



Briefing

Ahead of UNFCCC COP25 - Climate Change: Time for Action

Ambassador Frank Tressler

Geneva, 12 of November 2019

Thank you for having me this morning.

I am very happy for this opportunity to introduce the priorities of Chile for COP25, as we take the presidency in Madrid.

This is especially significant after the painful decision of not holding the meeting in Santiago, forced by the situation in my country.

We appreciate the support of the Government of Spain for organizing the conference in Madrid, a clear example of leadership in the multilateral effort we need to step up our commitments in climate action.

For Chile, mitigation and adaption to climate change is a priority, given the high vulnerability of our territory to its effects.

And we understand this challenge as a collective task - a global task - which involves every country, Parties of the Convention or not, the private sector, civil society, the scientific community and academia, as we all suffer the consequences of global warming.

This perspective of a collective task is one of the principles for our presidency, understanding the need to listen different voices and proposals for solutions.

In that sense, for example, we expect to continue the outcomes of the Pre COP in Costa Rica regarding the participation of non-state actors, and to give relevance to issues like traditional knowledge, Nature Based Solutions and gender.

As you know, COP 25 will be key to define the rules and guidelines of the Paris Agreement.



As milestones of our incoming presidency, we aim to conclude the negotiations for the implementation of Article 6, related to market-based climate change mitigation mechanism and non-market approaches, and to identify adequate sources of climate finance.

These points are crucial to enhance climate ambition and to boost the transition to carbon neutrality. For some observers, the success of COP25 will be measured against the results on these subjects.

At the same time, we understand COP 25 as the beginning of a new phase to spur concrete actions and policy implementation related with climate change.

That is why Chile wants to promote more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions; to boost climate action as a pivot to reach sustainable development; to enhance the use of scientific evidence in public policies; and to identify areas of cooperation.

We look to open new dialogues for climate action, in topics that have not been a part of the formal negotiations, such as the Oceans, Nature Based Solutions, Sustainable Cities, the Cryosphere, the role of science, circular economy, electro mobility and renewable energies.

In particular, Chile wishes this to be a Blue COP to raise awareness about the relation between oceans and climate change, and the adverse consequences of process as the acidification, deoxygenation and the raise of the sea level.

Our focus is to increase the number of actions related to the Oceans among National Determined Contributions, in line with what has been done in global conferences such as Our Ocean or the “Because the Ocean” declaration.

Another priority is to keep track of the commitments made by governments and business leaders at the United Nations Climate Action Summit.

In that meeting Chile launched the Climate Ambition Alliance, a multi stakeholder group that promotes bold and comprehensive mitigation and adaptation strategies, acknowledging the long-term commitment needed to find a sustainable solution to climate change.

This Alliance brings together 59 nations that will enhance their Nationally Determined Contributions by 2020, plus 11 countries that already started the internal process to increase ambition.



Additionally, 65 countries and the EU, ten regions, 102 cities, 93 businesses, and 12 investors are working towards achieving net-zero CO2 emissions by 2050.

COP25 also aims to achieve long-term strategies and the projection of instruments within the United Nations System, which consider the participation of non-state actors such as the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action (GCA).

The information we have now makes clear that climate change requires urgent and deep transformations if we want to build a sustainable future.

Our call is for more ambitious commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and implement concrete policies to adapt to the consequences of climate change, with a wide scope of views.

We hope that at the end of COP25 we can agree on concrete steps that take us a little closer to a future that is safe for the next generations.

We know there we don't have time to lose. It is time for action.