



KAZAKHSTAN

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**Statement by H.E. Mr. Erlan Idrissov,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan,
at the UN Climate Summit
(23 September)**

Dear Co-Chairs,

Distinguished delegates and colleagues,

The key findings of the IPCC's **5th Assessment Report on climate change adaptation and mitigation** indicates that human impact on the global environment is intensifying and the risks of irreversible climatic change continue to grow.

It is incumbent on all of us to ask ourselves: what are we doing to make a difference?

In Kazakhstan, we have been implementing national climate mitigation policies and measures, which are an important aspect of our long-term development plan, the **Kazakhstan 2050 Strategy**. At the heart of the strategy, unveiled last year by our President Nursultan Nazarbayev, is the bold ambition to join the world's **30 most developed states by 2050**. Growing the green economy, promoting energy efficiency and driving the renewable energy sector are all central to fulfilling this goal.

Though a major producer of conventional energy Kazakhstan is planning to achieve the following targets:

- decrease energy intensity of GDP by 50% by 2050 from the 2008 level;
- reduce current CO2 emissions in electricity production by 40% by 2050; and
- increase the share of non-conventional energy sources in the electricity production by 50% by 2050.

A common thread through all of these activities is our awareness of the costs of inefficiency, and the real economic and environmental benefits of greater carbon efficiency.

Distinguished delegates,

We fully support the international statement on **Putting a Price on Carbon**.

Indeed, we are proud to say that Kazakhstan has launched its own domestic emissions trading scheme, which will reduce volumes of emissions and add real impetus to our efforts to move towards a low-carbon economy. The Government and business community of Kazakhstan would like to see increased cross-national cooperation in GHG mitigation. We also call for the development of international principles to link national markets.

Secondly, Kazakhstan has officially declared its intentions to take on voluntary quantitative commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 15% by 2020 and by up to 25% by 2050 relative to the level of emissions in 1990. I believe this move underlines our commitment to the growing coalition calling for action on climate change.

Let me also present to you one of the largest events in Kazakhstan's future – the International Specialized Exhibition **Astana EXPO 2017**.

Kazakhstan has chosen the theme of “**Future energy**” for the Exhibition, which we hope will serve as a catalyst for greater dialogue and collaborative solutions to energy challenges.

As part of the preparations for the event, we have organized seminars in Astana for over 60 developing countries on Future Energy and on how they can become involved and make the most of the Expo.

In a recent event we organized on the sidelines of the UN Small Island Developing States conference in Apia, Samoa we addressed future energy issues for SIDS and introduced an ESCAP project on training, installation and maintenance of biogas systems for SIDS, in which Kazakhstan is closely involved.

I would also like to invite all UN member states to participate in the cross regional **Green Bridge Partnership Program**, which was supported in the Rio+20 outcome document “The Future We Want”. The initiative aims to bring together governments, international organizations and private businesses to find and share solutions to sustainable growth through exploration and implementation of the latest and best green technologies and practices.

We are committed to working with investors to create conditions that are favorable for climate-friendly investments.

We hope that these initiatives will help drive the green agenda, promote innovation and bring real benefits to all humanity.

We are under no illusions of the scale of challenge posed to humankind by climate change. It is a truly global and truly daunting threat. But we must hold on to the fact that collective action can bring progress and we must send a clear message to our citizens, companies and fellow governments that inaction comes with a great cost to all of us.

I thank you for your attention.