



HIGH-LEVEL FORUM ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Press Release

China and the United Nations Have Committed to Supporting South-South Climate Cooperation

The High-Level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change concluded in Bonn highlighting Southern collaboration toward achieving benefits for all

Bonn, 15 November 2017 – China and the United Nations co-hosted the High-Level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change during the 23rd Session of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Held in the China Pavilion in Bonn, this event built on the successful experiences and collaboration in Marrakech and has been convened for the fourth time since COP20 in Lima, Peru.

The United Nations officially announced the *South-South Cooperation Action Plan*, which is an integral part of the implementation of the Secretary-General's United Nations system-wide *Climate Change Engagement Strategy*. The Action Plan aims to leverage the opportunities provided by South-South climate cooperation and to unleash their great potential to achieve pragmatic outcomes, contributing to the implementation of Countries' Nationally Determined Contributions, under the Paris Agreement.

For the implementation of the Action Plan, UNOSSC will consult with and seek the support of Member States and wider stakeholder groups.

"The Action Plan will be based on Southern experiences, mobilize Southern expertise, leverage Southern capacities, and advance Southern progress," said Mr. Jorge Chediek, the Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and the Director of UNOSSC. He also highlighted the efforts and support of a few developing countries on South-South cooperation.

COP23 President and Fijian Prime Minister attended the Forum and delivered the keynote address.

China's Minister Mr. Xie Zhenhua addressed the opening session of the Forum. He summarized China's contribution of nearly 100 million USD to support South-South climate cooperation since 2011. China's flagship "10-100-1000 Programme" is developed and supported by its Climate Change South-South Cooperation Fund. Minister Xie stressed the importance of global climate governance with extensive participation, action with the highest possible ambition, pragmatism and effectiveness, and collaboration for mutual benefits. He

also suggested the importance of maintaining and enhancing mutual trust, promoting joint development, and establishing connections for collaboration. He announced that China is committed to promote more and wider climate partnership, as an important participant, contributor, and torchbearer in the global endeavor for ecological civilization.

The Forum convened Ministers and their senior representatives, as well as senior officials from over one dozen developing countries, including Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Seychelles, Singapore, Zambia, among others. Senior United Nations representatives also addressed the event, including Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Mr. Liu Zhenmin of Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and senior representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme and UNFCCC.

The Forum was widely attended by civil society groups, financial institutions, and businesses as well.

Participating developing countries welcomed and supported the announcement of the *South-South Cooperation Action Plan*, as well as the aspiration and leadership of the United Nations Secretary-General. Member States and civil society stakeholders also expressed their willingness to cooperate further with UNOSSC and the United Nations system to address climate change, including through promoting enhanced South-South cooperation.

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For more info: <https://www.unsouthsouth.org>

Southern Climate Partnership Incubator (SCPI) that organized the Forum: www.un.org/scpi