

Agenda item 2(c): Special session: Catalyzing climate finance and investment

17 May 2023 at ESCAP Hall, UNCC and online

Special Session on Catalyzing Climate Finance and Investment

*Youth Statement by Prim Rajasurang Wongkrasaemongkol,
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Excellencies, distinguished delegates, youth advocates, ladies, and gentlemen

Thank you very much to the UN ESCAP and YECAP for giving youth the opportunity to speak. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all the panelists for their valuable insights.

My name is Prim Rajasurang Wongkrasaemongkol, and I am representing youth in all their diversity to catalyze climate finance and investment with youth.

We are living in ecosystems and communities around the world that are interconnected and are being impacted by climate change every day. We have the same resources, local events have global impacts, and global events impact local communities. The risk of the ocean is the risk of every life.

We, the youth, call for a fiscal policy to help address climate change in Asia and the Pacific. All of us should centralize the climate change-biodiversity-health nexus. Fiscal policy can also help solve the region's air pollution problem. Healthy is wealthy.

We have recommendations. Raise the price of carbon by implementing a coal tax, creating incentives to use energy more efficiently, and encouraging a shift from coal-powered energy to renewables to save millions of lives and foster energy transition and decarbonization.

Fiscal policy and finance will scale actions and international commitments for the race to net-zero. We, the youth, are taking part in the Net Zero Carbon Future Energy System. With financing opportunities, we, the youth, have been implementing projects to scale up and share the innovation we have with every country and every region.

We call for building low-carbon industries and putting youth in action to support research and development. Please invest in creative ideas for youth-led projects,



provide access, and scale up green finance. Innovation is the main driver; more SDG incubators enhance the impact of innovative processes and youth-led entrepreneurship. Youth are the main drivers of creativity, new solutions, and new hope for our climate.

We call for investment in youth climate action and empowerment, peer learning, training, and upskilling for all people, and reemployment services for workers to work in low-carbon industries.

Financing the climate will benefit everyone. We call for policymakers to have a bold financing mechanism to increase the resilience of developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing states. We need to prevent the risk of disaster together.

We, the youth, are the agents of change, with engagement and empowerment of youth, women, people with disabilities, indigenous people, LGBTQI+, and the elderly.

Let's catalyze finance and partnerships with youth to scale innovative solutions for climate action and leave no one behind.

Thank you