

## UNFCCC Executive Secretary video remarks at 79<sup>th</sup> Session of ESCAP

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

We are now midway between COPs 27 and 28, where we will need the world to come together and deliver a solutions-oriented result getting us on track to limit warming to 1.5°C.

We all know how urgent it is to take accelerated ambitious action now to prevent climate chaos by reducing emissions and building resilience.

COP28 is where this will come together.

At COP28 we will take stock of our pledges to limit emissions.

And how we are implementing them.

We know we are way off course. And the Global stocktake is the opportunity to course correct, because instead of a pathway where emissions halve by 2030 and hit net zero by mid-century, we are seeing record emissions and temperatures.

How we respond to that Global Stocktake will determine whether we can stabilize the climate. The response must be deeper faster cuts in emissions. A transformation in our societies and economies.

**So I ask all the Ministers here: Think of the most ambitious emissions outcomes you can promise in Dubai. Deliver it and more at COP28. Your region has the power to help us keep the world on track to the goals of the Paris Agreement and the Convention.**

At the same time, we know how extreme weather from climate change can wash away years of development.

You cannot build prosperity while ignoring climate change.

Climate action and development are the two sides of the sustainable development goal.

And we must invest in adaptation to deal with the climate change impacts we cannot prevent.

COP 28 will finalize what a global goal on adaptation will look like.

We know that addressing climate impacts is location-specific and this group can play a vital role coordinating adaptation action across the region.

Working across boundaries to harness synergies.

Removing barriers to funding.

**You can rely on the expertise and convening power of the UNFCCC to support you.**

We must scale up adaptation and integrate it into development.

National adaptation plans are the main UNFCCC instrument to integrate systematic adaptation into development strategy.

**The UNFCCC can work with you, including capacity-building for developing countries and LDCs.**

**Only nine countries from the Asia-Pacific have submitted NAPs. I urge the rest of you to work with us to develop them.**

We must also invest in supporting countries where adaptation comes too late, where funding falls short.

COP28 will set up new funding arrangements and a fund for loss & damage.

**I urge you all to push for just loss & damage arrangements, which are fit for purpose.**

Alongside robust emissions and adaptation outcomes, that will give us the ambitious action-oriented COP we need.

**Thank you**