



GLOBAL
CENTER ON
ADAPTATION

Global Center on Adaptation
Antoine Platekade 1006
3072 ME Rotterdam
The Netherlands

Contact

Mike Girling
M: +31(0)6-21367429
Mike.Girling@gca.org

Mr. Mohammed Adjei Sowah
Mayor of Accra, Ghana

10 September 2021

Dear Mayor Sowah,

It is with much enthusiasm and appreciation that we write to thank you for your very positive participation in the September 6th Friends of Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) High Level Dialogue: "An Adaptation Acceleration Imperative for COP26" in Rotterdam.

Commencing with the bold endorsement from President Félix Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and African Union Chair of the African Adaptation Acceleration Program, in addition to the inauguration of the world's largest floating office - an embodiment of future climate solutions - by His Majesty King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands, we set a clear agenda for adaptation for COP26 in Glasgow this November.

What was very clear from all our exchanges was this: COP26 must place adaptation on a level footing in terms of priority with mitigation. To achieve that, we outlined three key areas of delivery that we have to work towards.

In terms of ambition, we discussed how ambition itself needs to become adaptive considering we are already inside a rapidly worsening climate emergency. This means we should be striving to raise adaptation goals and targets each and every year to keep pace.

Second, on financing, we need delivery of the billions and we need to be creative and implement financing innovations in order to shift the trillions. We particularly welcomed the IMF's announcement to encourage allocations of the 650 billion USD of new Special Drawing Rights to be deployed as concessional finance in support of the urgent resilience-building efforts of climate threatened nations.

Finally, we highlighted the power of partnerships to bring action on the ground at scale. In particular, we highlighted the flagship USD\$25 billion African Union, African Development Bank, and GCA African Adaptation Acceleration Program, which is exactly the prototype needed in Africa, and in all key



GLOBAL
CENTER ON
ADAPTATION

vulnerable regions. We believe the richness of the participation in Rotterdam reflects the huge shared capacity to work in partnership to deliver results on the ground.

We are pleased to enclose the Chair's Summary Communique of the Dialogue, capturing its key messages and priorities. We look forward to keeping up the collaboration and momentum to take these forward with you for a successful conclusion to COP26.

Working together we remain pragmatic optimists for continued progress in advancing adaptation action worldwide. We deeply appreciate your support of GCA and for your strong engagement in the crucial cause of climate change adaptation as a true global champion of this agenda. Thank you for being an important member of the GCA family as we catalyze adaptation action.

Yours sincerely,

Ban Ki-moon
Chair, Global Center on Adaptation
8th Secretary-General of the United Nations

Prof. Dr. Patrick Verkooijen
Chief Executive Officer
Global Center on Adaptation