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ACCELERATING THE CLEAN, SUSTAINABLE, RENEWABLE, AND JUST ENERGY TRANSITION

(Adopted by the Heads of State and Government on June 9, 2022)

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas,

RECALLING Article 2.1 of the Paris Agreement, which includes the goals: to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change; to increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and to make finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development; and further recalling Article 2.2 of the Paris Agreement, which states that the Agreement will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances;

ENCOURAGING increased attention with respect to members of groups that have been historically marginalized, discriminated against, and/or in vulnerable situations, as well as all women and girls, taking into account their diverse conditions and situations, in a manner consistent with national legislation and international law,^{1/2/}

COMMIT TO:

1. Promote energy efficiency in new public and private infrastructure plans as well as encourage the rational, efficient use of energy, contemplating the opportunities for energy integration to facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, considering all relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG7, promoting the use of efficient energy-saving and energy-labeling technologies to achieve net zero emissions, as appropriate, following the requirements, circumstances, and each state's legislation.
2. Emphasize the need to incorporate an inclusive approach in the processes of digitalization, democratization, and decentralization, within the sustainable and just energy transition strategies of our countries, taking into account gender equity and equality, empowerment of women, and respect for the rights of indigenous peoples, people of African descent, and persons with disabilities.

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1. The Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Uruguay support the phrase "women and girls in all their diversity" and consider that references in this document ...
 2. The Republic of Panama reiterates the importance of promoting national legislation to advance the human rights of all persons who are members of groups that have been historically ...

3. Advance implementation among participants of the Global Methane Pledge, through international cooperation including by strengthening technical and financial support, and the development of comprehensive and sectoral, transparent, and verifiable country-level methane mitigation action plans.
4. Recall that the Glasgow Climate Pact calls upon Parties to accelerate the development, deployment, and dissemination of technologies, and the adoption of policies to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phasedown of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable in line with national circumstances and recognizing the need for support towards a just transition.
5. Work towards implementing 2030 emission mitigation targets and develop, as far as possible, country-level roadmaps to accelerate the process of energy transition toward a low carbon economy, in line with nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement, in a timeline consistent with a pathway toward the objectives set forth in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement.
6. Share best practices on inclusive and equitable energy-efficient transportation infrastructure and urban designs.
7. Support and promote cooperation to increase the share of all forms and types of renewable energy in the countries of the Americas, according to their national strategies, including wind, solar, offshore wind, bioenergy, geothermal, hydroelectricity, and other low-carbon emissions energy, particularly in the electric, industrial, transportation, and housing sectors, along with carbon capture, storage, and removal technologies, and emission abatement mechanisms, as well as low carbon hydrogen that may contribute to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.
8. Promote multilateral cooperation to increase the use of all forms and types of renewable energy in the countries of the Hemisphere, including programs such as those of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), the Renewable Energy in Latin America and the Caribbean (RELAC) Initiative, and the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), among others, to include the participation of all States, as appropriate.
9. Encourage multilateral development banks and other key regional financing entities, including the World Bank, the IDB, the CDB, CAF, and CABEI, to consider identifying, developing, and advancing specific and distinct efforts to improve the mobilization of climate financing to increase the implementation of all forms of renewable energy, and reduce climate vulnerability in countries of the Americas, and to promote reporting on the implementation of these initiatives by the Joint Summit Working Group by the X Summit of the Americas.^{3/}

3. The Bahamas is of the view that this Commitment document should serve as a powerful tool for advancing real and tangible climate ambition for our hemisphere, thereby, enabling our region to...

10. Advance sustainable, sustained, and responsible mining sector governance principles, particularly for those minerals and metals powering the energy transition and secure the integration of mineral supply chains within our Hemisphere.
11. Work with the private sector and other stakeholders to identify opportunities for manufacture or trade in clean energy goods and services, including through regulations, financing, and facilitation of trade and investments, and identify actions to facilitate reverse supply chains including recovery, recycling, and remanufacturing of post-consumer use clean energy goods.
12. Work with the private sector, multilateral development banks, and multilateral climate funds, as appropriate, to identify, facilitate access to, and finance quality energy efficiency and clean and sustainable energy infrastructure plans and projects, which use innovative technologies and follow international best practices for environmental and procurement standards that promote respect for human rights and reach underserved communities and public entities, considering the level of development and the mechanisms that best adapt to the reality of each country.
13. Set goals for the scale-up of renewable energy, where deemed appropriate, depending on each state's availability of natural resources.
14. Create favorable and fair conditions for the participation of public and private capital, both domestic and foreign, and multilateral organizations in the development of new, clean, and renewable energy sources, as well as the promotion of knowledge sharing in matters of energy efficiency and disruptive technologies that enable mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, such as the incorporation of the use of sustainable biofuels, and of low-carbon hydrogen and electric mobility.
15. Work towards developing just and inclusive energy transition strategies with a gender perspective that take into account specific geographic circumstances in the region, in particular the vulnerable situation of small island developing states, which face economic and environmental resilience challenges, in addition to technical limitations to interconnecting their energy infrastructures.

FOOTNOTES

1. ... to “all women and girls, taking into account their various conditions and situations” fall short of the language that leaders should support at a Summit of the Americas which must aim for inclusiveness. “Women and girls in all their diversity” acknowledges the fact that women and girls are not a homogeneous group and embraces their different identities, including, for example, as part of the indigenous Afro-descendant, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and of two spirits (LGBTIQ2), as well as other dimensions and communities. Likewise, it recognizes the need to adopt an intersectional and multidimensional approach to meaningfully respond to the needs of women and girls of different backgrounds, respecting and valuing the full diversity of their identities and realities. This approach underlines the interconnectedness of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusions and inequalities that impede their empowerment and the full enjoyment of their rights. Diversity as a concept has been recognized in numerous international and regional texts, including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2001 Quebec Summit of the Americas Plan of Action.

2. ...marginalized, discriminated against and/or are in vulnerable situations, especially women in all their diversity – forums for multilateral dialogue being ideal vehicles for this purpose.

3. ...better align the mitigation targets outlined by both the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Glasgow Climate Pact (COP26).

The Bahamas believes, however, that this Commitment document falls short of and lacks the ambition commensurate with the collective goals laid out in the Paris Agreement and Glasgow Climate Pact and the scale of the climate crises that our countries contend with on perennial basis.

In particular, this document is deficient in fostering the required progress on Paris Agreement and Glasgow Commitment goals around ensuring efficient access to financial resources through simplified approval procedures, with decreased conditionalities, provision of enhanced readiness support for developing country Parties, in particular for the LDCs and SIDS, addressing the specific concerns raised with regard to eligibility and ability to access concessional forms of climate finance and the importance of the provision of scaled-up financial resources, taking into account the needs of developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

In order to address key issues related to prioritization, eligibility and application procedures to access climate finance to accelerate renewable energy provision across various member states of the OAS, multilateral development banks (MDBs) and other key financing entities serving the hemisphere can play a greater and more meaningful role in accelerating renewable energy provision through the provision of distinct finance access windows to fund climate related initiatives, response projects and programs.

Further, in order to facilitate equitable and sustainable development, the varying dimensions of socio-economic and climate-fueled vulnerability must be taken into account when assessing need for access to aid, technical assistance and concessional finance for climate and broader development finance.