

Media Release

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UN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS: 5 weeks to Lima: Now, it's time, says WWF

(GLAND, Switzerland, 25 October 2014) - In just 5 weeks, governments of the world will gather again to negotiate a climate deal aimed at preventing runaway climate change.

This year, at the COP20¹ in Lima, there will be additional pressure for governments to lay the basis for a new global deal on climate expected to be concluded in December 2015 in Paris.

Tasneem Essop, WWF Head of Delegation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), says success in Lima requires governments to:

- Agree on the key issues that will be in the new global deal;
- Make a decision on how they will deal with reducing emission in the period between 2015 and 2020, when the new global deal takes effect;
- Agree what countries will contribute individually in terms of reducing emissions²;
- Ensure that there is a clear path for mobilising finance and other means of support for climate action.

This past week, country representatives have been meeting in Bonn to work on the content of a new agreement which has to be finalised in Lima. "WWF is concerned that we leave this Bonn session without even having agreed on a document to serve as the basis for negotiation on the key parts of the global agreement. There has to be a sense of urgency and we need parties to move from talk shop mode to negotiation mode, and we can only do this if we can start negotiations on the first day of the Lima COP."

Next week, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will approve the landmark Assessment Report 5 (IPCC AR5). "This report shows us how climate change is already impacting communities and ecosystems, how it will affect the world if we don't reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and also what the solutions are. The findings of the best scientists in the world highlight the urgency for climate action. Governments have to demonstrate they are listening and come to Lima with the commitment to succeed."

¹ Conference of Parties

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² Intended Nationally Determined Contributions or INDCs



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We also expect that many more people from across the world will join those who were on the streets in New York and many other cities on 23 September to ensure that our leaders know that we are demanding change and urgent and ambitious action on climate change.

"To coin a phrase from the People's Climate March in New York last month – to change everything, we need everyone. The time is now, the place is Lima and we are the people and leaders who must act once and for all to curb runaway climate change. This is a moment that will go down in history. We must be on the right side of history," said Essop.

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Notes for Editors:

- 1. Read the WWF submissions on intended INDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions), October 2014
- 2. Read the WWF Expectations paper for the UNFCCC Bonn Intersessional, October 2014
- 3. Read the WWF Issue Paper on Adaptation in the INDCs, October 2014

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About WWF - WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. The Global Climate & Energy Initiative (GCEI) is WWF's global programme addressing climate change, promoting renewable and sustainable energy, scaling up green finance, engaging the private sector and working nationally and internationally on implementing low carbon, climate resilient development.

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