Objective:

The High-Level Roundtable convened by the Secretary-General will bring together a small group of global climate leaders who are taking the boldest climate actions as they recover better from COVID-19. These leaders will showcase the most far-reaching climate actions being implemented to address the climate emergency and impacts of COVID-19 and demonstrate how they have been tackling the climate emergency in a manner consistent not only with the 1.5C goal, but also the need to recover in a sustainable and resilient manner.

This Roundtable will also jump start an ambition arc that will take us to the Fifth Anniversary of the Paris Agreement on December 12th, when some governments are expected to present ambitious and quality climate plans (the Nationally Determined Contributions and the Long-Term Strategies), all the way to COP26 next November 2021 in Glasgow (UK)

Format:

The event, chaired by the Secretary-General, will center around a live moderated discussion and also contain video messages from several invited leaders, on three main topics:

1. “Ambition on finance: keeping the commitments and ensuring more financial flows, public and private, are aligned with the needs for decarbonization of the economy, protection of people and resilience of infrastructures”.

2. “Aligning climate plans (NDCs and LTSs), recovery/stimulus plans and business plans with 1.5C and climate neutrality”.

3. “Protecting people and planet to ensure a sustainable and just recovery: adaptation and resilience”.

The Secretary-General will deliver opening remarks, followed by the moderated discussions among Heads of State and Government, CEOs and leaders from civil society institutions.

Invited speakers include the two governments presiding over the climate change conference of Parties (COP), President Sebastian Piñera of Chile (COP25) and Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom (COP26) as well as ten Heads of State and Government from the African and Asia regions, the Small Island Developing States and the European Union. In addition, invitations have been extended to a representative of a sub-national government and leaders of Microsoft, ITAU-Unibanco, the Global Cement and Concrete Association, the European Climate Foundation, Climate Action International, Aeon and a lead author the IPCC.

The event will be moderated by Ms. Femi Oke; it will be public and webcast on webtv.un.org with translation in the six UN languages.