Durango Declaration on Climate Action and Sustainable Development

Declaration of the Second World Sustainable Development Forum on 6th March 2020 in Durango, Mexico

Politicians, scientists, policy makers, business leaders, academicians and members of civil society including youth from twenty seven countries across the world came together in Durango, Mexico to share, discuss, and co-learn about translating dialogue into transformative action towards limiting warming to 1.5°C by the end of century, and meeting the Climate and Sustainable Development Goals. United by scientific rationale, the stakeholders affirmed the threat of climate change and its projected impact on a devastating scale that would destabilize existing ecosystems and socio-economic systems. Having established that, we have come to understand that what urgently remains is the need to assume responsibility and collaborate efforts in order to orchestrate a deliberate course of action involving all stakeholders. Taking strategies off paper and building them in reality is what we must do.
Together and in solidarity, we all strive to accomplish the following:

- We all recognize that time is no longer on our side. There is a need to act now as what we plan to do over the next 10 to 12 years will determine the future in terms of achieving the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal by the end of this century.

- In the Twentieth Century we lived under the per capita income paradigm. Paradigm shift is needed in the Twenty First Century where greenhouse gas emissions per capita is the measure of prosperity.

- As the world pushes for a conscious transition in the form of technological and policy interventions, and lifestyle and behaviour changes, it is incumbent that this drive of people is inspired and supplied by knowledge.

- We will work towards disruptive demand-side innovations including harnessing the power of consumers for climate action and for realizing the sustainable development goals.

- Together we need to urgently reinvent a cleaner, fairer and more equitable way of development including through gender equality.

- We recognize that transformative action can only be possible if the current paradigms of economic growth and sovereignty are challenged, and youth are central to questioning existing institutions and establishments.

- Incremental steps towards tackling climate change is not sufficient and we need transformative actions, meshed with greater solidarity towards the most vulnerable.

- We all pledge to see ourselves as not only being part of the problem but being part of solutions to be able to address climate change and realize the sustainable development goals.

- We need to catalyse international organizations, national governments, sub-national governments, politicians, businesses and youth to take action to urgently limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees Celsius. This action needs to be informed and inspired by knowledge.