



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Second World Sustainable Development Forum to be held from March 5-7, 2020 in Durango, México on the Theme of Action to Limit Warming Below 1.5° C**

**Durango, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020:** The Second Edition of the World Sustainable Development Forum (WSDF) will be hosted by the State Government of Durango, Mexico from tomorrow in collaboration with [World Sustainable Development Forum](#) and [Protect Our Planet Movement](#) in Durango, México on March 5-7, 2020. The three-day event in Durango will be charged with back-to-back panel discussions under the overarching theme of “Action to Limit Warming to 1.5°C”. Revolving around this standpoint, WSDF 2020 will feature sessions like “Low Carbon Options for Business and Industry”, “Energiewende and Innovation”, “Visionary Leadership in Countries and at Sub-national Levels”, “The Perils of Sea Level Rise”, “Values and Lifestyles for Sustainability” and so on. WSDF 2020 will weave through this linkage in a special session named “Youthquake” wherein the transformative role of youth will be highlighted with extensive interaction between youth, political leaders, academics and researchers, and other stakeholders.

Honorable Governor of Durango, Mr. José Rosas Aispuro Torres, had agreed to host this high-level transnational event on behalf of the State Government of Durango, México, signifying the region’s inclination towards a more conscious and sustainable society. WSDF, in a joint platform accentuating the urgent need to progress in implementing the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. The rationale for WSDF forward by its founder, late Dr. R.K. Pachauri, who received the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the IPCC, “WSDF aims to elevate the level of discussion, awareness, ambition and action to a point where we have all stakeholders involved”. Mr. Terry Tamminen, Former Secretary of the California EPA and Vice President of WSDF underscores, “The only secret to saving a planet and humanity’s ability to thrive is that everyone must see themselves as part of the problem, but even more important, as a powerful part of a solution”. According to Dr. Ash Pachauri, “We

need to catalyze youth to take action to urgently limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees Celsius and this action needs to be inspired by knowledge”.

On the theme of WSDF, ahead of the event, global leaders gave their opinion on the question of transformative action urgently needed to limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees Celsius. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, Sixth President of Mauritius ahead of the conference highlights, “We have entered the age of the Anthropocene. Incremental steps towards tackling a changing climate change is no longer possible, we need transformative actions, meshed with greater solidarity towards the most vulnerable”. Ricardo Lagos, Former President of Republic of Chile succinctly puts his message “in the Twentieth Century we lived under the per capita income paradigm. In the Twenty First Century, we will live under the carbon per capita emission paradigm”. Mike Rann, Former Premier of South Australia emphasizes, “In the absence of national leadership increasingly states, regions, provinces and cities are leading the push to reduce emissions and embrace renewable energy and a sustainable future”. Danilo Türk, Former President of the Republic of Slovenia puts forth, “Transformative action requires a big step forward from awareness to policy”. Erik Solheim, Former Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme underscored the need to “employ triple win policies - solutions which are good for Environment, for jobs and the economy and for people’s life and well-being at the same time”. Lawrence Gonzi, Former Prime Minister of Malta emphasizes in the need to “transform transportation services to ones that use clean energy and prioritize research into changing sea water to drinking water using exclusively clean energy”. Ms. Marina Silva, former Minister of the Environment, Brazil highlighted the urgency for a commitment in terms of practical action for environment by each country, region, economic sector and social groups.

Some other notable speakers in WSDF 2020 will include, Prof. Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization, Dr. Sergio C. Trindade, former Assistant Secretary General, United Nations, Mr. Yukio Hatoyama, Former Prime Minister of Japan, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Former Governor of California and Leonardo DiCaprio, Oscar Award Winner. WSDF 2020 will witness participation from youth leaders from Africa, Americas and Asia from youth movements such as Fridays For Future and POP Movement.

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