

**HOLHUASHI DIALOGUE SUMMARY**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMANITARIAN SITUATIONS**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

The President of the 76<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Abdullah Shahid, convened the first *Holhuashi Dialogue* on the theme, “*Climate Change and Humanitarian Situations*” on Friday October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Placed below is the summary of the session.

- While Climate change is an existential issue for many countries and regions, it is important to explore different dimensions of climate change and its different consequences in various regions.
- Climate change is a “threat multiplier” aggravating already fragile situations and potentially contributing to further social tensions and upheaval. These issues are already been discussed in the halls of the United Nations. Thereof, the General Assembly should find ways to discuss about it.
- It is unequivocal that, where institutions and governments are unable to manage the stress or absorb the shocks of a changing climate, the risks to the stability of states and societies will increase.
- As climate change is becoming an increasingly stronger force in disrupting human, national and international security, the Security Council is facing rising demands to address these security risks. The Council has held sessions on climate change and its implications for peace and security since 2007.
- The UN Security Council members are discussing a draft resolution on Climate security tabled by Ireland and Niger at the end of September 2021. The potential adoption (during the Nigerian presidency in December 2021) of the resolution would constitute a giant step forward considering the importance of this topic for the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), and Africa.
- In many parts of the world, Africa in particular, changing demographics and scarcity of resources due to climate change are leading to growing competition over land and water, fueling internal and international migration.
- It is imperative to identify the countries which are most vulnerable to humanitarian situations resulting from climate change and see how they could be assisted. Each country’s needs and challenges are different and a one-size-fits-all solution will not work. One such measure is anticipatory humanitarian action.

- Although humanitarian actors are crucial to deliver assistance in a cohesive and effective manner to save lives and lighten suffering of the most vulnerable, this is only a temporary measure. Long-term solutions are needed to end recurring humanitarian crises.
- There is a need for efficient and effective coordination between humanitarian actors in relief efforts and local NGOs in order to better identify early warning signals and needs assessment that clearly caters to the specific vulnerabilities of the country.
- It is not enough to just treat the symptoms of humanitarian crisis related to climate change, but it is important to address the root causes of crises and to implement policies that increase preparedness and resilience.
- Strong policies on the ground are critical for the way forward. And to achieve that, good governance is essential.
- Fully adhering to the implementation of Paris Agreement of 2015 is critical to building climate resilience. COP26 as well as the World Ocean Summit in 2022, will be instrumental in scaling up ambition and discussing way forward and long-term strategies.
- The General Assembly can play an important role in building synergy between relevant UN agencies, ECOSOC, Human Rights Council, and even Security Council. An intersectional mechanism between the General Assembly and its organs to assess the various gaps and linkage of change will be useful.
- Similarly, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) aims to achieve substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives and livelihoods. It is vital to integrate the specific target and indicators of the Sendai Framework in the planning on disaster risk reduction.
- Protecting the environment is a collective responsibility. There needs to be better understanding on the negative effects of human action on our biodiversity. How we care for our oceans and forests has lasting consequences. It is important to teach countries innovative ways to use their natural resources.
- An important dimension of climate change is development. A major challenge of reaching a global deal on climate change is to find a way for poor countries to continue developing under the carbon limits. That will involve scaling up finance to deploy clean technologies, to adapt to the effects of climate change, and to compensate countries that provide the global public good of reducing emissions, especially by reducing tropical deforestation.