

**STATEMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

to the

*Twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC
(COP 25)*

*Fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of
the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 15)*

*Second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the
Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 2)*

Madrid, Spain, 2 to 13 December 2019

**Presented by
Tomislav Ćorić, Ph.D.**

**MINISTER
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
AND ENERGY**

Madam President, Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to convey the warmest thanks to the Government of the Kingdom of Spain as well as the city of Madrid for organizing and hosting these notable Conferences at such short notice.

The Republic of Croatia would like to underline its continued commitment to the Paris Agreement as the fundamental multilateral framework for the transition to a low-carbon society resilient to climate change.

We believe that this transition will stimulate industrial growth, the investment cycle and new business development, which will result in job creation and, ultimately, improve the quality of life for all citizens.

On this occasion, as we are approaching the Croatian Presidency of the EU in 2020, I would like to call your attention to a very important 'Clean Energy for EU Islands' initiative. It was launched in 2017, during the Maltese Presidency of the EU, and focuses on the sustainability and energy transition of EU islands.

This year, in February, 26 European islands officially launched their clean energy transition with the support of the European Commission's Clean Energy for EU Islands Secretariat.

We are proud that 4 out of 1244 islands in Croatia joined this initiative. During the first phase, in the summer of 2019, the Cres-Lošinj archipelago developed and published their clean energy transition agendas and we expect the other 3 islands, Brač, Korčula and Hvar, to follow their example in 2020.

Investments in the energy future of EU islands mean investments in a sustainable and decarbonized Europe. EU islands, with their specific and innovative solutions, could take the lead in the activities that can deliver sustainable energy projects.

Madam President, distinguished delegates,

2020 will be a year of ambition in the climate world, particularly significant for the full implementation of the Paris Agreement, the year in which the Parties will submit their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and their long-term low-carbon strategies.

We believe the action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, already implemented by the EU and its Member States should be extended to all countries since only global action can ensure the realisation of the 1.5° C temperature goal.

Bearing in mind the current global situation with respect to climate change, the Republic of Croatia welcomes the upcoming European Green Deal and Climate Act as a response to the current crisis, which represents one of the greatest challenges of the modern world.

Moreover, the priorities of the forthcoming Croatian Presidency in the field of environment and climate take into account the new, ambitious direction of the development of a green and sustainable Europe and they are complementary to the announced elements of the European Green Deal.

Thank you.