barren land, which also resulted in many giving up their job as herders and moving to Ulaanbaatar city.

Young people around the world are driving change. Then, what Mongolian youth are doing? Mongolian young people are connected by an environmental network and increasing public awareness on climate change as well as environmental problems. Also, we translated UNEP’s TUNZA magazine to our mother tongue Mongolian and sent it to every city and prefectures in Mongolia, hoping to raise the public’s environmental education. However, young people’s effort cannot be enough without government support.

Mongolia has been very active in establishing a policy environment for climate change mitigation and adaptation. However, while overgrazing has contributed to the changes in the environment, climate change has exacerbated the impacts.

Mongolian government is trying its best but still we are not noticing more benefits to the community.
As youth, we hope our government would start taking actions more responsibly.

3.13 Myanmar

Good morning distinguished delegates and honourable observers of Mock COP26. The delegation of Myanmar is speaking to you today representing the youth of Myanmar, a large tropical country in South East Asia with a population of 54 million people.

Myanmar, being a least developed country, is already starting to suffer from the worst effects of climate change. In addition to a general increase in temperature and erratic rainfall patterns, extreme weather events in recent years have caused, inter alia, billions of dollars in property damage, displacement of millions of people, and thousands of deaths.

As such, the youth of Myanmar, recognizing that the severity of such events will only increase in the future, and fully aware of the threats posed by the climate crisis to our long-term socio-economic development and well-being, demand that the Burmese government designs, and more importantly implements, more ambitious sustainable development plans and policies, with a particular focus on the expansion of the clean energy and public transportation sectors.

We likewise request that the government continues with and improves upon the current forest rehabilitation and preservation programs, while also integrating climate education into the national curriculum.

The delegation of Myanmar additionally calls upon Myanmar and all other member states to pass legislation codifying ecocide into their own national law, and to submit a proposal amending the Rome Statute to include ecocide, thus making it a crime punishable under international law.

Finally, we request more economically developed country parties to ensure that integrity in the provision and administration of climate funds is retained, and that there is an augmentation in the number of capacity building, financial support, and technology development and transfer programs available to less economically developed countries.

The delegation of Myanmar hereby concludes its statement, emphasizing again the importance of immediate action and mutual cooperation in overcoming the climate crisis. Thank you.

3.14 Nepal

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26! Namaste!

We speak to you today as the proud youth delegates of Nepal. Nepal is among the most vulnerable countries to the climate crisis due to the country’s fragile topography, climate-dependent livelihoods, and limited adaptive capacity.

In just 2 years, a Nepali peak, Mount Saipal has become snowless. Our lives are melting along with our mountains. Climate change is here. As its impact intensifies over time, it is the people of vulnerable nations who will face the worst effects. I am one among them.

40 percent of Nepal’s population are youth amongst whom millions are thriving to combat the climate crisis. Yet the government and civil societies have been reluctant to believe in them. They should be ashamed of the fact that they still have not prioritized them despite giving speeches on it and the tireless effort of the young people.
Youth should be recognized as local environmental ambassadors. More than 300 Nepali youths recently issued a joint declaration urging the Government of Nepal to implement our common demands to achieve climate resilience.

We appreciate our government’s position in preparing the E-NDC (2nd NDC, draft). We urge to reflect youth priorities i.e. promoting green entrepreneurship, research, and development, technology transfer, and the pledge to achieve carbon neutrality from 2030 to 2040 in it.

We urge the government for mandatory inclusion of children, youth (below 29 years), and vulnerable communities in the planning and decision making in climate. Climate education should be made a compulsory subject in the academic curriculum and teach the students to make effective changes. We urge to elect an Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) National Focal Point and to provide incentives on electric vehicles and promote non-motorized and public transportation.

My generation of Nepalese youth feels an incredible sense of fear and urgency because climate change is already disrupting our lives. We are demanding our Government take immediate action and address the mentioned areas. We just have 10 years to reverse this crisis. Despite Nepal's emission of 0.027%, it is committed to taking determined actions. We, therefore, call on all Parties to submit and achieve highly ambitious NDCs to reach the 1.5°C warming limit.

We urge the developed country to achieve the goal of jointly providing USD 100 billion annually by 2020 and commit to establishing a new window of finance for loss and damage thereby also providing appropriate technology and capacity-building support.

The climate emergency continues in 2020 despite COVID 19, yet it still must be the year of ambition. It's a chance to speed up the move to greener economies.

To all the governments and businesses, our message is “You don’t know us but millions of youth like me are hoping you will save our future. We need you to do the right thing. Please don’t disappoint us.”

My country didn’t cause global heating but we’re suffering from it.

We hope that we can change the projections and tell the stories of change to our children that we listened to the science and acted to ensure a livable planet and a just future for all.

After all, what brings tomorrow depends on the fast action we take today! Thank you!

3.15 Oman

Hello and “alslam alikom” distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. I am Maryam Alkharusi, presenting the youth of the Sultanate of Oman, which is a coastal country located in the southeast of the Arabian Peninsula in West Asia region, neighboring Yemen, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Oman has an area of 309,501 km² which varies from mountains, deserts as plains. The population of Oman is 4.6 million people and its climate is hot and dry.

Unfortunately, global climate changes have clearly affected the Omani nature through increasing desertification rates, soil and water salinity, and increasing the frequency of tropical cyclones. Oman is classified according to the global definition of desertification, that most of the country’s areas are extremely arid, 95% of which are climatically deserted and affected by desertification to an above-average degree. Also, fourth- and fifth-degree hurricanes are increasing by 25% and with tremendous rain.

However, the Omani youth believe in their crucial role in facing the climate change crisis. They have participated in shaping the Oman 2040 Strategy, as they have input into the priority of environment and natural resources. They have official roles as environmentalists in government and the private
sector, which are pushing for new technology and best environmental practices. Also, they have launched several national volunteer campaigns to reduce the effects of climate change, such as the forestation Oman campaign (وشجير_عمان) to restore green cover again and the Clean Oman campaign (نظيف_عمان) of non-degradable waste. Moreover, the Omani youth have contributed by volunteering in national projects such as planting a million mangrove trees.

Notably, Oman is among the first countries in the region that paid a great attention to climate action, nationally, regionally and internationally, for combating the climate change crisis through initiatives, strategies and projects that focus on renewable energy sources and low-carbon technologies to reduce the impact of the oil industry on the environment.

We request that the nation leaders continue what the Late Sultan Qaboos started back in 1985 when he first addressed environmental consideration. We hope that climate actions are further strengthened, and further realistic goals are put in place to minimize our contribution to climate change without compromising our ambitions to prosper as a developing country. First and foremost, giving attention to climate education in schools and universities, because climate education is a first and vital solution for any climate crisis.

Oman has a unique environment and components that its significance is recognized nationally and internationally. As youth of Oman, we have a great responsibility forward our environment and we are trying our best to keep it in a good status to the next generation and exchanging our experiences with the global youth to limit this global crisis all together, as we can!

### 3.16 Pakistan

Excellencies, Distinguished Fellow Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. Let me begin by sending you all, good wishes from the land of pure, Assalam o Alaikum!

I take this opportunity to send my heartiest congratulations to the youth from Global North and the Global South for setting out Mock COP26 amid the pandemic. This has proved that we, young people, are committed to deriving change regardless of the hurdles and the world can not ignore how we stand as major stakeholders in the global climate diplomacy and climate empowerment arena.

Pakistan is a South Asian country with exceptionally diverse geography, climatic, and socio-economic zones. Its diversity extends to its temperate, tropical, and sub-tropical ecosystems enriched with the indigenous flora and fauna. Pakistan’s role in the fight against climate change has always remained very affirmative whether it is a call to action or negotiations, but I’m afraid to share that besides the fact that Pakistan contributes less than 1% to the global GreenHouse Gases (GHGs) trajectory, its rapid transition from being the 8th most vulnerable country in 2017 to the 5th in 2020 as per “The Long Term Climate Risk Index (CRI)” is startling.

Over the past few decades, we have been experiencing frequent and extreme episodes of floods and droughts. Pakistan stands by irresistible heat waves every passing year with increasing numbers of fatalities. The impact of the leaping global temperatures resulting in glacial melting, disproportionate rain patterns, droughts, air pollution (smog), and urban flooding is not just confined to the hotspots but is widespread, causing humanitarian and other economic issues. The indigent communities are front liners facing the aftermath of this loss and damage. It is high time to acknowledge the fact that developing countries are worst hit due to climate change owing to the vulnerable infrastructures and scarcity of resources to adapt to the negative impacts. This is not less of an attempt to deprive us of our rights and we will keep raising the voices to put our case forward to seek climate justice.

As the representative of the 64 percent of the Pakistani youth, I stand proud saying that even when Pakistan is comparatively an inconspicuous emitter, we still aspire to reach net-zero emissions by
trimming 20% of the projected emissions by 2030 as reflected in our INDC report. But Intent is not enough, at this high time we need to accelerate the action through capacity building, technological transfer, and climate fundings. We stand with our government but we also demand the right to claim space at the decision-making tables. Youth is the future. We have the capacity, knowledge, innovative ideas, and above all will and power to create momentum in this movement against climate change.

When young people, women, the elderly, and children are disproportionately affected by the effects of climate change they should not be treated in a tokenistic way, rather included in a mechanism through right reforms and institutionalization. This is the reason the Pakistan youth is taking over the lead for climate activism at the grassroots level. It is heartbreaking to see the criminal negligence and wrong decisions of some people who are letting nature be destroyed with our future fading away for the sake of business as usual and top-bottom approaches of the system.

We still are hopeful. We know that we are not alone in this journey. Out there is youth like us working for a sustainable future and we'll keep working until our voices are heard, our efforts are acknowledged, and our presence is welcomed as stakeholders of our futures.

3.17 Palestine

The holy land, the land of culture and the land of nature, this is how I think of my beautiful country Palestine. Palestine is an occupied country located at eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Though I have never lived there or even visited my country, I would like to be the voice of the unheard and represent it at MockCOP 26 hoping to shed light on the issue my people are facing and to raise awareness and create impact.

As a matter of fact, combating climate change in the Occupied Palestinian Territories induces challenges that are not present in any other country in West Asia.

The reality is that Palestine is controlled by several political parties, this has resulted in a vast imbalance in the experiences of the effects of climate change, the ability to tackle it, and the ability to produce harmonized assessments and evaluations of its effects due to poor and inconsistent data collection.

In general, key indicators for the local impact of global climate change include:

- an accelerated rise in sea level;
- decreased participation;
- significant warming;
- a tendency towards more extreme weather events;
- greater water scarcity;
- falling agricultural productivity.

Out of all the threats I just mentioned, water is the most crucial issue to be looked up now.

Water availability and quality is decreasing by day and we need to do something about it now before it is too late especially with the constant population growth and urbanization.

So what is Palestine doing about it?

Palestine signed and ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016, and committed to being an active player in tackling and responding to climate change. But the State of Palestine’s emissions per person are extremely low, and so we need other countries to also play their part in mitigation.
Luckily, the youth are more aware of the environmental issues and are well educated about the topic. Many NGOs have been founded to deal with several imminent environmental issues. These include: WEDO, Sunflower Association for Human and Environment Protection and AAP.

Lastly, I am aware that the political issues play the most important factor in resolving most of the issues but I would like to see the Palestinian authorities innovating new solutions that grant us access to clean water. It would also be good to fund any innovations and experiments that the locals are coming up with to resolve any of the issues. Furthermore, more education is needed around these topics and ideally it would be introduced to kids at a young age in school. It could be as simple as recycling plastic.

In conclusion, we must separate the environment from politics. Human health and wellbeing must be above all the political differences.

I hope to make a difference for my country through Mock COP 26 and to shed light on the challenges. Thanks a lot.

3.18 Philippines

Madam President, 2020 was supposed to be the “Super Year for Nature” as global leaders planned to come together to chart our collective course in addressing the climate crisis through the highly anticipated UNFCCC COP26. Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference was postponed. With this postponement, global leaders fail to realize that while we are still facing lockdowns because of the pandemic, the climate crisis continues.

The Philippines is suffering the brunt of the climate crisis despite contributing so little. Typhoons ravaging our cities, droughts killing our farmers, and coral reef die-offs threatening our food security are just some examples of what climate change is doing to our country. Year after year, empty promises are made during the COP, while our people continue to die. The pandemic did not stop the climate crisis, so it cannot stop climate action either; we, the youth from the Global South are leading the charge and gaining momentum for stronger action.

We demand genuine, urgent climate action from our leaders. We call for a green leadership that does not antagonize scientists and activists. Beyond sloganeering, the Philippine government must prove its commitment to climate action with a scientific, comprehensive, and people-first NDC that works with civil society toward meeting its environmental and emissions targets. We demand quality and accessible climate education programs that integrate modern science with community and Indigenous knowledge. We demand the protection of environmental and climate protectors against corporate and state aggression; and continue to seek justice for the hundreds killed for asserting human and environmental rights.

World leaders should also be held accountable. We urge you to listen to the science and heed the calls of climate activists, especially those from the Global South. Those countries contributing most to the climate crisis must achieve even more ambitious NDCs, divest from destructive industries, and assist in the technical capacity-building and climate-resilient community development initiatives of the Global South.

We must address the climate crisis with the same urgency as the COVID-19 pandemic; we strongly urge our government and global leaders to reaffirm their commitment to address the climate crisis and take bold climate action immediately. Youth involvement and participation in decision-making is a must. We refuse to inherit a dead planet — our right to a green, just, and equitable future is non-negotiable.
Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We are the delegates representing Singapore. As a small, low-lying city-state in Southeast Asia, we are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of the climate crisis.

We have been experiencing annual increases in temperatures, in sea levels, and in rainfall patterns. Singapore’s shores include reclaimed land, with about 30 percent of the land being less than 5m above the sea level. Rising sea levels could destroy coastal inland and could potentially wipe out the island. We are a water-scarce country dependent on various sources of water. Changes in weather patterns such as excessive rain can threaten our water supply, stress our drainage system, and cause flash floods. Climate change has also led to increased episodes of vector-borne diseases in Singapore such as dengue.

In Singapore, our youths are at the forefront of climate action. The SG Climate Rally is one such example, and its organizers have recently concluded their inaugural Activism in Crisis festival and are actively assembling a broad-based movement to mobilize our communities for a just transition. Our delegation affirms this commitment.

We call upon the leaders of Singapore:

1. to acknowledge the severity of impact the climate crisis will have upon the most vulnerable segments of our resident and migrant population locally and abroad,
2. to affirm the urgency for public, private, and community institutions to collectively take comprehensive systemic action to transition towards livable futures for all,
3. to decisively move away from the present-day culture of extractive and exploitative practices towards a culture built on regenerative and restorative practices,
4. to reconfigure our relationship with each other, with the natural world, and between the State and civil society, to become care-centric, collaborative, and equitable,
5. to establish clearly-defined milestones for the full decarbonization of our economy, divestment from fossil fuels and investment in renewable energy,
6. to commit to an equitable and just transition centering the well-being of the working-class by re-empowering their control over their livelihoods,
7. to accompany climate action with necessary reforms in social policy, economic strategy, and political systems to ensure unconditional standards of dignity for all,
8. and to proactively refocus our social compact to prioritize nourishment and sustenance as the basis for all human activity.

The climate crisis demands concerted worldwide action. Climate concerns never were, and never will be confined to any one country. International collaboration, capacity-building, and solidarity is necessary for effective climate action. Key players most responsible for raising global greenhouse gas concentrations have to be held accountable.

We call on leaders worldwide to actively support youth leaders everywhere in tackling the crisis. This must go beyond offering small grants for projects. Governments cannot afford to exclude youths from the table. It is our futures at stake. We need to make decisions in a participatory approach elevating youth voices, visions, strategies, and action to address the climate crisis decisively.

Young people in Singapore know too well the urgency and necessity for climate action to address systemic causes rather than just symptoms. We have consistently demonstrated that we are prepared to take action. Walk alongside us and take our calls seriously. Remember: “This is not a game of cards! This is your life and mine.”
3.20 South Korea

Hello, distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of South Korea. In 2018, we have struggled with the scorching heat wave, which casted the worst effects on the socio-economically vulnerable populations. In 2019, the Korean peninsula was hit by 7 typhoons, the largest number in 60 years. This summer, we had the longest rain season in history, which caused deadly floods and landslides in many regions. Climate change is bringing hardships in agriculture, causing economic damage to our hard-working farmers. It is also threatening the tradition of hanyeos, the female Indigenous divers in Jeju, with the rising sea water temperature. We cannot let climate change take away our UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.

To protect our people, communities, and future, young people have been at the forefront of the fight against climate change. We’ve organized multiple climate strikes, and last September, we were able to stir up more than 500 youths to walk out of school. We launched campaigns to halt coal power plants. When we pressured Samsung to withdraw from a new coal project in Vietnam, more than 420 young people from 30 countries joined us to sign the petition. We even sued our government for violating our generation’s rights to a livable planet by failing to take adequate action on climate change. Our activism has changed how the public views climate change in Korea, and we’ve seen some meaningful adoptions of our demands like the announcement of local education offices to keep their money out of the banks that invest in coal.

President Moon Jae-in recently declared that South Korea will go carbon neutral by 2050. However, it would be impossible to achieve this goal without fundamental changes in the climate policies. To achieve this long-term goal, our government must strengthen South Korea’s 2030 targets on reducing Greenhouse gas emission (NDC) in line with the Paris Agreement. To fulfill these strengthened emission targets, our government must present a clear roadmap to phase-out coal by 2030 and transition to renewable energy. And most importantly, to stop funding coal plants overseas. Furthermore, our government must provide mandatory Climate Education for students at all levels, teaching them to take action locally, nationally, and internationally on climate change.

As the 8th biggest greenhouse gas emitter, South Korea has an immense responsibility in the global climate crisis. Yet, it is the poorest countries that face the aftermath of our lack of actions. For instance, Kiribati is one of many countries that has been suffering from rising sea levels. Imagine that your country is drowning to disappearance. Kiribati’s rich culture and traditions are about to disappear, and more than 110,000 of their citizens will become stateless. Developed countries including South Korea should be more active in implementing the Paris Agreement and providing protection for the most vulnerable areas. We should eliminate our emissions as soon as possible so that the less developed countries can have the chance to raise their standard of living.

3.21 Sri Lanka

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26, I am here today representing the youth of Sri Lanka. As we all know, Sri Lanka is known as the pearl of the Indian Ocean consisting of a 21 million population. Besides, our country is a top biodiversity hotspot in the world with less than 0.1% per capita greenhouse gas emissions.

Here in Sri Lanka, we are experiencing the effects of climate change through rainfall variations, temperature rise and sea level rise. Sri Lanka has been highlighted as a high risk country for climatic impacts by being ranked the 2nd in Global Climate Index in 2019 and currently ranked 6th for 2020 still remaining in the top 10 most vulnerable countries. As youth, we observe severe destruction to our forestry cover. Our forest cover gets reduced rapidly and we have only less than 20% left. Besides, garbage issues keep increasing and Sri Lanka was ranked 4th of top plastic polluters to the ocean in 2018. Not only that but also our air quality is rapidly decreasing in some parts of Sri Lanka.
As the youth of Sri Lanka, we continuously have been engaged to combat climate change while gearing mitigation and adaptation measures at ground level across Sri Lanka. Youth can be recognized as a key stakeholder to engage at the national level to combat climate change. Young people should not be left behind and should be inclusive in all decision making processes.

As the youth, we ask the government of Sri Lanka to work towards achieving NDCs. As agreed and ratified we would like to see our country increase the forest cover up to 32% and we would like to see the ratified 20% reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Besides, we hope our country will stick to the 1.5 degree Celsius target of the Paris agreement.

As the youth of Sri Lanka, we demand that our government take necessary actions and address the areas mentioned above considering the climate change as an emergency. Thank You.

3.22 Syria

Syria has been experiencing the implications of the climate crisis since the severe 2006-2007 drought. In the wake of the drought, agricultural collapse pushed rural people into cities in large numbers, resulting in competition over resources and jobs. The government’s mismanagement of resources and reduced subsidies following the drought pushed a robust agricultural sector into decline, resulting in a rise in food prices and overall inflation. The negative consequences of the climate crisis and the mismanaged government pushed already fed-up people to a civil war.

With the war still occurring in 2020, Syria is facing yet another climate crisis; large scale wildfires across the coastal regions which are becoming a recurring annual event due to climate change. An October assessment by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) found that the fires had significant damage reported in 179 villages, affecting more than 40,000 families through injuries, temporary displacement, loss of houses and assets, and majorly loss of crops and livestock. As temperatures rise, the chances of new droughts and more wildfires increases, which could further water scarcity in Syria.

It is clear that the effect of climate change in Syria will only exacerbate the problems being faced right now by Syrians. Due to the mismanagement of the drought, which sparked the war, it is also clear that Syria and its leadership cannot be held accountable or pushed into climate policies. Therefore, global leaders must come together to tackle the climate crisis in Syria.

Focusing on the UN Atlantic Council, the UN’s Green Climate Fund should expand its Middle East projects to focus on the climate resilience of water, riparian coastal resilience, and arid irrigated agriculture. The climate change challenge for the Middle East is primarily about adaptation and making development climate-resilient. COP countries need to redouble their efforts on innovation with a specific focus on deploying technologies in the Middle East that would alleviate resource scarcities before they arise. Some ideas include water desalination and more sustainable and efficient agricultural practices.
3.23 Thailand

The seasons in Thailand are changing.

ทุกฤดูกาลของไทยกำลังเปลี่ยนแปลงไป

The Sun used to be more forgiving to our skin; the rain blessed the farmers when they needed to grow crops; the winds used to fill our lungs with clear air.

ดวงอาทิตย์เคยใจดีกับผิวเรามากกว่านี้
สายฝนให้พรกับชาวนา เมื่อพวกเขาต้องการปลูกพืชผล
สายลมเคยพัดพาลมบริสุทธิ์เข้าปอดของเรา

Now, the sun mercilessly burns us; the rain patterns become more erratic, flooding the villages; the winds now choke us with the dust they carry.

ตอนนี้ ดวงอาทิตย์แผดเผาเราอย่างไร้ปราณี
สายฝนเริ่มคาดเดาไม่ได้และรุนแรงขึ้น ทำให้ท่วมบ้านเมือง
สายลมขัดการหายใจของเรา ด้วยฝุ่นที่พัดพาระหว่าง

Thailand is no stranger to climate change and environmental issues. There are 3 main problems Thailand wishes to raise.

ประเทศไทยนั้นคุ้นเคยดีกับปัญหาด้านการเปลี่ยนแปลงของภูมิอากาศและสภาพแวดล้อม
ประเทศไทยต้องการจะยกประเด็น 3 อย่างขึ้นในวันนี้

The first issue is waste management. Southeast Asia has been chosen as the alternative dumping ground after some developed nations declared to stop importing waste. Unsurprisingly, Thailand contradicted itself by accepting the imports with open arms, while claiming to lessen the amount of waste by only banning single-use plastic bags. Between 2016 and 2018, the ASEAN region saw plastic waste imports grow by a staggering 171%. Even though Thailand had banned the imports, the irreversible damage has been done.

ปัญหาแรกคือการจัดการขยะ
เอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้กลายเป็นถังขยะโลกไปแล้วหลังจากที่ประเทศที่พัฒนาแล้วประกาศยกเลิกนำเข้าขยะ

ปัจจุบันแล้วเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้มีประเทศที่มีการกักเก็บขยะเข้าจากต่างประเทศเพิ่มมากขึ้นเรื่อยๆ ซึ่งทำให้การจัดการขยะในแต่ละประเทศต้องมีการปรับแก้ไขเพื่อให้สามารถจัดการกับขยะที่ถูกนำเข้าได้
Thai youths have been very disturbed by these three issues. Like others around the world, they have vocalized their concerns and have advocated for Thailand to be more sustainable through organizations like Action for Climate Empowerment, Fridays For Future, and Climate Strike Thailand. All we ask is for the government to listen to us.
To further support the Paris Climate Agreement, the SDGs, and the UNFCCC, in accordance with the 5th national strategy, Thailand should not stop at reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions. The government shall listen to the youth’s demands, trying its best to solve the disruptive issues aforementioned. For one, it should focus on domestic plastic and electronic waste and enforce Extended Producer Responsibility alongside other policies. Two, it should limit the amount of emissions factories, power plants, and households produce. Three, it should cooperate with the people to address problematic systems and infrastructures that keep them in poverty.

This delegate is proud to deliver this statement as the representative of Thai youths who would like to see governments all around the world address climate change.

Thailand is looking forward to discussing potential agreements and policies in this Mock COP26 conference. This delegate pledges to commit fully and tirelessly to ensure that our planet is cherished and protected.
3.24 United Arab Emirates

Hello, hola, jambo, namaste, bonjour, konnichi wa, namaskaram, marhaba, distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP 26. Whilst representing the United Arab Emirates, a small country located in the eastern part of the Arab world, we are here to address a universal issue. Climate change is an impending crisis that requires a global effort to mitigate and we are hoping that the name of our country, United Arab Emirates reflects our continued collaboration with the world. With one of the highest carbon footprints per capita, the UAE still requires a lot of progress.

With a highly insufficient NDC, the UAE does not provide a greenhouse gas emission reduction target, energy plans are not compatible with the warming limit of 1.5°C and emissions are expected to rise by 50% by 2030. The need to transition into a green country is greater than ever. So here are 9 changes we as the youth want to see implemented:

1. Stronger enforcement for crimes around the mistreatment of the environment for individuals and companies
2. More protected areas - funding for ecotourism
3. Incentivisation of shared and electrical transportation
4. Adopt a “One Health” approach and introduce convivial conservation
5. A green, circular economy and investing in sustainable infrastructure - incentives for producers to reuse their waste
6. Improve environmental education - integration of green economy and sustainable development into school curriculum and more initiatives like Connect with Nature.
7. Greater number of solar desalination plants to "deal" with the potential water shortages and droughts posed by global warming.
8. Government incentives for hydroponic farming to lower UAE data food imports and conserve water
9. Increase energy efficiency in buildings through retrofitting

Most importantly, we want the national climate change plan to be fully achieved.

With Vision 2021 approaching, an initiative targeting a sustainable environment and infrastructure, we are hoping this vision brings about huge changes and highlights why the youth should be involved in key decisions.

In the UAE, only 2 out of 10 youth want life to go back to “normal” post-COVID 19. Rather than let this statistic be lost in the vast sea of numbers, let it be the forefront message of an upcoming paradigm shift in the way we all live our lives.

4. EUROPE

4.1 Austria

Austria is a small country located in the centre of Europe and has a population of nearly 9 million inhabitants.

Our country is highly affected by climate change as the increase in the annual average temperature is about 2 degrees Celsius compared to the levels of 1880 – in comparison: the global average increase is about 1 degree. Along the west - east gradient in Austria the landscape differs and so do the consequences of climate change. While in mountainous areas in the western part of the country we can observe glaciers melting, less snow and a higher risk of natural disasters, the eastern part, where also Vienna locates, suffers mainly from droughts and heat waves.
Young people in Austria have been actively calling for climate justice for many years and we also have a significant history of young people who have been standing up for nature conservation. In recent years the local conference of youth and Fridays for Future became key motivators for networking activities, empowerment opportunities and for young people to connect and stand up together to demand more climate ambition from national and international politicians.

During the third local conference of youth in October 2020 participants formulated demands to Austrian leaders which can be summarized in four most important fields. First of all, we need fair carbon pricing throughout the economy – ensuring to leave no one behind.

Secondly, communication is key: We need to save our homes! Framing it to the positive and highlighting opportunities are crucial. And last but not least, the judicial part: Ensuring all current and new legislation should be in line with the climate targets.

Overall climate activists want to see learnings from the COVID-19 pandemic. In Austria a lot of money was made available fast to save the economy after the first lockdown and young people want to see the same resources being made available for fighting climate change; treat every crisis like a crisis. Additionally, we demand all subsidies and funding aiming to boost the economy only to be given to climate friendly projects.

The European Youth calls for climate objectives that are in line with science and the Paris Agreement. This means: cutting the GHG by at least 65% in 2030. This ambitious target requires adoption of consistent and coherent policies across all sectors and an effective implementation of the Green Deal.

My name is Katja and together with Ines and Antoine I am looking forward to representing Austria at the Mock COP26 and raising Austria’s ambition in contrast to the political action our country takes at the actual COP. We are not only urging for action to be taken in real life, but we deserve it.

4.2 Belarus

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. I speak to you today representing the youth of Belarus, a country in Eastern Europe with a population of 10 million people. Here in Belarus, we are very privileged to not witness the worst effects of the climate crisis yet. But we can see the agroclimatic zones are shifting due to global warming. In summer there are more heatwaves and droughts. There is still a lack of green spaces, that’s not to mention the negative impact of urban growth on habitats and biodiversity.

There are some projects that implement activities in order to initiate the stakeholders’ engagement in the development of the climate agenda. For example, TeRRIFICA project in Belarus is focused on data collection, mapping stakeholders, testing crowdmapping tool and development of behavior change methodologies, based on best practices and tools in climate mitigation and adaptation.

Our young people took part in online activities within the FFF. In Belarus we don’t have the possibility to organize strikes. Freedom of speech was and is being violated, we do not have access to information. After the presidential election this summer young people are under intense pressure. From August to November 2020 a number of environmental activists and journalists were detained.

We are organizing climate conferences and interactive lessons to make more people aware of the climate crisis. We are asking the government to make climate education mandatory for all elementary and secondary school students, and implement into the curriculum the science on the climate crisis.

Climate related programs, strategies have been adopted in Belarus to improve the environmental situation. In September 2016, the country ratified the Paris Agreement. But all efforts for joint work of civil society and the authorities have been canceled out by the political crisis after the 2020 elections.
Belarus can and should take various economic and institutional measures in the fight against climate change: to create a system of trading in greenhouse gas emissions. In the field of adaptation to changes, it is necessary to create a national adaptation fund, insurance against the risks of extreme events, to develop adaptation strategies by the economic sector.

We, young people, cannot continue working in safety on the climate crisis in view of an ongoing political one. We call on the authorities to stop the violence, violation of civil and political rights and start working on the climate crisis. Thanks.

4.3 Belgium

Distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26, Belgium is a small and densely populated country at the very heart of the European Union. It has a complex federal structure. More than 11 million inhabitants enjoy a very high standard of living according to the Belgian Human Development Index. But this lifestyle goes with an alarmingly high carbon footprint: if everyone lived like Belgian people do, we would need 4.3 planets.

So far we have been climate laggards, slow in organizing our energy transition and settling for the least common denominator. Reflecting on our assets on the one hand, and on our historical GHG emissions on the other hand, the Belgian Youth recognizes that the Belgian nation has to take its responsibility to build a desirable future.

Firstly, we call on our governments to invest in climate change mitigation and adaptation. We need to invest domestically in a recovery plan that massively supports among other things green jobs, renewable energy, building renovation, soft mobility and ecosystem restoration. Belgium should also invest abroad. To actually respect the engagement made during COP15 towards developing nations [Copenhagen engagement], Belgium should increase its climate finance budget to €500 million each Year.

Secondly, the youth demands that Belgian authorities listen to science in their attempt to keep the global temperature rise below 2°C. As part of the European Youth, we call “for climate objectives that are aligned with science and the Paris Agreement. This means: cutting the EU GHG emissions by at least 65% in 2030. This ambitious target requires the adoption of consistent and coherent policies across all sectors and an effective implementation of the Green Deal.” Belgium must support and implement policies that integrate climate matters in agriculture and in commercial agreements.

Finally, Belgium should reform its climate governance. The current structure has hindered our ambition and coherence. Belgian policy makers urgently have to set their internal dissensions aside, and act upon our national motto: unity makes strength. We must do our utmost best to work as one, in solidarity, because we can not afford to let the least ambitious of us set the pace.

To conclude, the Belgian Youth demands climate ambition and policy coherence. In addition, the Belgian Youth demands solidarity: between Wallonia and Flanders, between the rich and the poor, between the Global North and the Global South, between the elders and the future generations.

Thank you.

4.4 Bosnia and Herzegovina

Dear distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26, we speak to you today representing the youth of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a country in the Eastern Europe with a population of 3 and a half million people. Although we hadn’t yet experienced the effect of the climate crisis in magnitude some other nations in the world had, we still experience great air pollution with our capital city being one of
the world’s most polluted cities. Unfortunately, there hadn’t been great Fridays for Future youth turnout in our capital city and it might be due to the lack of climate education in school.

The House of Representatives of the Parliament of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, comprising 51% of the country, has just this June moved to ban construction of small hydropower plants. However, the end of desecration of our rivers and attack on lives of people living near rivers has been just one of the many problems people in our country face environmentally-wise. Adequate dispensing of pharmaceutical and medical waste, adequate regulation and punishment for exploitation of protected natural resources, ban of construction of small hydropower plants in Brcko District and Republic of Srpska and most importantly stoppage of further deterioration and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions are all necessary actions Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina should take before it is too late.

As youth from Bosnia and Herzegovina, we demand that our Government works closely and aligns its strategies and work with other nations and provides whatever support it can for the nations that struggle themselves. Next to this, our Government should introduce more environmentally related subjects in schools from a young age all the way to university. We believe it is high time we tackle this problem with decisiveness through firm leadership of the figures that understand our future is at stake. As youth, we hope our Government will involve us in the decision making and will take the responsibility for the lives of three and a half million people. Thank you.

4.5 Bulgaria

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you representing the youth of Bulgaria, a nation in Southeastern Europe, with a population of 7 million people, a member state of the European Union.

In a few days, in an action with climate banners we will call our Prime Minister to support a target of at least 65% reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, during the December European Council, as the new EU NDC.

Bulgaria has not yet suffered much harm due to climate change, but it is the young people who will experience the negative impacts strongly. The vulnerabilities coming from the already rising temperatures consist of increased risks of drought, fires, floods, frequent and longer heatwaves and cold waves.

The young people of Bulgaria are becoming more and more aware of the need to act on climate. The local branches of Fridays for Future have contributed to the largest climate protest in Sofia in September 2019, with climate actions happening in several cities.

As a means to combat the climate crisis Bulgaria should implement sooner the European Green Deal. The money for recovery from the coronavirus pandemic must be used so that we build our economies in a green and just way.

Carbon-neutrality could be achieved through government-implemented policies such as stopping support for fossil fuels, a swift transition to renewable energy and circular economy, while putting an end to the destruction of Bulgaria’s rich biodiversity. Needed are also local-level decisions encouraging agro-ecology and local eco-friendly production, clean public transport, renovation of the Railways and more pedestrian green zones.

Furthermore, we ask our government to implement climate education into the curriculum for all level education institutions. The power of education is vital in creating a more just, democratic society and a sustainable future where all of us and our country’s future generations could thrive.
As youth from Bulgaria we see and care about the consequences of climate change that are already taking many lives and homes around the world. As a developed country, it is our responsibility to help those affected most and to take more action than those with less resources. Realistic and science-based measures have been proposed and we demand that the government takes immediate action. For the better of the people in our country and in all other countries, who are suffering and will continue to suffer because of climate inaction.

We believe our government will finally begin accepting this responsibility and doing its fair share to deal with the climate crisis.

4.6 Denmark, Greenland and the Faroe Islands

We are the MockCOP26 delegates for Greenland, the Faroe Islands and Denmark.

In Denmark, our Global North lifestyle and high consumption generate a very high ecological footprint, whilst relying on the exploitation of nature and of poorer regions of the world.

The Faroe Islands are on the same exact track, for the same reason.

As a tiny portion of the world’s population and contribution to climate change, Greenland is still immeasurably impacted, with critical polar ice and sea level issues which endanger the livelihoods of its Indigenous populations.

In Denmark, the current climate ambitions rely on a hypothetical future development of CO₂ absorbing technology. This absolutely does not address the roots of the crisis we face.

In the Faroe Islands, the government is nowhere-near on track with its unambitious climate targets and legislations, especially when it comes to the fishing industry.

Given the tremendous potential of the landscapes of Greenland and Faroe Islands for renewable energy, there are opportunities that are not being harnessed.

Activists across all three territories have been pushing for years for policies and changes that are way more ambitious than their governments have been willing to even consider. We need this to change.

There are solutions. Disrupting ones, but they carry with them the level of change that we need to see for climate justice and healthy resilient livelihoods to thrive. Hence, we bring the following proposals to the table:

Firstly, we need our countries to transparently reveal to the public the extent of the emergency, and to democratically, with the Youth and minorities, design an agenda to mitigate and adapt to the crisis that puts our lives at risk.

Secondly, we acknowledge that the current policies in place reinforce a capitalist logic, which will not ever release the pressure on nature and marginalised populations. We also acknowledge that the current responsibilisation of consumers through a market approach is not an appropriate solution. We need to think bigger.

Which brings us to our third demand: We need to rethink our economic institutions. Denmark is rich enough and developed enough. We are in a position to stop looking at growth and look at the resilience and well-being of our communities instead, in order to reduce the inequalities that persist both within our country, and the ones we created through centuries of negative externalities imposed on the Global South. Our position gives us the responsibility of acting decisively while it’s still possible.
Finally, beyond climate neutrality, we request our countries reach climate positivity by 2035, as a recognition that we developed on the back of the Global South, and that they now need the emission space to develop and build the infrastructure to reach similar levels of development.

These demands need to be aligned with our society, by integrating them both within our legislations and our educational systems.

4.7 Finland

Honorable delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We represent Finland, a nordic country which is among the 10 highest greenhouse gas emitters per capita in Europe.

Because of its northern location, Finland has already seen a rise in average temperature of around twice the global average. This warming in the north is causing the melting of permafrost and methane release which is accelerating climate change. Especially in the global south - the climate crisis will have catastrophic impacts. As a developed welfare state, we want to see Finland taking more responsibility in supporting our brothers and sisters in the global south.

Finland must also take a leading role in climate change mitigation through national action. The Finnish government is currently rewriting our climate law. We demand our government to make the Finnish carbon neutrality target of 2035 legally binding and to give youth a bigger role in decision-making related to our future.

Finland must stop unsustainably managing its forests and ensure that carbon sinks will be harnessed to their full potential. Finland is also burning the biggest amount of peat globally. We demand our government to set an end date to peat usage, just as on other fossil fuels. Finland should change agricultural subsidies to promote carbon sequestration and biodiversity protection. As a EU member state, Finland should promote more effective carbon trading, taxation for aviation fuels and the enhancement of corporate responsibility on a European level.

The European Youth calls for climate objectives that are aligned with science and the Paris Agreement. This means: cutting our carbon emissions by 65% by 2030. To reach this target we require coherent and consistent policies across all sectors and effective implementation of the Green Deal.

We are extremely proud of all the climate activists in Finland, who are dedicating their time to combating the global crisis. We would like to call all climate activists to embrace Christiana Figueres’ idea of stubborn optimism. We believe in a better world and we will stop at nothing.

Finally, to all world leaders listening - the time for asking youth to solve the climate crisis is over. We have voiced our concern, now it’s your time to take responsibility and act.

4.8 France

Monsieur le Président, Mesdames et Messieurs les Ministres,

La France, forte d’une grande biodiversité du fait de sa métropole et de ses territoires d’outre-mer, est vulnérable au changement climatique. En tant que pays hôte de l’accord historique de Paris, la France doit prendre ses responsabilités et protéger davantage ses territoires et habitants. Notre pays est aujourd’hui responsable de 1% des émissions mondiales de GES et les conséquences du changement climatique touchent désormais notre quotidien (vagues de chaleur, inondations et périodes de sécheresses, déforestation, migrations climatique). Rappelons que la pollution de l’air cause la mort de 48 000 citoyens, chaque année en France.
Si le constat est préoccupant, la jeunesse française apparaît tout de même très mobilisée : au travers de marches pour le climat, d’actions de sensibilisation et de solutions pratiques pour améliorer son avenir.

Aujourd’hui, 99% des étudiants français se disent conscients des problèmes posés par le changement climatique et l’augmentation des associations d’étudiants témoigne de cette dynamique.

Ainsi, nous nous accordons avec la jeunesse européenne pour réclamer des politiques communes ambitieuses qui soient alignées avec les objectifs de l’accord de Paris. C’est-à-dire:

- Réduire nos émissions de GES d’au moins 65 % en 2030 à l’échelle de l’Union Européenne et ce par la mise en œuvre effective du "Green Deal".
- Réviser la nouvelle PAC pour qu’elle soit compatible avec la stratégie “Farm and Fork” ; le Green Deal et les Accords de Paris. En effet la PAC correspond à un tiers du budget de l’UE, et le secteur agricole à 10% des GES de l’UE.

Au niveau national, nous demandons que la France :

- Tienne ses objectifs en matière de réduction d’émissions GES. Rappelons qu’elle les a dépassés de 3,7% entre 2015-2019.
- Cesse de repousser les échéances établies par la SNBC en 2015 en réduisant les objectifs à court terme tout en les rehaussant à long terme.
- Prenne en compte les émissions importées dans son action diplomatique.
- Que l’intégralité des jeunes et des professeurs soit formée aux enjeux du réchauffement climatique, de la biodiversité, du développement durable et de la justice climatique. En effet, malgré une première intégration de ces enjeux dans les enseignements du secondaire, son apprentissage demeure facultatif et largement superficiel dans le supérieur : rappelons que 65% des étudiants estiment que tous les cursus doivent intégrer ces enjeux.
- Il nous semble important d’améliorer nos capacités d’adaptation en intégrant l’ensemble des acteurs concernés : élus, entreprises, agriculteurs, citoyens. On ambitionne de rendre nos villes plus résilientes, de freiner l’artificialisation des sols et de modifier l’agriculture en favorisant la diversification des cultures, les pratiques d’agroécologie et d’agroforesterie.

Ainsi que Margaret Mead prévenait de « ne pas douter du fait qu’un petit nombre de gens réfléchis et engagés peuvent changer le monde car c’est toujours ainsi que le monde a changé », on pense que la détermination de la jeunesse du monde entier a la capacité de faire bouger les choses.

Merci.

4.9 Germany

This is the high level statement from Germany. We are honored to be part of Mock COP26 and we want to show the world leaders how the Youth would face the climate crisis. Because one thing is certain: We are in the middle of the climate crisis and we have to act now. The world cannot wait until we are in positions of power.

During the corona pandemic, we suddenly noted that our German government is perfectly capable of treating a crisis as such. We need the same focus when it comes to the climate. Only because of a pandemic, Germany was able to meet the climate goals for 2020 that the government has set. This is not the way it should be. People are suffering from the corona crisis and the virus itself was able to develop because humans don’t care about our planet. This should be an eyeopener to us as the climate crisis is linked to many other social and economic crises.
Germany currently holds the presidency of the EU Council. That’s a perfect position to initiate change. The European Youth calls for climate objectives that are aligned with science and the Paris Agreement. That is: cutting our greenhouse gas emissions by 65% by 2030. This ambitious target requires to adopt consistent and coherent policies across all sectors and to effectively implement the Green Deal.

Germany, being part of the Global North, is facing a massive responsibility. And so, we - and millions of young people in Germany - demand actions such that the national emissions stop rising and finally drop. These actions must include a coal exit in 2030 the latest and an immediate stop of cutting trees in the Dannenröder forest for the construction of a new highway. But that’s only the start - we seek for an ecological transformation.

The climate crisis already is affecting even Germany - not only economically. We experience more heat waves in the summers that represent a risk for the weak and to our food supply system and a massive extinction of forests and species. But Germany is affected way less than other countries. There are already climate refugees who search for a safe home. We demand actions of solidarity with all refugees. Around the world and especially in the Global South, people are suffering, people are dying due to the climate crisis. A crisis for which we as Germans and our lifestyle are co-responsible. Therefore, we demand leaders of the Global North to listen to people of the Global South and to be aware of their responsibility, to be aware of their failure to create climate justice not yet. There is no time for excuses anymore, it is time to get to work.

4.10 Greece

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of the Mock COP 26. My name is Dimitris Vavourakis and I am representing the youth of Greece, a Mediterranean country, located in the South-eastern Europe with a population of 11 million people.

In Greece, we are already facing the effects of climate change. Increased global temperatures cause long dry periods in the summer, followed by extreme and more frequent heat waves and deadly wildfires, destroying forests, infrastructures and entire ecosystems. We are also confronting, with an increasing rate over the last years and especially during the cold months, severe thunderstorms and rainfalls that deposit huge amounts of water, causing floods and having multiple impacts in agriculture and stock-farming. Aquaculture and sea ecosystems are also affected by the increasing sea temperature with the hot waters attracting species that used to live in hotter waters than Mediterranean’s and threatening the local species with extinction. Unfortunately, these are only some of the direct ramifications that climate change and global warming have already brought to Greece and for time reasons I will not be able to refer to some of the indirect ramifications in my 3 minutes statement, but I will be very glad to discuss them in person.

What should we do? What should our government do?

Our government should take immediate action in order to restrain those consequences. Improve the target of being carbon neutral is one of those actions. Specifically, our country’s goal is to achieve a reduction of 56% in greenhouse gases by 2030, in contrast with 2005. It is already a goal difficult to achieve, at least with the existing power production. Over the last years there has been a lot of progress in Greece in trying to replace lignite and natural gas with renewable energy sources, such as sun and wind, as main power sources.

The state should put a lot more effort though in that direction, making it easier and economically convenient for citizens and companies to invest in such infrastructures without destroying the natural beauty of the landscapes. At the same time promoting the usage of electric vehicles by legislating that
way and giving advantages to the users of those vehicles, can be an important factor of reducing CO₂ emissions.

It is really important to introduce climate education in all school grades providing students with a scientific background about climate change and enabling them to organize actions at a local level. Last but not least, the Greek government should take into account climate change in each and every future plan about city design and infrastructures. Promote the construction of buildings that are energy self-sufficient and exploit the Green New Deal to the optimal level.

As a delegate that represents the youth of Greece, a country that already suffers from climate change in many ways as I have already mentioned, I strongly believe that there shouldn’t be any more time lost and the government should take into serious consideration our scientifically based proposal and act immediately.

4.11 Hungary

Hello to all the delegates and observers of Mock COP26. I’m here today, representing the youth of Hungary, a small country in Eastern Europe with a population of 9.7 million people.

Here in Hungary, we can already see some of the effects of the climate and ecological crisis, that being extreme weather patterns, however we recognise how privileged we are to be able to live in such a place. We see the suffering of peoples in other nations who are more severely affected, and we also know how we contributed to the global temperature rise.

The youth of Hungary have been organising protests and other events to demand change from our leaders. Around 10,000 people took part in climate strikes around the country in September 2019, but we haven’t stopped and we never will.

The European Youth calls for climate objectives that are aligned with science and the Paris Agreement. This means: cutting the EU GHG emissions by at least 65% in 2030. This ambitious target requires the adoption of consistent and coherent policies across all sectors and an effective implementation of the Green Deal.

In Hungary, our emissions have been decreasing and we are close to reaching the current goal of cutting 40% of our emissions in comparison to 1990. We demand that the Hungarian government be ambitious with their climate policies and not refrain from setting higher targets.

The current government solution is to use nuclear energy instead of burning fossil fuels. We already get 49% of our energy from nuclears, while only 12% from renewable resources. The 2030 target to get to 21% from 12% is a joke. Instead of investing in nuclear energy, we want the government to shift their entire scope to renewable energy.

As the youth of Hungary, we see the consequences of the crises we are experiencing around the world and in our homes. We have a responsibility to help those affected the most by reducing our emissions and helping other nations.

The government declared a climate emergency in our capital, they need to declare one across the whole country. Stop throwing around empty words.

In conclusion the youth of Hungary demands the government to invest in renewable energy, start taking action. Listen to the science, and do our fair share of keeping the global temperature rise below 1.5°C. Stop ignoring the facts and the voices of the youth. Treat this crisis like a crisis. Thank you.
4.12 Iceland

Dear delegates, dear world. We are honored to get this opportunity to represent Iceland at Mock COP26. Iceland is a small island nation of about 360,000 people. Despite our size, we are in a great position to act as an example.

Like every single nation on Earth, we stand to lose a lot from this crisis. Last year we mourned the loss of the very first glacier, Okjökull. Our glaciers are going to continue to melt. The acidification of the ocean is going to threaten our livelihood, and our reliance on imported food is going to become a very real problem if we don’t act fast.

There is a climate action plan, it’s in accord with international agreements, but it’s not enough.

Iceland's current Climate Action Plan aims to reduce ESR emissions by 39% compared to the year 2005, by the year 2030. Land use and ETS emissions are, unfortunately, not included in this number. With those taken into account, Iceland is only really aiming for a 9% reduction in emission in these categories which we think is completely unacceptable.

The Government is already falling behind on their plan only 5 months after its publication. The Icelandic emissions per capita is 44 tons a year if land use and ETS are included.

This is one of the highest rates of emission in the world. And, worryingly, it does not include the emissions related to the consumption of products produced in other nations.

The Icelandic government has allocated about 0.2% of its total annual income for 2020 to climate mitigation efforts. It is not enough according to a scenario made by the OECD. We should expand our plans to use a minimum of 4% of our GDP for actions to mitigate climate change. We should also give way more to other nations in the global south that are in more need and can leverage the money better in order to slow down emissions.

We should aim to reduce our emissions by at least 50% including ETS and land use in the next 10 years. Iceland aims to become carbon neutral by 2040. That means that all of the reduction we are not able to achieve in the next 10 years, will have to be achieved between 2030 and 2040. It is unjust to put the majority of the burden on the next generation. And also it is not in line with the urgency of the matter.

The Icelandic Youth Environmentalist Association has put together public comments regarding this issue along with national student organisations. We are experiencing this global momentum amongst our local youth. Thanks to our easy access to politicians, we have also been meeting politicians to talk about climate change. We feel only partly listened to. We are praised for enthusiasm but politicians are not taking us seriously enough. They are not treating this crisis like a crisis.

4.13 Ireland

We, the delegation of Ireland, understand that we have neglected to educate the citizens of our country in the climate crisis, as well as neglecting to provide adequate funding to the development of a sustainability subject at second-level, despite appeals from students, teachers and delegates of the RTÉ Youth Assembly on Climate.

We pledge that within the next 5 years, we will integrate the climate crisis into every existing subject, as well as fascination and funding the creation of a compulsory second-level subject using a combination of student voice, as well as teachers and experts on the climate crisis.
We understand that Ireland allows the occurrence of ecocide to go unchecked. We are losing the unique flora and fauna that reside in their indigenous habitats, by replacing forested areas with harmful sitka spruce plantations that are only in existence for monetary purposes.

We pledge to support our citizens’ health by upping our goal of reforestation from 17% to 25%, as well as ensuring that we bring back the habitats that have been systematically destroyed over the decades. As well as that, we pledge to ensure that by 2025, every council house will have access to renewable energy, whether that is a local wind farm or solar panels, depending on situation, as well as making planning permission for renewable energy sources much easier, as well as stopping the importation of fracked gas.

By providing a ratio of funding of 2:1 to public transport and the construction of roads, we will be able to implement strong and lasting structures to ensure that our emissions fall rapidly. As well as that, we pledge to take account not just for the emissions created by the state, but also for the emissions that are the responsibility of the state i.e GHG from shipping, aviation etc. The European Youth calls for climate objectives that are aligned with science and the Paris Agreement. This means: cutting the EU GHG emissions by at least 65% in 2030. This ambitious target requires the adoption of consistent and coherent policies across all sectors and an effective implementation of the Green Deal.

We understand that our lack of regard for climate justice as a nation leads to harmful misconceptions surrounding the climate crisis. We recognise that Ireland’s homeless have not been accounted for in our climate bill. We understand that the term is used once in the climate bill and the dismissal of the need for a focus on it in all aspects of climate action is unproductive. We also recognise that the lack of focus on international approach to climate action, including accommodations for MAPA is ineffective and overly short-term focused.

We pledge to increase the focus on climate justice through increased funding in eco-friendly housing for the homeless in Ireland. We also pledge to liaise on an international level with EU and UN member states to accommodate MAPA.

We recognise that Ireland’s lack of infrastructure against flooding has serious impacts on families yearly. We recognise that this impact only grows as the climate crisis worsens.

We pledge to increase funding in flood resistant infrastructure in the affected areas. We pledge to retroactively add flood resistant technology to houses in these areas while also ensuring that new houses built in these areas are fitted with the facilities needed.

4.14 Italy

Fellow delegates and observers of Mock COP26, we speak to you today representing the youth of Italy, a peninsular country located in the central part of Europe that counts more than 60 million people.

The situation in Italy is anything but acceptable at the moment. We have always perceived this crisis as distant, mainly because we’ve never felt it’s effects as much as we are now. The Italian population in the last year has been experiencing some of the direct consequences of the climate crisis; events such as floods and droughts have been increasing in frequency and seriousness for the last two decades and this trend is far from being stopped. People are losing their jobs, their homes, their lives due to the fact that we’re not facing this crisis correctly and we are not willing to realise this.

The Italian Government has been showing its lack of will to address the climate crisis by carrying on financing corporations, such as ENI, that benefit from the destruction of our environment, with the same money that is supposed to be invested in the transition towards a zero carbon economy.
We are failing, and this is clearly shown by the melting glaciers in our Alps, that today are just one-third of what they used to be 40 years ago, by our insane increase in temperature, which is inevitably affecting the country’s agricultural production, by the countless studies that are stating that if our and other countries go on behaving in this way the human race is going to become extinct, among the thousands of others, in no time. We are failing, but this remains unspoken from the media.

On the other hand, young people in Italy do not accept this under evaluation of the situation and have been mobilising for years, organising and taking part in strikes, attending meetings with the highest rank of national politicians, creating a detailed and comprehensive plan to outline how the transition towards a sustainable Italy must be achieved, always bringing forth the need for a binding plan to protect present and future generations and to ensure them a liveable future.

Young people are mobilizing and they will not resign.

It is no doubt that in order for Italy to start moving forward in facing the climate crisis in the best, most efficient and in fact only feasible way, it is fundamental to acknowledge the severity of this crisis and act accordingly. That is why the youth of our country calls for the Government to provide and agree on policies that will keep Italy in line with the Paris Agreement, by utilizing the technologies that are already accessible to rethink and reshape the way in which our country develops and lives, to reach 0 net emissions by 2030, as largely defined in the plan written by the Italian youth itself “Ritorno al Futuro”.

In conclusion it is clear that the Italian Government is not doing enough, that even though we have implemented mandatory environmental education in school programmes this doesn’t mean we have done whatever is needed; and indeed it is completely the opposite. In contrast, we do know that if our leaders wanted to achieve this transition we would be able to change for the better.

Therefore the Italian youth puts its hopes in the fact that Mock COP26 will contribute to political action and will make Italy among other countries take that step further, in order to achieve a change.

Thank you.

4.15 Latvia

Hello dear delegates and observers of Mock COP26. My name is Sofija and I will be representing the youth of Latvia. It is a small country located in Northern Europe and a part of European Union Baltic states with a population of 1.9 million people.

Latvia is a country privileged enough not to experience drastic effects of the climate crisis, more than half of the land is covered in forests. And agriculture and manufacturing is not developed that much so it could affect carbon emissions by a significant amount. Cities are full of greens and parks, and the government of Riga - the capital of Latvia – is improving bicycle friendly roads, so travelling by bike is more available.

But in agriculture we use many chemicals that affect our health by consuming products, and chemicals affect the health of animals and insects. And for a small country chemical pollution is a big issue.

That is why the youth of Latvia are participating in Fridays For Future – we want more changes in local politics. The last Fridays for Future strike took place on September 25th, we demanded clear air without pollution caused by agriculture and carbon dioxide emissions produced by transport, because in Latvia transport is one of the biggest carbon dioxide producers.
I want Latvian leaders to finally listen to demands of society. If people will be motivated by law, the government needs to support climate activism by making climate-neutral life a demand from everybody.

Needs to be supported eco-friendly manufacturers. Law needs to change society's actions. For example if taxes for fossil fueled cars were higher, people still could not buy electric cars, they will just pay higher taxes and have even less money. So at this point new laws will not help, but government can motivate the mechanical industry so an environmentally friendly lifestyle can be affordable.

So in conclusion, I think there is no problem in people not being interested in climate change, it is the way that people can not change their lifestyle and the government is not interested in making change. So the only thing the government can do is to motivate development and improve the economy, so people can voluntarily and mandatorily help the climate crisis.

4.16 Moldova

Distinguished delegates, Mock COP organizers and viewers.

Once known as the greenest corner of South Eastern Europe, Republic of Moldova is today hamstrung by both the impact of the climate crisis and a disregard for a coherent, cross-institutional climate policymaking by the authorities throughout the years of independence. Just this year we have gone through the worst drought of the XXI century so far, all while our river basins and green spaces keep being decimated. Ministry of Environment doesn’t even exist as a separate entity since 2018, merged with the Agriculture Ministry.

Moldovan youth is taking a strong stance in the fight for a nature positive homeland. Through protests, grassroots initiatives in adaptation and action through climate empowerment and regional coalition building, our activists make their voices heard, including to the diplomats accredited in Moldova. It is no coincidence that it was the European Union who provided enormous help to our country in updating its NDC and submitting it in March 2020, after the most intense period in the history of Moldovan youth climate activism. While it demonstrates an increased ambition (like 88% GHG emissions reduction by 2030 from 1990 conditional on the financing available) and better defined finance needs for areas such as adaptation and mitigation, many aspects are still left behind.

As youth, we can’t accept the fact that Action for Climate Empowerment pillar (including the gender aspect of it) isn’t strong enough to recognize the importance of mass climate education in Moldova, particularly in the school curricula. When EU member countries are rapidly moving in this direction, it is imperative for us as a signatory country of the Association Agreement with the EU to not let our and forthcoming generations to be left behind in their knowledge and ability to act on this issue. Climate education and education for green jobs should be a bedrock of new education reform that would be able to link the need to enhance natural, human and physical capital altogether, providing better environment, education and jobs.

We urge the delegates from the European Union to hold the European Commission accountable on its promise to have a carbon neutral continent by 2050 and that one of the new main pillars of its Eastern Partnership framework will be “A Partnership that Greens”. Moldova’s climate ambition is dependent on the ability of the EU to put its money where its mouth is.

Finally, the youth of the Republic of Moldova urges Prime Minister Ion Chicu to deliver on his commitment to biodiversity resultant from his signature on the Global Pledge of Leaders for Biodiversity at the UN Biodiversity Summit in late September and present a feasible plan of scaling the share of naturally protected areas up to 30% of our territory by 2030, as well submit a strategy of getting to net zero by 2040 for public and parliamentary consultation. Thank you.
4.17 North Macedonia

Greetings to all delegates from all around the world and everyone who has the chance to participate or watch events of Mock COP26. We come to you today, on this conference completely led by the youth, for the world, to talk about the situation in a small Balkan country, North Macedonia, with a population of 2 million people.

Our country already experiences global warming in a way that our autumns and springs have shortened, as well as our summers are sweltering, and our winters have switched from their flawless touch of snow to air pollution. The capital, Skopje, being of the most polluted cities in the last few years, experiences something it has never experienced before, and part of it is due to the air pollution meaning the unconcerned behavior of the people but most importantly the official decision makers not pushing enough for tackling the issue.

What should our country take into consideration more? Definitely focus on persistent education about global warming and its consequences from the earliest ages, since there are a lot of small alternatives that can be done that don't in any way reduce the quality of life, which as we know, is probably one of the most significant values for a person. This includes teaching the children to use glass bottles instead of plastic bottles for one use, using paper on both sides, buying local, cheaper food, especially fruit and vegetables etc.

Speaking of the air pollution, it is unavoidable to talk about the massive percentage of greenhouse gas emissions present in our country and coming from the energy sector. In fact, 70% of the emissions are from unjustly regulated energy and electricity production of fossil fuels as well as the transport system. This is also topped up with multiple other systemic injustices happening such as a number of marginalized communities living in no conditions at all and below the poverty line. Additionally, there is a huge percentage of unemployment rate and social inequality. This gives a multidimensional perspective to the problem of dealing with air pollution and climate change. After all, reality points out the question of how can we teach our children at school about the climate crisis and pollution if basic human rights and living conditions are not provided to everyone in our society? But, that is also part of the issue.

Therefore, we demand for our country radical transformational acts that will tackle the interlinked social and climate crisis from its root causes.

“Change is not only possible, but it is necessary” - Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

4.18 Norway

Hi delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of Norway.

The climate crisis is profoundly unfair. Even though it is the Global North that have contributed the most to global warming, and are best equipped to meet the consequences that follow, it is the Global South that experience the biggest consequences. Norway has a historic responsibility as a wealthy oil nation with a high consumption.

The youth of Norway recognizes that the global action to combat the climate crisis has not been strong enough, where Norway's emissions of greenhouse gasses have increased by 3% since the 1990s. For this reason, more than 40,000 young people gathered in Norway and demanded climate action on the 22nd of March 2019.

International efforts should be based on an understanding of climate justice - where the major emission nations take their share of responsibility by cutting their emissions, and the countries in the
Global South receive support to adapt to the consequences of climate change, and are compensated for the loss and damage.

Considering Norway's historical responsibility, it is our duty to contribute to poorer countries being able to cope with climate change in a way that does not reinforce existing inequalities, and at the same time step up our efforts to reduce Norwegian greenhouse gas emissions at home. To achieve this, it is vital that Norway has a coherent climate policy.

As youth of Norway, we see the consequences around the world from our high carbon emissions, and we expect our government to accept our historical responsibility and take climate action.

Thank you.

4.19 Poland

This year, young people were unable to protest on the streets - the whole world is dealing with the pandemic crisis. However, Parties must still hear our voice. Even if you do not see mass protests - the youth is here, demanding action to save their future. With each day we have less time to make a change and prevent the 1.5 °C temperature increase. That is why we ask every country to create a clear climate action plan, based on the best available science.

As we belong to the European Youth, we call for the EU to adopt climate objectives that are aligned with science and the Paris Agreement. That is: cutting our GHG emissions by 65% in 2030. This ambitious target requires to adopt consistent and coherent policies across all sectors and to effectively implement the Green Deal.” Currently, the European Council is deciding on actions to be undertaken by the EU member states. We are deeply worried by the Polish position in this discussion and their ignorant approach.

Reforms of energetics planned by the Polish government are insufficient and unrealistic. In order to reach the goal of climate neutrality, Poland must stop using and mining coal before 2030 and invest in renewable energy sources.

At the same time, politicians cannot forget about people working in industries responsible for emissions, like miners. The government must consider their needs and provide them with the necessary stability and security. Climate justice is social justice.

The key thing in fighting climate change is knowing its causes and consequences. In Poland, schools provide almost no climate or ecological education. This must change! We demand that Poland and all the other countries introduce mandatory ecological education at schools of all levels, that they allow regular dialogue, consultation and cooperation with all social groups, and that they reflect their planned efforts regarding Action for Climate Empowerment in their NDCs.

We, the young generation, have plenty of energy, hope and ideas. We dream of these ideas blossoming in the future and saving our Mother Earth from a disaster. But what if the future never comes? It is time to finally stop fighting each other and instead start fighting climate change together. We have already started leading the action. Will you join us?

4.20 Romania

We are delighted to speak today on behalf of the young generations of Romania, an Eastern European country that more than 19 million people call home.
Romanian citizens have been no strangers to the adverse effects of global warming: they have endured floods and droughts and storms. Some of them call it “The Will of God”, but young people prefer to call it “climate change”.

Our carbon sinks are shrinking. They’re disappearing at the hands of abusive and corrupt institutions. Our people are dying; in Romania almost 20% of deaths are directly linked to pollution levels. That means 1 out of 5 people we know will probably die because of this, and yet they do not care.

We demand Romanian Government to design a proper Climate Strategy that realistically addresses the National Determined Contribution, because, so far, their efforts are insufficient and inconsistent with the Paris Agreement.

We push our national leaders to set the needed target of at least 37% share of renewable energy sources by 2030, as Romania has an incredible renewable energy potential. We demand concrete integrated phase-out policies for mono-industrial areas; effective economic mechanisms for managing the risks of stranded assets and social repatriation. So far “Romania’s National Plan For Investment And Economic Recovery” is more than deficient and laggard.

We also demand the introduction of a domestic carbon price floor in order to incentivise a faster transition to a low-carbon economy. We request a quicker implementation of SUMAL 2.0, The Forest Inspector software, and other rigorous surveillance mechanisms for tracking, monitoring and punishing illegal lodging. We call for an increase in strictly protected natural areas up to 10% of the country’s surface and a 30% share of NATURE 2000 areas.

Romania ranks 8th in Europe in terms of number of deaths due to air pollution, with 5 infringements cases on air quality. Road traffic and improper infrastructure affect human health through emissions of toxins that are harming the human respiratory system. The most affected groups are children and the elderly.

There are different methods of measuring air quality, but unfortunately they are not used properly. We propose the reintroduction of the green stamp duty that was taken out in 2017, so that old cars pay more for emissions. It is mandatory to develop further the electric-vehicle infrastructure in order to facilitate the transition from fossil-fuel vehicles.

We stand by our fellow European activists and call for climate objectives aligned with science, namely: adopting a target of 65% reduction of GHG by 2030.

We demanded environmental justice, yet so far, they only gave us corruption and malfeasance. Here, we stand again, demanding that national and global leaders save our future, or at least try to.

4.21 Serbia

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of MockCOP26. It’s an honour to speak to you on behalf of Serbian youth. Serbia is a small European country, rich in nature diversity, history and culture. Serbia is a home to hundreds of different animal and plant species together with a population of around 7 million people.

Unfortunately, Serbia had already felt the effects of climate changes. For the past few years, summers are getting hotter, rain is falling in times when we least need it, crops are reducing. The average year’s temperature has risen by 1.5 degrees Celsius in the past 20 years.

In 2007, we had extreme temperatures with the highest temperature in Serbia ever measured of 44.9 degrees Celsius. Again in 2012, one of our biggest problems appeared, the drought. Drought has brought fires, destroyed crops and forests and had a big impact on Serbia and it’s ecosystems.
Science says the biggest impact on this extreme weather is industry. Then in 2014, we had floods that affected 38 settlements, took away 51 human lives, did many damages and polluted the rivers. The cause of floods is temperature rise which comes with bigger air humidity and more rain.

The floods and drought are present today in less extreme measures, together with huge air pollution that affected health, wild landfills that pollute lands and underground waters, deforestation and species extinction caused by unlimited tree cutting and poachers.

Luckily, not everyone is ignoring these problems. Many scientists, influencers, small organisations and other people done different things to raise awareness and help prevent climate changes. In 2019, Serbian activists had joined Fridays for Future movement and held protests ever since. People also gathered to protest air pollution and mini hydro. Last year people started a project and planted more than 50,000 trees all over Serbia. People have awoken.

Our government? Not so much. They've built a wind farm and added small contribution to preservation of the environment, but Serbian authorities still care more about money than nature. We need to recycle waste, clean our lands and rivers. Our leaders should make laws that will contribute to saving the environment and invest in sustainable industry. We are tired of waiting. Take action now.

4.22 Slovakia

Dear colleagues, observers, and delegates of Mock COP26. It is such a privilege and a great honor to address you at this youth-led conference. We are representing the people of Slovakia, a small landlocked country in the heart of Europe with a population of 5.5 million people.

Slovakia is a country that isn't feeling the worst effects of climate change yet. We are experiencing extreme weather events such as floods and droughts, which are slowly causing increased respiratory diseases and the prevalence of bacterial infections in our population. We are privileged enough that we aren't seeing the worst effects of climate change yet, but we recognize the suffering of others.

The youth of our nation has realized that in order to combat climate change we need to take global action. Thousands of people were in the streets during the global strikes in September 2019, hundreds of thousands signed a petition for climate, for the future in September 2020 and there are even more individuals willing to mobilize.

Slovakia should improve its target of GHG reductions to 65% in 2030 to align with science to stay below 1.5°C in warming. Climate education is needed across all elementary, secondary, and high schools to be immediately implemented into the curriculum.

Strong partnerships from global to local levels and across all sectors are crucial on the way to decent conditions of living on this planet. As the youth of Slovakia, we recognize the efforts of the government to overcome extreme industrial changes.

Our GHG emissions have diminished by approximately 40% since 1990. We, the youth of Slovakia would kindly ask our government to be even more ambitious in setting climate goals and to become a front-runner of innovation and technology in the renewable field.

Climate change should be prioritized as it probably is the greatest challenge humanity will ever face. Take action. Thank you.
4.23 Slovenia

In between the Alps, Mediterranean and the Pannonian Plain lies a green country Slovenia. With the size of around half of Switzerland it is home to approximately two million people. Despite our small numbers, we consume as if we have close to 3 Earths at our disposal which comes at a price.

In the last 60 years the climate in Slovenia has changed significantly. Average air temperature has risen for 2 °C, which affects the development of plants and the length of the growing season. We have less rainfall in the west of the country, and due to warmer winters snow is becoming a thing of the past. We are encountering droughts and floods, longer and stronger heatwaves and more hot days. Climate change is also our threatening water supplies.

The main youth environmental movement in Slovenia is called Youth for Climate Justice. Organising two large protests in Slovenia, we gathered more than 20 thousand concerned citizens. We are also active in spreading awareness of the climate crisis by organising lectures and hands-on events. We are constantly addressing Slovenian politicians who refuse to hear us. It’s like we are on MUTE.

We plan to use coal for another 20 years! To be aligned with science and the Paris Agreement we should cut our greenhouse gas emissions by at least 65 % by 2030. Instead Slovenia proposes a 40% reduction and they call this plan ‘ambitious’. WAKE UP! ACT LONG TERM and ACCORDING TO SCIENCE!

Climate measures are mostly carried out on individuals and not on industry, the main polluter. Implement taxes for polluters and subsidies for carbon free solutions!

We demand that governmental projects and policies are thoughtfully implemented and consistently evaluated. We propose the establishment of independent supervisory authority which monitors, evaluates and estimates that the commitments set in governmental climate plans are actually met.

Nothing is more dangerous than ignorance! We demand climate curriculums at all stages of education, public climate programs for all citizens, and mandatory climate exams for politicians. It is time we face the facts.

We demand just transition of carbon intensive industrial regions towards low or carbon-free society, living responsibly towards nature. No one should be left behind!

4.24 Spain

Estimadas delegadas y delegados de la Mock COP 26, España, hogar de más de 46 millones de personas y albergando numerosos ecosistemas y una rica biodiversidad y es uno de los países europeos que más va a sufrir la crisis climática.

Para finales de siglo, el 80% de nuestro territorio será considerado zona árida, y esto afectará sobre todo a las áreas rurales, que se volverán inviables para la agricultura de la que dependen. En zonas como en el Mar Menor, la eutrofización provocada por la entrada de los nutrientes de la agricultura ya está teniendo consecuencias devastadoras; y a la vez, la subida del nivel del mar sigue amenazando nuestras costas, desde parajes naturales como el Delta de l'Ebre hasta ciudades enteras como Cádiz o Donostia.

Ha aumentado, asimismo, la frecuencia de fenómenos climáticos extremos: cada año miles de personas ven desfiguradas sus vidas por las gotas frías como la borrasca Gloria, las olas de calor y los incendios.

Frente a estas desgracias, la juventud ha adoptado un papel muy valioso y activo, incitando a la sociedad y las instituciones a hacer frente a la crisis climática.
De manera concreta, la Delegación española propone trabajar sobre cinco líneas de acción en las próximas jornadas.

En primer lugar, España aboga por impulsar medidas que favorezcan la descarbonización y que agilicen una transición energética hacia las renovables. Esta transición no será posible sin unos cambios en los usos de la energía, para que estos sean más adecuados a los límites de la Tierra. Asimismo, la juventud de la UE pedimos medidas que estén en línea con la ciencia y el Acuerdo de París, esto es, una reducción de al menos un 65% de las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero para 2030.

La segunda línea de acción que plantea España es impulsar la educación ambiental desde primaria hasta los estudios superiores, para que todo el estudiantado conozca la crisis climática y disponga de las herramientas para defender el medio ambiente en sus futuras ocupaciones.

La tercera línea de acción es la democratización de la gestión de la crisis climática, tanto a nivel político, (asegurando la participación ciudadana en la toma de decisiones que les afecten, por ejemplo, mediante asambleas); como a nivel productivo, descentralizando la producción de energía. La democratización comprende igualmente la obligatoriedad de las administraciones a decir la verdad sobre la crisis climática.

La cuarta línea de acción es la necesidad de conseguir un modelo de agricultura sostenible, respetuoso con la biodiversidad y cercano a los pequeños agricultores. También se deben desincentivar los tratados de libre comercio, pues generan perjuicios ambientales y fomentan prácticas ilegítimas como el acaparamiento de tierras. Del mismo modo, y alineados con las delegaciones europeas, instamos a la retirada de la PAC actual e implemente medidas coherentes con el Green Deal.

La quinta y última línea de acción es la importancia de implementar justicia ambiental. Son fundamentales para ello la perspectiva interseccional y los principios de “quien contamina paga” y de “responsabilidades comunes pero diferenciadas”, haciendo ver que los mayores contribuidores a la crisis climática somos los países del Norte Global y por tanto tenemos una deuda ambiental con el resto del mundo.

Tenemos poco tiempo, pero aún hay margen para actuar.

4.25 Sweden

Kära framtida världssedare (dear future world leaders), we want to first and foremost thank the staff of Mock COP for making this possible. On behalf of Sweden, we are thankful for this opportunity to share with the world how we are and will be affected by the climate crisis.

When you think about Sweden, what do you see? Forests, snow, wide lakes, cold weather, perhaps Greta Thunberg, or the other amazing climate activists. Well, Sweden is now changing each year and slowly losing its reputation. Our forests are burning, many parts of Sweden haven’t seen snow in a while, we get more rain than before and warmer summers. Our lakes, nature, in general, are losing species and our drinking water is threatened. Not to mention how our native population, the Sami people, are still being neglected.

We can already see the damaging effect climate change has on our water. Climate change and bad use of the lands around lakes has caused our water to be browner, and the lakes’ ecosystems are now deteriorating. Leading to the use of too many perfluorinated chemicals, more than the EU’s limit. This makes the water consumption dangerous.
The youth and other large communities in our country fight hard to push our politicians to act and follow the Paris Agreement. The biggest movements being Fridays For Future and Extinction Rebellion. Without the youth, Sweden would be nowhere near where we are now in the climate debate, but we are far from done.

Studies show that the Indigenous people in Scandinavia, the Sami people, are more vulnerable to climate change. The Sami people do not cause damage to the climate as we do, yet they will be hit the worst with the effects of it. Politicians need to listen to them and change their behaviors and attitude towards the Sami people and other minorities.

Sweden is said to be an example for other countries when it comes to climate action. We don’t think it is right to glorify our country as if their words did match their actions. We do far from enough and need to implement new laws and plans.

Dear future leaders, remember this: An error does not become a mistake until you refuse to correct it. We can redirect this. Thank you.

4.26 Switzerland

Switzerland is a country located in South Central Europe, with a territory of 41,288km², and has a population of 8.57 million citizens. There are 4 official languages, which are: German, Italian, French and Romansh. The elevation ranges from 193m above sea level in the southern part of the country, to 4,624m in the Alps.

Switzerland has been very affected by the climate crisis. The retreat of the glaciers, the decrease of days with snow at low and middle elevations, the rising temperatures in summer and winter and the increase of the extinction debt are just a few direct consequences that are happening in the present, that we can name. If we don’t take this issue with the seriousness that is needed, we might have to pay a high price: local or regional extinction of species that are unable to move or adapt is expected, every second summer could be as warm and dry as the summer in 2003, the change of temperature might attract invasive species, which probably will outcompete the native ones, due to higher temperature, parasites will develop faster than before and animals will live 300m to 500m above their previous limit.

If we take into consideration those consequences that could occur, it becomes clear that we have to act quickly; therefore we consider that the Swiss and other governments of the world have to put the climate crisis issue as one of their top priorities. We also believe that the younger generations should receive an extensive education about this topic, since it will affect them in the future too. Every country in the world should stick to the Paris Agreement and reach net zero emissions as soon as possible. Switzerland should create more protected areas in key locations in order to protect the most vulnerable species. We think that the governments should listen to the younger activists that fight for climate justice, since most of them are well informed and can provide possible solutions. We encourage the governments of the world to work together in order to find better solutions. This issue affects all of us, let’s take actions and prevent it from getting worse.

4.27 The Netherlands

Dear distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. I speak to you from a cold and small country, which we jokingly like to call our frog-country, the Netherlands.

Two months ago, a team of young people and I, hiked more than 500km across the country to bear witness to the impacts of climate change and the loss of biodiversity here in the Netherlands. Even though we are a country with a length smaller than 500km, we could see the drought in the East and
the monoculture in the West. Luckily, more and more youth are demanding a future-proof country, with more biodiversity and less GHG emissions.

One such example is the We Are Tomorrow Global Partnership. This youth-led partnership creates an Agenda for a common and sustainable future, determined by youth ourselves. This Agenda started in The Netherlands, and has now also reached South Africa, Chile and many other countries where youth are envisioning their own future.

But of course, we can’t do it ourselves. We need our leaders to take responsibility for reducing GHG emissions urgently. Therefore, the European Youth calls for climate objectives that are aligned with science and the Paris Agreement. This means: cutting the EU GHG emissions by at least 65% in 2030. This ambitious target requires the adoption of consistent and coherent policies across all sectors and an effective implementation of the Green Deal. Thank you.

4.28 Turkey

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26, we speak to you today representing the youth of Turkey, a land connecting Europe and Asia continents with a population of 83 million people. I am Atlas Sarrafoglu, a climate activist from Istanbul for the last 2 years. And I am Furkan Çelik, I’m 16 and I’ve been a climate activist for a year.

Here in Turkey, we are already experiencing the effects of climate change as well as adding to the crisis. Increased amount of plastic waste import especially from Europe has led to increased levels of pollution in the Mediterranean 10% of this being from Turkey. We are also suffering more droughts, floods and tornadoes in some regions, causing fatalities, loss of land, wildlife and change in the ecosystem.

Turkish youth recognises that the global action to combat the climate crisis has not been sufficient enough. In 2019 September, about 40,000 people marched all over the country including students and many other youth-led campaigns, joined asking for climate justice, education implementation on climate, ratification of the Paris Accord and declaration of climate emergency as well. Turkey as one of the seven countries which hasn’t ratified it yet, needs to ratify the Paris Accord to be able to take realistic measures on the climate crisis and get in line with the agreement. Carbon taxing along with European Green Consensus should be adopted to reduce income inequality by distributing income from tax to the citizens as basic citizenship income. And yet the import of plastic garbage should only be imported if the material is used as an industrial raw material in the circular economy.

We are demanding that our Government take immediate action and address the areas mentioned above. We feel the consequences of your decisions today, as a country it is your responsibility to take drastic action and we have outlined some realistic and science based actions that would greatly improve our nation.

4.29 Ukraine

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of the country of Ukraine, the largest all-European country with a population of 42 million people. Today we live in a world, in which we face numerous different challenges and threats of global nature.

Analysis of a survey of the Ukrainian Climate Network on the impact of climate change on health showed that young people are becoming more ill. Headache and fatigue due to heat, exacerbation of chronic diseases.
As politicians continue to talk and delay making critical decisions, the effects of climate change continue to destroy the homes and lives of the world's inhabitants. We can't afford to wait. As the slogan of this year's conference says, it's time to act.

Ukraine is a friendly country, a country which demonstrates how people can change the world, when they unite together in order to create a better future for the upcoming generations. Communities are taking action, for example, the number of cyclists on weekdays has increased 2.5 times compared to the same period last year.

As promised in the previous conference, our country is now revising its Nationally Determined Contributions. Our previous plans were to reduce emissions from 1990 levels. Now Ukraine must set a target for 2030 and show whether we will continue to depend on dirty and harmful fossil fuels, or whether we will focus on sustainable development.

Ukraine is faced by some difficult battles. It’s the 7th 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. This makes it even harder for citizens and in fact, for people all over the world to understand and to see climate change as one of the main issues.

According to a sociological study on the mining towns, presented by the NGO Ecodia and the Representation of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Ukraine, the opinions and attitudes of residents of the regions of Ukraine coincide with the basic principles of fair transformation.

The dependence of city development on the activities of one enterprise is a disadvantage. Lack of choice of employment, non-competitive wages and delays; at the same time, the prestige of professions is declining, they are not of interest to young people.

Rationally develop and maintain various areas of the economy, including the production and repair of equipment for alternative energy, is the way to go. After the gradual closure of mines and thermal power plants in the regions, the condition of air and water resources will improve, and the elimination of waste heaps will reduce the radiation background.

However, climate change is already visible and we experience some negative effects of it here, in Ukraine: Ukraine is among the highest greenhouse gas emitters, in the world. Ukraine’s high CO\textsubscript{2} emissions are related to its exorbitant energy intensity.

A truly far-sighted government decision is to support sustainable urban development, public transport and micro-mobility, to develop railways and to encourage the import of electric cars, rather than old cars with internal combustion engines.

According to figures released in early January by Ukraine’s Central Geophysical Observatory, 2019 was the warmest year on record in the Ukrainian capital Kyiv. Attention was drawn to elements of ill-considered transport in Kyiv: lack of connectivity, clarity, additional and unnecessary barriers on the way. Currently, the metro in Kyiv does not provide the principle of "straightforward public transport". To get from one end of the city to the other, the only way is to go by subway through the center. The development of the ring city electric train is a real alternative to the construction of a new metro line that will connect the banks of the Dnieper and densely populated areas, such as Kurenivka and Troieschyna. Now the obstacle to the full launch of the train is not the physical absence of rails or trains, but administrative inconsistencies. Hundreds of thousands of people coming by tram to the Vokzalna metro station now have to walk through a narrow, crowded passage to the crowded escalator, which is only open during the day.
Opening new restaurants, cinemas, shops and parks within walking distance of housing outside the city center would not only reduce congestion, but would implement an effective way to maintain social distance.

Water supply is probably the most crucial aspect of climate change in Ukraine. Freshwater reserves are in decline and expected to grow even scarcer in the coming years as droughts become more frequent. In 2019, the country saw 25% less precipitation than average, while the incidence of droughts has nearly doubled in the last 20 years. At the same time, the absence of a seasonal snow cover in much of Ukraine poses threats to winter crops. In recent years, we have seen more and more weather anomalies: droughts, floods, heat waves, dust storms, snowless winters, temperature records.

The creation of the 2nd Nationally Defined Contribution is an opportunity to approve a course for low-carbon development of renewable energy sources, industry, transport and agriculture. Institute of Economics and Forecasting of the National Academy of Sciences with the support of the Foundation of Heinrich Böll conducted the simulation and estimated that we can achieve 91% renewable energy in 2050. A study by the Finnish company Wärtsilä showed that even a full transition of Ukraine to renewable energy is possible and economically feasible.

For countries seeking to rebuild their economies after the Covid-19 pandemic, avoid catastrophic social consequences and achieve long-term sustainable growth, climate action offers sustainable development solutions.

The public is calling for a plan that sets the most ambitious goals for the development of renewable energy sources, the reduction of nuclear energy and coal by 2050. Developments under this scenario will make it possible to reduce emissions by 72% compared to 1990 in 2030 and have an 86% reduction in emissions in 2050, which is not enough, but from the available proposals is still the best option.

4.30 United Kingdom

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of the United Kingdom and its overseas territories. The UK is the world’s sixth largest economy and the fifth highest all time emitter of CO₂. We have already made some progress in reducing our emissions but it is necessary that we also take responsibility for those emissions we have offshored.

Our people are already seeing increased risk of flooding and droughts and our overseas territories are facing challenges from hurricanes and rising sea levels.

Through organisations such as Youth Strike for Climate, British young people have demanded that the government takes action for climate and social justice. Hundreds of thousands of young people have joined climate protests across the country demanding systemic change, not just promises and targets.

We ask our leaders to address our historical responsibility and use our influence to help our friends in the Global South through bold policies such as the alleviation of development debts and strong climate financing commitments. Our politicians should also leverage the UK’s technical expertise in development of green jobs, supported by incorporating the climate crisis into all aspects of the educational curriculum.

The epoch shifts of Covid and Brexit must be used to boldly address the systemic inequality, discrimination and racism in this country. Recovery funding must be made conditional on addressing these issues and alignment with the Paris Accord. We demand the reinforcement of citizen’s assemblies’ legislative power; our response must be intersectional and democratic, not siloed and technocratic.
We call for mandatory alignment with the Paris goals for the UK’s large financial sector, the institution of new economic policy that helps, rather than hinders, the green and just transition, the end of export financing of fossil fuel projects overseas and the creation of a special government body that has the financial power to make good on these promises at the scale which is required.

We hope our government seizes the opportunity to address the ecological and climate crises simultaneously, embracing the co-benefits that this will bring in health and well-being. They must put people and biodiversity at the forefront of nature-based mitigation efforts whilst remembering that this is no substitute for the rapid decarbonisation necessary across all sectors.

The youth of the UK know that political ambitions still do not align with what the science demands. The IPCC have described the difference between 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming and 2, and it is not one that we are willing to accept - people are suffering and dying already. As a developed country, our responsibility is to take more action than those with fewer resources, to use our wealth and our power to take real leadership. We demand of our leaders, as co-hosts of next year’s COP, that they adopt an NDC of at least 80% emission reductions from 1990 levels by 2030, and we hope that other countries will follow in being as ambitious as possible. Thank you.

5. OCEANIA

5.1 Australia

Australia is especially vulnerable to the climate crisis and 2020 was unprecedented. We started the year with devastating bushfires. We lost almost 20 million hectares, over 5,900 buildings, 34 people and 3 billion animals.

Then while our country focused on managing the pandemic, the Great Barrier Reef suffered its sixth mass bleaching event.

Young Australians mobilised in all corners of the country to organise general strikes, petitioned politicians and created a large scale movement in the name of climate action.

As the government puts together its climate plan for the COP26 UN climate conference, we, young Australians, are calling for the following:

1. Net 0 by 2050:
To limit global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius and honour our Paris Commitments, global carbon emissions must reach net-zero by 2050. Every sub-national jurisdiction in Australia has set a net-zero emissions target. We need a national net-zero target and an ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution to guide our climate policy and provide security for investment in renewable energy. Our energy system must transform to be powered completely by renewable energy by 2030. The global energy system is changing and Australia has the potential to be a renewable energy exporting superpower.

2. Diversifying the voices at the decision making table

(a) Youth voices: Youth need to have a spot at the table when it comes to climate policy. We, the youth of today will inherit the earth of tomorrow. We the youth have expressed over and over our wish for the safety of our future over profits with the campaign #FundOurFutureNotGas in the recent SS4C strikes on September 25.
(b) Media: We need to have diverse media outlets to hold each other to account and ensure the Australian public is holistically educated. This can only be established through new regulations that prevent monopolisation, and instead encourage transparency and value independent voices.

(c) First Nation voices: I am a Wuthathi and Yadhegana man from Cape York and the Torres Strait and my people and culture are at risk of being washed away due to climate change. In Australia today, advancing sea levels have devastated our communities. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia are the oldest living culture in the world. We are the traditional custodians of this land, and have cared for our land and sea for the past 65,000 years.

Incorporating our knowledge of bushfire prevention and sustainable agricultural and aquacultural practices is pivotal to reaching our emissions targets. To achieve our goals, political decision makers must stop thinking in 3 year terms and commit to long-term planning for the future of our nation.

Together, we must rise to this challenge.

Let’s build a climate safe future for Australia.

5.2 Fiji

Bula, hello.

Distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of Fiji, a small tropical island nation in the Pacific Ocean with a population of 883,483 people. Here in Fiji, we are already experiencing the effects of climate change. Increased global temperatures have led to increased sea levels around our island, and many of our coastal communities have been forced to relocate from the effect of climate change and more than 80 communities have been earmarked by the Fiji government for potential future relocation.

Fiji is proposing new climate change laws to restrict the use of plastics, and plan for the relocation of threatened coastal communities. The legislation will also set out a plan for Fiji to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Additionally, climate education is rare in Fiji and therefore we ask that our government make climate education mandatory for all elementary and secondary students, and implement into the curriculum the science on the climate crisis and what is happening, as well as how students can take action locally, nationally and internationally.

As we the youth from Fiji who are already being affected by the effects of climate change through sea level rise, an increase in natural disasters and overall temperature rise, we are demanding that our Government take immediate action and address the areas mentioned above by pushing the developed countries to take actions in reducing their gas emission and create awareness. We feel the consequences of your decisions today, as a country it is your responsibility to take drastic action and realistic actions that would greatly improve our nation.

5.3 New Zealand

Kia ora distinguished delegates and observers of Mock COP26. We speak to you today representing the youth of Aotearoa New Zealand, an island nation in the southwestern part of the Pacific Ocean with a population close to 5 million people.

Though we are a very small country, we have one of the highest GHG emissions per capita in the world. There is an urgent need to change this pattern if we want to make New Zealand and the pasifika countries more resilient and sustainable for future generations and stay below the science based target of 1.5°C of warming. As a developed nation, our country has a responsibility to help those affected most and do our share to combat the problem.
New Zealand experienced unexpected weather patterns such as snow in the summers. In the future, we expect to see extreme rainfall in the south island and drought in the north island; where we’re already experiencing water shortages. We expect to see a sea level increase which will result in flooding and a need to abandon certain areas in cities; signs of which have already been seen in Dunedin. A loss of biodiversity that is so very critical to New Zealand is already being seen because of ocean acidification and deforestation.

We do not want this future.

We have to make alterations to the Zero Carbon bill by adding biogenic methane and change our target of being carbon neutral from 2050 to 2030.

We were the first to give women the right to vote and become nuclear free. We’ve influenced important movements on the global stage before and can do so again. Quoting from the Labour party website: “Climate change is the greatest challenge facing the world.” “The cost of doing nothing is far higher than the cost of mitigating climate change. In fact, many of the actions that reduce climate pollution also have other positive impacts and create jobs.” Let’s not spend billions on new roading projects and keeping fossil fuel-guzzling companies afloat without holding them accountable for their environmental damage.

Instead, we need to listen to the Indigenous voices that are too often excluded from the conversation. Colonial systems are at the root of the climate crisis, so Mātauranga Māori (Māori ancestral knowledge) and Indigenous knowledge need to be at the forefront of our response to climate change. The Māori value of kaitiakitanga (guardianship and protection of the environment) must guide our actions going forward. We need to be working with the planet, not against it.

Let’s fund accessible and affordable public transport and create walkable cities. Let’s switch to 100% renewables and improve the energy efficiency of public housing and buildings. Let’s rapidly transition away from fossil fuels and invest in incentives to steer ourselves onto the right path. Let’s support eco-friendly startups and empower New Zealand to become a world leader in innovative and sustainable agriculture. Let us replant native trees that have been cut down for our unsustainable agricultural practices. Let’s ensure that if any bailouts are made; they come with an enforced commitment to emissions reduction goals. Let us make it mandatory for all organisations to audit and report GHG emissions and disclose climate financial risks.

Let’s fight to make Aotearoa New Zealand the leader in climate solutions; thank you.

5.4 Papua New Guinea

Good evening distinguished guests and observers of MockCOP26, I speak today representing Papua New Guinea, home to the third largest rainforest in the world.

My country has experienced firsthand effects of climate change for close to two decades now. We are home to the first climate change refugees of Carteret Islands, we have experienced submerging islands, change in weather affecting our people, plants and animals and many others.

Young people have been at the forefront combating climate change through awareness and climate action with the effects as well as managing the consequences through reforestation exercises, coral restoration, plant and animal conservation and many others.

Although REDD has been created in my country, my people have never benefited from it in any shape or form. Protecting oceans, forests and mangroves should become an international imperative due to the ecological stability of the region rests in the climate balancing contributions of countries which act as lungs of the planet.
Countries like Papua New Guinea companies and multinational cooperations are taking advantage of our weak laws and corruption to illegally destroying our natural resources in developing countries should be held accountable in the international courts in the same way for genocide and other acts against humanity.

There is a lot we expect from our government however are not seeing. A vital one would be to integrate climate education in our local curriculum as well more emphasis on community awareness.

As we are one of the top ten countries vulnerable to the effects of climate change. My hometown of Port Moresby has joined the Cities For Forests And Cities For Climate Action thanks to Governor Hon Powes Parkop and his passion to save the planet. However, our challenge is always the technical and financial resources to monitor and put in place the continual follow-up required for real changes to the urbanization of our city. Two of the 111 Members of Parliament who are vocal on climate change are now working together to champion a reforestation program which is a milestone in the region.

I come from an island nestled somewhere in the Pacific Ocean despite being so tiny I have contributed immensely to address climate change and it’s filled with so much hope. I cannot fight this battle on my own. I need each and every one of you to join hands with me to fight our battle. We are in this together. It is now or never. Like President Obama said, “We did not come here to fear the future; we came here to shape it”. Let’s all stand united to create the future we all want to see. I may be from an island, but no man is an island. Thank you.

5.5 Solomon Islands

Hello distinguished delegates and observers of MOCK COP26.

I speak to you today representing the youth of Solomon Islands, an archipelago in the South Pacific Ocean that is made up of 992 islands that is scattered throughout the country. According to the results from the 2019 census report, Solomon Islands has a total population of 731,455 people.

Today our country is experiencing devastating loss and damage from climate change. We are already observing intensified and more frequent storms, rising sea levels, new pest and disease outbreaks, severe and prolonged water shortages as well as the loss of whole ecosystems like coral reefs and mangroves. These impacts affect our businesses, our traditional economy, and our overall well-being. It also limits our fundamental human rights: the right to shelter, the right to food and water, the right to land. Our people have had enough of the empty promises from rich developed nations and their unfulfilled commitments to mitigate, or reduce, their climate-destroying emissions such as using fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas.

The youth of Solomon Islands recognize that there is still much more to be done in the global action to combat climate crisis. Last year in September, about 500 young people joined the world youth strike for Climate Emergency here in Honiara. This included youth from a number of high schools, university students, women groups from various non-government organizations, and even the disability groups. Together we demanded that our leaders strengthen and implement meaningful and realistic climate action policies.

Solomon Islands will continue to improve and align its climate ambitious goals with the science to stay below 1.5℃ in warming. The youth of Solomon Islands stand with our government, committing to work and enhance our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC’s) to place us in line with the 1.5 degrees Celsius trajectory as guided by the IPCC’s Special 1.5 degrees Celsius Report. We also urge our government to implement climate education as a mandatory course in our educational institutions. We believe in the need to educate our young people more on climate change, empower them to be vocal and to take the necessary action on this pressing issue. It is our future that is at stake!
Solomon Islanders have been affected by climate change in so many ways. As young leaders, it is our responsibility to take appropriate action and ensure that our country’s top governing body makes well-informed decisions for climate justice today, for the future of our people.

We will no longer sit back and watch our future being taken away from us. We will rise and fight for our future. We need our government to take this seriously. We need every nation to take this seriously. We are now living on borrowed time and the survival of our generation strongly depends on the decisions we make today. We must act now!

Distinguish Delegates and Observers of Mock COP26, I thank you.

5.6 Tonga

I bring greetings to my fellow delegates as well as the staff members and observers of MOCK COP26. My name is Siosiua Alo Veikune, and I am the youth representative of the island nation of the Kingdom of Tonga, population 105,000 people.

Here in Tonga, we have begun to feel the effects of climate change in the kingdom. Troubles like sea level rising, warming seas, and an increase in natural disasters are only a few of the many effects of climate change that our people experience. At the constant rise of the sea level by 7.3mm annually, subsistence agricultural production and inhabited coastal areas are under constant threats. The warming of the sea’s temperature also deteriorates the well-being of the coral reefs, and negatively affects the current of which fishes migrates. For a country that has a large group of people that rely on subsistence fishing, this impacts their lifestyle and source of income. The biggest effect however, is that of the increase in natural disasters. Tropical cyclones befall Tonga annually which uproots crop plantations, and also destroys the homes of several civilians.

In Tonga, we have several activist groups run by our youth with the soul goal of battling climate change on every possible front. Tonga has a branch of Pacific Island Students Fighting Climate Change (PISFCC) who is a group of youth activists with the vision that we should be able to live with dignity and without fear of climate change, denying us and our children of that freedom. The PISFCC currently has two campaigns which are to seek an advisory opinion on human rights and climate change from the International Court of Justice, and also to educate and activate the youth of the Pacific. Even Tonga’s own government has included the fight against climate change in what is called Tonga Climate Change Policy with the goal to provide a clear vision to direct Tonga’s response to the effects of climate change. This means that through several objectives the Government of Tonga hopes to obtain a country that is resilient to the impacts of climate change and climate-related disaster risks, and is able to protect and safeguard its present and future citizens.

This is a good start for what is still a long battle yet to come to an end. Even though the youth and government of Tonga have done plenty for the fight against climate change, more can still be done. Despite there being youth activist groups in Tonga, a lot of them are made up of university level students and older, meaning a large majority of Tonga’s youth are either unheard or uninformed of the on-going battle with climate change. Tongan leaders should push for appropriately educating our youths whilst at a very young age to make them understand that the fight against climate change is everybody’s fight. This can be done by integrating climate education into school curriculums as a mandatory subject and also pushing for policies that stop the use of single-use plastic products and also laws that deters the improper dumping of rubbish.

As a youth of Tonga, I demand that all governmental leaders take the issue of climate change to the international level. When a tap is left running, only so much can be done to stop the flooding that is caused. Therefore when large industrial countries are the cause of carbon emissions at a destructive
rate; we can only do so much at a regional level. It is up governmental leaders to take the people’s voice to the international level and turn off the tap.

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