

Kathmandu Declaration: TOGETHER FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

Re-affirming our solemn commitment to unite people in accelerating action towards the goals committed in addressing climate crisis and achieving sustainable development, we, [around 1000] participants from different civil society organizations, social movements, trade unions and individuals from parts of the world convene at Global Climate Justice Assembly to voice our concerns on lack of urgency in addressing climate crisis and explore alternatives that provides fair, rights based, equitable, and just world at the World Social Forum (WSF) 2024 held in Kathmandu, Nepal, on February 17th 2024, hereby make the following declaration.

We assert that climate actions on mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage must be based on principles of fairness, equity and justice. These actions need to address special and differential needs of poor and vulnerable communities, notably women, children, youth, people with disability, indigenous people and ensure their meaningful participation in the decision making process. The burdens and benefits of climate actions should be distributed following the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities, historical responsibility and intergenerational equity. The dignity and safety of climate and environment defenders and the rights of indigenous people, youth and other marginalized communities should be respected, protected and fulfilled.

The Himalayan Cryosphere, a vital resource for over 2 billion people, faces an alarming decline of one-third of its glacier volume by the century's end, even with efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. Additionally, the loss of 80% of the current glacier volume by the end of the century looms as an unprecedented threat to the region, accelerating species extinction and intensifying hazards like floods, landslides, and droughts. The Himalayan mountain is a symbol of all the other areas where the cryosphere is disappearing, - the similar problem exists for the Alps, the Andean chain and all the others, including the Arctic and Antarctica. Through the Mountain Partnership, the only UN alliance dedicated to the mountains and its [Aspen Declaration](#) we recommend engaging the international community to prioritize climate action and investments in mountain regions and build on the [Framework of the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions 2023-2027](#).

We are concerned that the 'broken' global financial system is failing to deliver the quantity and quality of finance and is not favoring the developing countries in meeting their development and climate ambitions. We stress an utmost urgency to reform the global financial system that guarantees scale up, predictable, transparent and equitable flow and distribution of finance that aims at facilitating countries' transition to low-carbon development, enhancing adaptive capacity, and addressing climate induced loss and damage. Balanced governing structure of international financial institutions (IFIs) between developed and developing countries should be part of reform. We assert that developed and emerging developing countries must come with a new financial package for post 2025 that are new and additional; public finance as core; consider indebtedness; reaching out at sub-national levels.

This year it is likely the world will reach a 1.5 degree temperature rise. There is no other way to reverse it than rapid and immediate emission cuts by all countries, corporations and individuals. We are worried about the lack of urgency from the countries to take ambitious actions to cut emissions and the cost of inaction is already causing irreversible loss and damage, particularly in developing countries. WE PEOPLE, call all countries to respect science and take urgent actions.

HAIL TO PEOPLE POWER !! HAIL TO CLIMATE JUSTICE !!