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STATEMENT

By

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Distinguished Presidents,
Mr Secretary-General,
Excellences,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me first to congratulate our host Morocco for organizing this action and implementation oriented climate conference which clearly demonstrates our common, global and continued climate engagement.

My praise goes to all Parties that already ratified the Paris agreement with the invitation to those still concluding their national ratifications, to do so as soon as possible. Let me proudly announce that the Slovenian Parliament will ratify the agreement tomorrow.

The early entry into force of the Paris agreement proves that common effort and dedication by all Parties can turn climate book chapters quicker than previously expected. Nevertheless, the most challenging chapters are still to be opened, read, agreed and implemented.

Among these is by no doubt the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue as an important opportunity to take stock of the collective effort towards the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. Parties have to be fully ready to engage in this dialogue with sufficient additional expertise and political will.

In this regard we should all welcome the decision by the IPCC to provide us with a Special Report on the Impacts of Global Warming of 1.5 degrees C. It is still not too late to reconsider the tittle and the focus of this document, aiming at producing a Special Opportunity Strategy for 1.5 degrees C. Such document

should not mainly deal with the "loss and damage" of climate change, but should primarily lists the benefits of climate action.

The lack of effective climate response is namely not due to lack of the scientific fact, but rather due to psychological reasons, mainly a shortage of positive inspiration.

Let me in this context refer to the analysis and findings by Prof. Per Espen Stoknes, a Norwegian psychologist and economist, who in his recent studies underlines that climate change has been consistently framed mainly as: "disaster, destruction, cost, uncertainty and sacrifice" with two dominant framings: "disaster and uncertainty, while what is needed is a new cultural movement, a kind of a seismic shift away from this climate resistance. We need to start framing the climate change action in terms of "insurance, health, security, preparedness, and most of all, opportunity", concludes Prof Stoknes.

People have to desire to live in a climate efficient society, climate friendly planet Earth and prosperous future because they see it better and promising by themselves, and not because they are frightened of the negative climate change consequences.

And this is why this conference has to contribute importantly to the pro-engaging and positive climate stories and efficient next steps in order to realise that the long-term temperature goal will not remain only on paper, but will be the result of motivated action.

I wish us all the best of luck on this challenging journey.

Thank you for your attention.