South Asian CSOs Press Conference, 12 December 2019

**CSO Expressed Deep Concern over CoP 25 Negotiation Outcome**

**Disagreement of Developed Countries on Long-Term Financing Commitment is Unaccepted**

**Dear Journalists and Participants,**

Speaking at the opening ceremony, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that important decisions must be taken "now" to limit emissions that cause the greenhouse effect. Guterres claimed that the planet is close to “the point of no return” and urged all countries to be more "ambitious" and cut pollutant emissions as this is "critical time" to combat climate change.

And yesterday The COP 25 President, Carolina Schmidt, said that climate action has to be fair and this COP must mark a real change of course, a change of direction and ambition, bringing on board new players to the table to commit to carbon neutrality by 2050.

But we observing the bleak ongoing performance and progress on CoP 25 negotiation on implementing Paris Agreement (PA), in translating their warning and demand for real action to save the world, That’s why, we the CSOs from South Asian countries have been expressing our concern and said that it is true and fighting climate change is needed a real collective action without any controversial role from any countries especially from the developed country parties. So we again remind and calling to high level delegates for taking urgent action from developed countries, as they have obligation to do;

**1. Pathways to 1.50C is ignored in the negotiation**

This is highlighted in the latest IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Special Reports’ 2018 and 2019 and recommendation for keeping below 1.50C global temperature is require the need of urgent and ambitious action on mitigation and adaptation. The ongoing discussion making no progress on this issue in setting ambitious target on GHG emission reduction. This role of ignoring affect us “unfair” as it mainly hurts our MVCs and our vulnerable people, communities and economy.

So we again urge to developed country Parties must take decision within CoP 25 and hereafter to lead in global emission reduction efforts by committing to accelerated emissions reductions from 2020 onward, based on the science, and lead in supporting to adaptation actions in vulnerable countries”.

**2. We expect to operationalize the principles of “Equity and CBDR principle in Paris Agreement**

We observing that within the PA and the Convention, the principles of “Equity and CBDR-RC are the two important issues which infused nearly all aspects but unfortunately, there has been a lot of lip service paid to these concepts”, but little has been done to operationalization. So we underscored that the success the Convention, the PA which is “critically linked to Equity and CBDR and it is important for us to make sure that the spirit of implementation of the PA”.

We again stressed that the PA requires the developed countries to take the lead (in emissions reductions) as they are the “largest cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) emitters” and that “it is only fair and equitable for developing countries to develop and grow to meet their sustainable development goals (SDGs) to make sure that the outcomes of their actions are equitable.”

**3. We demand a common time frame in 2030 onward**

In last year, all countries agreed to have a common time frame for future rounds (2030 onward) of climate commitments but could not agree on the length of the implementation period. As we face a climate emergency, we need to set a rapid pace with tight deadlines to prompt countries to wheel up their efforts more frequently and facilitate the effective implementation of other provisions of the Paris Agreement.

So that in Madrid, negotiators should be agreed to a common time frame that requires all countries to execute their new NDCs during an implementation period (of 2031 to 2035) those align with the five-year ambition cycle set in the Paris Agreement and will provide greater predictability to going forward. In addition, developed countries also need to indicate their plans requiring a longer (e.g., 10-year) time frame.

**2. Negotiations on Article-6: We don’t expect any False Solution in mitigation actions for achieving NDCs**

We are opposing the developed countries efforts to establish the clause “Article 6.2” (Use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes towards achieving NDCs either market approach or it’s so called carbon capture/sinking etc.) of Paris Agreement. We oppose the notion of establishing “a so called commercial enterprise” by developed countries in the name of so called Market Mechanism in fact create pressure to the MVCs to adopt mitigation action rather their adaptation priorities. So that we call;

* Developed countries must be followed their domestic and home grown mitigation pledges in line with fair shares and a 1.5°C pathway.
* Adoption the NDCs by developed countries will be explicit their quantified commitments to support their mitigation and adaptation for MVCs and developing countries.

We expect the necessary arrangements under Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement that go beyond emissions trading to effective non-market approaches to facilitate scaled-up cooperation, which could involve support for projects, policies, and programs that result in concrete and quantified emissions reductions and enhanced climate resilience.

**3. Bi-passing the Commitment of Long Term Financing by Developed Countries is Unacceptable**

We experiencing with deep frustration that the on-going climate talks in Madrid, developed countries are opposed to continuing discussions on Long-Term Finance (LTF) under the UNFCCC post 2020, and demand further discussions on finance under the Paris Agreement. This sceptical approach of developed countries must hamper the global goal of both mitigation and adaption actions under PA also might leverage for developed countries to control over vulnerable countries and their adaptation priorities setting.

We reiterated that the LTF as being an extremely important and only platform within the PA and its Convention that dealt with finance at a macro level, including dealing with both the technical and political levels. We further clarified that while the process involved mobilizing USD 100 billion a year up to 2020 doesn’t mean to end in 2020. We referring to the Paris Agreement, the developed countries agreed as collective goal on mobilising finance prior to 2025 and onward. So that the developed countries are obligated and responsible to continue to take the lead for provision of finance and that the decision in Paris to extend the mobilization of the USD 100 billion goal for each & another 5 years onward. So we do not ready to see the LTF coming to an end by year 2020 rather it must be accomplished by 2030 according to the period of PA run at least.

Not only that, we also raise our voice and demand again to developed countries to ensure long-term finance that must be (i) obligatory, (ii) new and additional, (iii) covering full cost, (iv) should not be as loan and without any conditions. If adaptation cost has to bear by the people of vulnerable countries then it will be double burden on them.

**4. We demand the WIM as fully operationalized to support Loss & Damage and Displacement solution**

This is a key opportunity for ministers and heads of delegation to engage on loss and damage. We think that the WIM review is a centrepiece for vulnerable countries, and prepare for a strong outcome on the WIM at COP25. We urge Parties to identify ways to strengthen the WIM in the light of loss and damage being faced by vulnerable countries.

We appreciating the current G77 and LDCs united position on WIM issue which is being negotiated at COP-25. The negotiation outcome would be fully operationalize to support the needs of vulnerable countries. So we expect (i) the mechanism is fit-for-purpose to meet the challenge of loss and damage currently faced by vulnerable developing countries; (ii) It’s also capable of meeting future loss and damage needs based on scientific projections on impacts, including displacement & migration and (iii) the new mandate will be able to generate and transfer finance to meet those needs. The review must address any gaps in the implementation of the WIM’s original mandate, and in the current and future needs of vulnerable developing countries.

**Thank You All**