

National Intervention
General Debate UNFCCC World Leader's Summit
Mr. Carlos Alvarado Quesada, President of the Republic

Excelencias, honorables invitados, delegados,

Deseo agradecer al gobierno de Chile por haber ejercido la Presidencia en estos momentos tan complejos, e igualmente agradecer al Reino Unido todos los esfuerzos realizados para hacer posible esta COP26 presencial, muchas gracias por acogernos en Glasgow.

Today I will not come here with a lengthy speech, there is no time for it!

Not only that **We** are not on track to achieve the Paris Agreement goals, but on the contrary that **We** are on track for a **climate catastrophe**.

The 2021 Emissions Gap Report shows that with the current NDCs the global temperature right now will rise to over 2,5 degrees Celsius.

I would like to recall the need to cut our global emissions by 45% in 2030 with respect to 2010, to keep the 1.5 goal alive.

And let's be frank my fellows, keeping the 1.5 goal alive is a matter of survival, is a matter of climate justice, of equity.

Yes, 2020 and 2021 have been a clear example of the pain, economic shocks and devastation that the increase **of every fraction** of global temperature can generate. We have seen different regions on the Earth affected by floods, wildfires, hurricanes, droughts, sea level rise, migrations, the more we approach the tipping points, the more suffering we generate.

But today, at the same time that we are facing the COVID pandemic, the climate change and the biodiversity crisis, the world is investing more in weapons! For me, this is immoral!

Is this the kind of legacy that We as leaders want to deliver?

Not me,

This is why my country, a tiny territory of 5 million people, like a small hummingbird, in the middle of Central America, is taking decarbonization and nature conservation as building blocks for its development model. We have made investments to ensure that our electricity remains produced 99% from renewable sources for seven years in a row now.. We have been investing in charging

stations for EVs so you can travel from the Pacific to the Caribbean in electric vehicles. We are generating the enabling conditions in terms of policies and regulations to consolidate the green hydrogen ecosystem in the country. And we want to continue giving clear signals to the markets, and to the kind of foreign direct investments that we want to attract, and for this reason we are promoting a bill to ban gas and oil exploration and exploitation in the territory, and at the same time we are working to protect 30% of our oceans in this year. We know that this is the economy of the future, that generates jobs and welfare for our societies.

But we are like a small hummingbird flying in the middle of a storm. We are trying to do our part, but we need the big emitters to contribute with their share, to take bold actions, enhance their NDCs and transform their commitments into real action.

It is clear that this transformation requires the mobilization of trillions of dollars, from public and private sources. It is critical that the whole financial flows align to the Paris Goals, we cannot continue investing and subsidising activities that harm nature and carbonize our societies.

But let me be clear, this is a time for extreme solidarity. We need a balanced approach for mitigation and adaptation finance, We need more grant-based finance, and We need to improve the quality and accessibility of these resources.

When we abolished the army in 1948 that was a leap of faith, now we need to abolish our dependency on fossil fuels.

WE can be the change, as part of this generation of leaders and decision-makers.

WE can be the ones responsible to lead the way of the transformational change that needs to happen in this decisive decade.

WE need to inspire everyone at all levels to push beyond 'business as usual,' demonstrating that we have the knowledge, the technology, the resources, the will and the solidarity to achieve this common goal.

WE must be brave - and intolerant to those that resist change.

Thank you very much