



## Paris: The Agreement of History, a path to the future

Press Release – Paris 12th December

**It is a good agreement.** After the Copenhagen failure and years of negotiations the text of new Paris Agreement on Climate Change is ready and under evaluation for approval in these moments. The long-term goal is to keep the average global temperatures well below 2 degrees and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees.

*“It is a positive, balanced agreement that comes after years of negotiations. **We have a clear path in front of us: to work towards the zero emissions goal.** This is a sign of an irreversible evolution in the energetic field. The Civil Society has now the important task to pressure the Parties to respect their INDCs in the agreed time frame”* said Veronica Caciagli, President of Italian Climate Network.

The included **adaptation** measures will enhance climate change adaptive and resilience capacity reducing environmental vulnerability at the regional, sub regional and local level.

A budget of 100 billion dollars a year is the commitment of the industrialised countries for the Green Climate Fund, financial asset created to support vulnerable countries for mitigation and adaptation policies. The “*Loss and Damage*” mechanism will be implemented. This is a good premise for the developing countries, but the frame will need to be reinforced.

*“We achieved an important goal with the inclusion of the Intergenerational Equity, achievement that took three years of ICN work in coordination within YOUNGO”* said Federico Brocchieri, Italian Climate Network Project Coordinator. It is so reaffirmed the principle first introduced in the 1992 Rio Convention and then excluded from the climate change debate. The Intergenerational Equity will set the guidelines for the climate policies of the next years focusing on a fundamental audience: the future generations.

*“Thanks to the inclusion of a new article entirely dedicated to Education the future generations truly become the focus of the Paris Agreement. Education has always been the base for lasting changes and it is the key for any effective climate policy”*, stated Mr. Brocchieri.

**The Paris Agreement gives a fundamental role to civil society.** *“We have now the moral obligation to pressure the Governments to fulfil their commitments and provide a clear programme of their future investments regarding circular economy, energy efficiency, renewable energies, adaptation policies and fossil fuels divestment.”* said Federico Antognazza, Italian Climate Network Vice-President.

**Italian Climate Network calls citizens, associations, trade unions, local and national policy makers** to enhance their advocacy action to fill the gap between the actual provisions of Paris Agreement and what should be done to reach the 1.5 degrees goal.

Three are the directions of action that can enhance the agreement implementation in Italy:

- **ADAPTATION:** in Italy adaptation is too often misunderstood with disaster risk reduction.



It is therefore necessary from the Government a series of effective actions for effective planning and implementation of adaptation actions at the national, region and local level. European funds should be taken into account for financing when possible;

- **MITIGATION:** the international community is moving towards the zero emission goals and Italy cannot be left behind. We need to start a real energetic plan towards this goal in order to not miss energy transition investment opportunities;
- **DISINVESTMENT:** the public and private institutions have to divest from fossil fuels and to begin to invest in renewables, energy efficiency and circular economy.

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