



PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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HIGH-LEVEL SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

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OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for organising this very important high-level signing event of the Paris Agreement and for giving us the opportunity to speak today. We believe it is of utmost importance to take up the positive momentum we have created by the adoption of Paris Agreement in December and encourage all States Parties to the UNFCCC to sign and ratify the Agreement as soon as possible.

From the beginning of the negotiations for the Paris Agreement, Liechtenstein has been actively engaged in the process. Liechtenstein has always stressed the necessity for an ambitious agreement that is applicable to all parties in order to effectively face climate change. At the same time, Liechtenstein has always recognised that developing country parties and countries with limited capacities need flexibility in the implementation of the agreement. We have also been very aware, that some developing country parties will need financial support to effectively implement their climate targets.

We are of the view that the Paris Agreement is a significant and important step forward in strengthening the global and national effort to combat climate change. However, the success of the agreement will depend on the willingness of each country to effectively plan and implement measures against climate change. Finally, it is important to involve all stakeholders at all levels. It will not be possible to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement without the contribution of the Private Sector as well as civil society. Everyone has a role to play.

Liechtenstein is a highly industrialised country characterised by a comparably clean high-tech-industry and governed by high environmental standards. Since 1990, Liechtenstein's population has grown by 25 per cent and its GDP has grown by approximately 140 per cent. At the same time, Liechtenstein has successfully managed to decouple its greenhouse gas emissions from economic and social growth and has reduced its emissions according to its obligation from the Kyoto-Protocol. Coming from this starting point, further domestic emission reductions are not easy to achieve. Nevertheless, Liechtenstein remains committed to further improve energy efficiency, promote renewable energy pro-

duction and set incentives for the establishment of a low carbon economy in Liechtenstein.

Liechtenstein has also been well aware of its role in international solidarity. Since 2011, we have provided new and additional climate finance in the scale of more than 1.3 Million Swiss Francs. Mitigation and Adaptation projects in Africa, Asia and the Pacific have been successfully implemented. Also, Liechtenstein has underscored its commitment by becoming a donor to Green Climate Fund.

Being aware of our responsibility, taking into account our capability and - above all - guided by the spirit of cooperation and international solidarity, Liechtenstein has submitted its INDC early in 2015. The Government is willing to achieve a 40 % reduction of total greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 based on 1990 levels.

Mr. President,

it is an honour for me to sign the Paris Agreement on behalf of Liechtenstein today and I can assure you that my country plans to ratify the Agreement as soon as possible.

I thank you.