

NGO statement

Date: 31 May

Time: 16:30-18:00

Ati Gunnawi Viviam Misslin Villafañá Izquierdo

YOUNGO

Text for interpreters:

I am Ati Viviam Villafañá, an arhuaca indigenous woman from Colombia speaking on behalf of the children and youth constituency.

The crises we are facing - be it on health, climate, biodiversity, food systems or social inequalities - are interlinked and painful symptoms of our broken relationship with our planet. The pandemic has increased inequalities and exposed our structurally flawed systems. In various countries, for example my own, this has triggered youth mass mobilization, and governments have responded with violence. YOUNGO stands in solidarity with the global youth climate movement and urges parties to take their own youth seriously.

We urge Parties to advance work on Action for Climate Empowerment through the review of the Doha Work Programme and the design of a robust and ambitious successor for it. Specifically, Parties must solve the finance gap and - through an Action Plan, Expert Group, or other means - enhance the consistency and priority of ACE in the process.

With regard to Article 6 we expect parties to lay the grounds for a decision at COP26 that avoids double-counting and loopholes in all forms and ensures human and indigenous rights, environmental integrity as well as gender and social safeguards.

Parties must agree on a single five-year common time frame for NDCs implementation at COP26 to face the climate crisis with the sense of urgency it requires.

We are disappointed that Loss and Damage continues to be sidelined. We urgently need ambitious commitment to recognise Loss and Damage and scaling up finances on this matter.

We urge parties to drastically increase climate finance to meet the \$100 billion promise and allocate at least 50% to adaptation. Climate finance needs enhanced transparency and inclusivity.

While YOUNGO welcomes these virtual inter-sessionals, we demand extra efforts by all Parties to involve and be responsible to youth and people from the most affected areas, meaningfully and substantively. Our voices are still sidelined, especially in the virtual world, where we cannot physically hold you accountable.

Now it's your responsibility! Our eyes are on you! Do not disappoint us! Involve us!
People power, climate justice.

Many thanks,

Marie-Claire and Heeta

YOUNGO Focal Points 2020-2021

Children and Youth Constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

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"We shouldn't return to normal because normal was the problem." COVID-19
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