

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**BY**

**H.E. MR. COLLEN V. KELAPILE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COUNCIL (ECOSOC)**

**AT**

**ECOSOC BRIEFING ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (COP26)**

**14 DECEMBER 2021  
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

*Please check against delivery.*

## **Excellencies,**

1. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our distinguished speakers for sharing their reflections on the outcomes of COP26.
2. We welcome the progress made at COP26 with the adoption of the Glasgow Climate Pact. While it is a compromise document, many important steps have been taken.
3. Historic references were made to phasing down of coal power and phasing out fossil fuel subsidies. Calls were made for stronger national action plans to be presented at COP27 and for doubling of finance.
4. The Paris Agreement rulebook was finalized. The Pact paved the way for the Glasgow dialogue between parties on loss and damage. Significant announcements were made on forestry and finance and by key stakeholders, including the private sector.

## **Excellencies,**

5. Earlier this year, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group 1 Report warned us that **“unless there are immediate, rapid and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, limiting warming to 1.5°C [would] be beyond reach.”** In this respect, we have no time to lose.
6. I am inspired by the enthusiasm and willingness of our UN system entities and ECOSOC subsidiary bodies to contribute to climate action by leveraging the interlinkages with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
7. Given our limited time, we were only able to hear from a few today. I am impressed with the work that is being developed

related to climate action and environmental dimension in a cross-cutting way in some parts of the ECOSOC system.

8. It is worth noting that climate change will be the focus of the upcoming sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee of Experts on Public Administration.

**Excellencies,**

9. Today's global challenges, such as climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic, require us to work together across borders and sectors at all levels.
10. As you start to prepare for COP27, I encourage Member States to engage with our Council, including its various Forums.
11. We must ensure that our deliberations, for example at the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-Up, the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, reflect the inter-connectedness of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.
12. We must seize every opportunity to build forward better a resilient and sustainable future.
13. As President of this Council, I am committed to strengthening multilateralism, amplifying voices of vulnerable countries and engaging stakeholders to increase ambition for sustainable development and climate action to ensure no one is left behind.

**I thank you for your kind attention.**