



# UN80 THROUGH THE LENS OF GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE

Observations on Advocacy and Progress
Towards the 2018 Position Papers

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# Celebrating the United Nations at 80 Years of Existence

# A Brief History on the United Nations:

The United Nations was founded towards the end of World War II and officially came into existence on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1945. The destruction and tragedy of two world wars led many to desire an international organization dedicated to maintaining peace and preventing a third of its kind. In 80 years, the United Nations has pursued this goal and taken on a number of new initiatives set to improve the lives of people around the world. The foundation upon which the UN was created is described in the Preamble of the UN Charter, which describes three pillars of the organization: Peace and Security, Human Rights, & Development, all of which are connected under the rule of law.

The General Assembly is the universal, main policy-making body of the UN. The General Debate is the annual meeting of Heads of State and Government taking place at the beginning of the General Assembly session in September. The theme for this year was "Better together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights." This year's General Assembly took place under the leadership of Secretary General António Guterres and President of the United Nations General Assembly Annalena Baerbock, the fourth woman to hold the position, a fact celebrated at the start of many speeches during the General Assembly.



"Eighty years ago, from the ashes of war, the world planted a seed of hope. One Charter, one vision, one promise: that peace is possible when humanity stands together." - António Guterres, 26 June 2025



# COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS

- 23-29 September 2025
- United Nations Headquarters in New York
- 67 out of 193 Member States

Of the sixty-seven countries with a Good Shepherd presence, many of these countries' presidents, ministers, and representatives used their speech to address serious social, economic, environmental, and inequality issues present in their nation and as a shared responsibility of the international community.



Under the theme "Better together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights" nation leaders reviewed what progress had been made in eight decades of the intergovernmental organization, which was at times relevant to the social justice mission and compassionate values of the Good Shepherd. Below is a summary of key highlights from the addresses of each country as it was related to the areas of focus outlined in our position papers – Migration, Economic Justice, Girl Child, Trafficking, Prostitution, and Integral Ecology.



# COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS - KEY TAKEAWAYS

# 1. Climate Change as the Defining Global Crisis

Throughout the speeches that covered a variety of topics, one resounding and common theme was fighting climate change. Leaders overwhelmingly framed this issue as an existential threat to humanity, economies, and peace. Many emphasized that developing nations bear the least responsibility but suffer the worst impacts (e.g., droughts, floods, and biodiversity loss) and thus called for urgent, collective, and just global action.

# 2. Calls for Climate Justice and Equitable Financing

In this thread was a reminder to focus on climate justice in global solutions. Developing countries urged developed nations to acknowledge their historical emissions and provide three key aspects: climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity building. Nations like Angola, Mozambique, Madagascar, Pakistan, and the Philippines demanded fairer funding mechanisms and reform of international financial institutions to relieve debt burdens and enable adaptation.

# 3. Migration as a Human and Developmental Challenge

Migration was addressed as both a symptom and driver of global inequities. Many Latin American and African countries highlighted migration caused by climate change, conflict, and poverty. Leaders rejected the criminalization of migrants, instead calling for shared international responsibility and humane, rights-based management of migration.

# 4. Gender Equality and Inclusion as Central to Development

Several nations linked gender equality, education, and youth empowerment to sustainable development and peace. There was widespread support for a female UN Secretary-General, marking a symbolic call for inclusive global leadership and the continuation of the Beijing Declaration's goals. Some touched on the importance of political inclusion, school enrollment, and anti-trafficking measures to bolster the safety and agency of girls and women. However, only nine of the addresses were delivered by women.

# 5. Renewed Support for Multilateralism and Reform

Many leaders reaffirmed the importance of multilateral cooperation—through the UN, the Paris Agreement, and the upcoming COP30 in Belem—as the only viable way to tackle intertwined global crises and the triple planetary crisis (climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution). Yet, there were repeated calls to reform global governance and financing systems to better represent and support developing nations.

# COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS

# RIMOA (Africa & Middle East)

# <u>Angola - His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves</u> <u>Lourenço (President)</u>

- Cited the climate crisis as the greatest existential threat facing this generation, requiring joint coordinated action between nations.
- Developed countries have historically and currently benefited from widespread industry, making them the ones responsible for the extreme greenhouse gas emissions, and President Lourenço called on these nations to "assume the historical responsibility as an act of climate justice."
- This included: Climate financing, Technology transfer, Support for adaptation in developing countries.
- Angola reaffirms their commitment to the Paris Agreement ahead of COP30.

### Congo - Denis Sassou Nguesso (President)

- Climate change threatens "beyond all borders, divisions, and ideologies." Some of the most pressing resulting issues include how it exacerbates conflicts, destroys cultures, and leads to surges in migration.
- President Nguesso called for greater global respect for the Paris Agreement, greater support for the most climate-vulnerable countries, and a transformation for means of production, consumption, and finance between developed and developing countries.
- Congo specifically has pursued forestation and reforestation as a solution.
- "Climate must not become a new factor that divides the north and the south, it must be a factor for global unity, a means of solidarity throughout the planet, and a vehicle for shared hope"

### Kenya - His Excellency William Samoei Ruto (President)

- Climate change is not only a challenge, but presents itself as one of the "greatest transformation opportunities" for the planet
- NDCs must be adhered to in order to curb emissions and reduce the risk of devastation
- Kenya, and Africa as a whole, will not stand by as "passive victims." Instead, the president committed to searching for inclusive adaptation in every sector for a "climate resilient society" including sustainable mining and circular economy interventions. This is especially successful through the Inaugural Africa Climate Summit.
- President Ruto called for the delivery of the promised funding from the international community.

### Lebanon - His Excellency Joseph Aoun (President)

- Facing strong and persistent migration into and out
  of the country, President Aoun celebrated members
  of the Lebanese diaspora as they are engaged in their
  communities, fulfill productive and creative work, and
  preside harmonious within their host societies.
- Lebanon joined the Convention on Biological Diversity and reaffirmed its commitment to such efforts.

# Madagascar - His Excellency Andry Nirina Rajoelina

- Climate change is a force that threatens peace in nations.
- Madagascar stands as a sanctuary of nature, with 5% of global diversity and 80% endemic species on the island, but faces a cycle of deforestation, cyclones, and flooding that threaten such biodiversity.
- The president pledged to invest in renewable energies for a more inclusive future, especially for rural communities. However, he called for greater climate justice and for polluting countries to live up to their responsibility, as climate finance has not been forthcoming.
- Madagascar faces a demographic growth that is out of proportion with their economic growth. In particular, the country faces higher rates of teenage pregnancy, citing the number of girls under the age of 18 in Madagascar who have become mothers. With these trends of large families, the president committed to an intensified family planning program.

# <u>Mauritius - His Excellency Dhananjay Ramful (Minister for Foreign Affairs)</u>

- Multilateral cooperation is especially important to fight climate change. He applauded the success of this year's Ocean Conference, especially for an island nation like their own, and called to organize a conference on plastic pollution.
- References the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the
  Obligations of States in Respect to Climate Change
  issued in July, having been requested through the
  General Assembly driven by a coalition of island
  states. He delivered this message in response: "we all
  have a responsibility to protect the climate system."
  This can be achieved through obligations already
  lined out in the Paris agreement, including financial
  support, technological assistance, and technological
  transfer.
- The minister called on member states to turn such legal requirements into "concrete climate action and enhance support for the most vulnerable groups"

# <u>Mozambique - His Excellency Daniel Francisco Chapo</u> (President)

- Rising commodity prices in Mozambique from global financial volatility contributes to the country's debt and deepens societal inequalities. Progress towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals has been faltering, especially in the climate realm.
- Reaffirms that Mozambique and other countries that bear the least responsibility in climate change are hit with the biggest impact. In Mozambique, this is often in the form of devastating droughts and cyclones.
- The president called for climate justice, global solidarity, and immediate action to be taken. He advocates for technological and climate diplomacy to regulate risks and democratize benefits through shared knowledge for climate justice and inclusive development. This is relevant to the Pact for the Future as Mozambique reaffirms its commitment.

# <u>Senegal - His Excellency Bassírou Diomaye Diakhar Faye</u> (President)

- Climate change poses an "existential question" to its solution as climate injustice and funding pitfalls plague progress. Africa only contributes 4% of emissions, but faces an array of natural disasters. A just and fair climate transition is necessary. The President calls for universal access to electricity to address this problem.
- Two important touchpoints are greater funding, specifically the creation of a loss and damage fund for field operations, and technological transfer between developed and developing countries. The only obstacle is political will.

# S<u>outh Africa - His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa</u> (<u>President)</u>

- Climate change is an "existential threat" and we are
   "failing future generations" and "reversing economic
   growth" especially in the Global South; despite these
   countries carrying the least responsibilities they
   experience the harshest events. The president
   pledged to strengthen disaster resiliency and in
   response to the "increasing frequency" of climate
   disasters, prioritize debt sustainability, and "mobilize
   finance for a just energy transition with investments
   in renewable energy and sustainable technologies
   without forgoing baseload energy sources."
- The President applauded the tenets of the G20 Summit, including equality, solidarity, and sustainability.
- To the question of harnessing critical minerals, he declared that South Africa would do so while fostering sustainable development and inclusive growth in affected communities.

- SDGs "remain elusive" because of the lack of sufficient financial resources for countries with developing economies. This is due to inequalities in debt servicing, forcing South Africa and other countries to contribute more towards these loans over health and education. He seeks a reform of international financial institutions, particularly multilateral banks.
- In relation to girls and women's rights, South Africa celebrated 30 years of the Beijing Declaration as a roadmap for gender equality and empowerment. They also reaffirmed their "unwavering commitment" to empowerment and participation on the global stage, supporting the election of a female Secretary General. He summed this up with the message: "diminishing the rights of one person affects all of us."

# <u>South Sudan - Her Excellency Josephine Joseph Lagu</u> (<u>Vice President</u>)

- The peace agreement following the civil war stipulates 5% affirmative action for women represented at all levels of government, and this is demonstrated in the national cabinet.
- With skyrocketed enrollment in schools, the vice president celebrates the gender parity that has nearly been achieved. There are still gaps, however, so the country has started programs to improve girls' enrollment and retention in schools while investing in technical and vocational skills training for women and youth. This is important because "youth are a source of great pride" for the young nation.
- Gender equality through political participation and economic empowerment have been prioritized in the governance and development agendas.
- Despite minimal contributions to climate change, South Sudan is disproportionately and adversely affected by recurrent floods and prolonged droughts that destroy crops and harm biodiversity. This has resulted in mass displacement, intensified food insecurity, and threatened social stability and livelihoods.
- South Sudan calls for more equitable and predictable climate finance in line with the Paris Agreement to strengthen adaptation through technology transfer, foreign direct investment, and capacity building.
- South Sudan is committed to planting 100 million trees by 2030, expanding renewable energy sources, and strengthening water infrastructure with women and youth at the center of such efforts.
- Civil society groups are celebrated in their education efforts and for empowering women and youth.

# <u>Sudan - His Excellency Kamil El-Tayeb Idris (Transitional</u> Prime Minister)

- Painted meaningful imagery to describe the array of injustice in Sudan as "Our children have known fear before they have known the meaning of life" but still show resilience. He describes "the beat in the refugees' quiet prayer... in the mother who sings her child to sleep beneath an open sky" to deliver a message of hope from unity and strength from peace.
- As people flee from systemic killing, torture, rape, the international community is silent over starvation of women, refugees, and limited humanitarian access.
   The Prime Minister called for the implementation of Council resolution 2736 and the full pursuit of the SDGs for lasting peace.

# <u>Uganda - Her Excellency Jessica Rose Epel Alupo (Vice President)</u>

- Multilateralism and increased global cooperation is vital in tackling the root causes of conflict, including poverty, inequality, and climate change.
- In the realm of migration, Uganda has been recognized for progressive refugee policies as the host to the largest number of refugees in Africa, standing at 1.9 million. These policies include land allocation and integration into the national system by sharing public services, such as education and healthcare. However, this is under pressure with declining support from the international community and other countries in bearing greater responsibility.

# REAL (Latin America & The Caribbean) Brazil - His Excellency Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (President)

- The President chastised attacks on multilateralism and drew the parallel between this and the weakening of democracy as a challenge to achieving peace. He affirmed that democracy fails when migrants are blamed for world ills, women earn less and face gender based violence, extremism is left unchecked, and children are not protected on digital platforms, preserving the teaching of xenophobia and misogyny.
- Pledges Brazil in the fight for justice between developing and developed countries, specifically against "predatory and asymmetrical logic" by increasing development aid to end hunger and displacement
- In Belem for COP30, the world will learn about the reality of the Amazon, as he prioritizes and pushes for the move from negotiation to actual implementation.

### Chile - His Excellency Gabriel Boric (President)

- Made a strong demand for greater climate action, specifically as a country with a long coastline, and as the first country in America to ratify the BBNJ Agreement (High Sea Treaty) to extend governed ocean areas beyond current jurisdiction. He called on other member states to do the same as greater prevention measures are necessary to stop the destruction of marine life.
- Presented a meaningful call to action: "Let us not forget that we are part of one single ecosystem, maintaining biodiversity and sustaining life on earth is something that we must urgently grapple with and we need to do so with a sense of responsibility towards our ancestors, towards those we share the planet with today, and to those future generations."
- President Boric advocated for a female secretary general, not just as an equality measure within the UN but to represent half of the world.

# <u>Colombia - His Excellency Gustavo Petro Urrego</u> (<u>President</u>)

- · President Urrego argued that we are entering a "global stone age," especially regarding climate action as we stand ten years until the point of no return with irreversible destruction. He lamented the lack of action from the most influential and rich countries ("but the most powerful man in the world does not believe in science") and posited that "rich countries have not fulfilled their Paris Agreement pledges because they are "not interested in decarbonization." This is evident as development loans for climate finance are small amounts compared to what is needed, so in response, the president pushed for debt forgiveness and greater climate mitigation investment because the Global South is inequitably affected. He denounced overconsumption and greed contributing to emissions.
- In a similar vein, the President spoke out on recent and widespread xenophobia, noting that immigration is a result of impoverishment of countries who are in debt, who are victims of wars started by the west, and of the climate crisis. Instead, it is used as a scapegoat in rich Western societies.

# <u>Costa Rica - His Excellency Arnoldo Ricardo André</u> <u>Tinoco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship)</u>

 Costa Rica appeals to the international community to enact a "multidimensional response and an integrated regional architecture" within the migration system, including realtime information sharing mechanisms, harmonized regulatory frameworks, strengthened institutional capacity, and acknowledgement of a shared responsibility.

- The most vulnerable are paying the price in climate change, especially as climate migrants, and those unrooted by economic inequality. The minister noted how criminal networks "transform migration routes into illicit corridors, taking advantage of the vulnerability of those seeking international protection," leading to increased levels of human trafficking.
- Costa Rica faces a triple planetary crisis (climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution) and this stands as one of three of the country's major concerns. Notably, sea levels rising and natural disasters magnify issues of forced migration and food insecurity, especially for farmers. They as a country are largely affected, but this is a global problem, and the minister called for a just energy transition and greater finance for climate action.
   Costa Rica will continue to be part of the solution by pursuing renewable energy and reforestation. As they are in the process of concluding a binding treaty on plastic pollution, he urged for a pause in deep sea mining and the full implementation of the BBNJ treaty, with conservation as a top priority.

# <u>Ecuador - Her Excellency María Gabriela Sommerfeld</u> <u>Rosero (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility)</u>

- Ecuador committed to the pursuit of proper migration management in the context of sustainable development.
- The minister noted the triple planetary crisis faced in her country and around the world and called for greater climate finance and technology transfer.

# <u>Guatemala - His Excellency César Bernardo Arévalo de</u> León (President)

- Guatemala is strengthening its capacity to meet the needs of migrants and provide them with dignified treatment, while simultaneously addressing the root of migration through partnership with the US and Mexico
- Recognizing how climate change requires joint collaboration, Guatemala recently created the Biocultural Corridor the the Great Maya Jungle for greater rainforest protection. As one of the most climate vulnerable communities despite limited contributions, they have worked to strengthen tactics, climate finance, technology transfer, and capacity building through the National Climate Change Council and calls on other countries to do the same.
- Prioritizes international peace and security, sustainable development, and human rights through dialogue and consensus building, reaffirming solidarity and multilateralism, and practicing empathy and compassion.

# <u>Honduras - His Excellency Javier Bú Soto (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation)</u>

- Droughts, forced displacement, storms, loss of biodiversity are "open wounds" that cannot be healed alone. Honduras suffers great climate vulnerability and effects despite contributing the least. In response, they have enacted a zero deforestation program for 2030, with military battalions to protect their forests.
- Honduras has improved gender equality in decision making, with equal representation in their cabinet and dedicated programs to end gender-based violence.
- Soto rejected criminalization of migration, arguing that these tactics only increase suffering and deny that there is shared international responsibility to address a human phenomenon. Instead, he urges addressing the root causes as people migrate due to the failure of institutions and systems.

# Mexico - His Excellency Juan Ramón de la Fuente Ramírez (Minister for Foreign Affairs)

- Starting off with the celebration that "the time of women has come" in reference to their female president, the minister details recent accomplishments of public life transformations, including giving voices and agency to women, girls, indigenous people; expanding education access; and including more women in exercising power. However, despite recent progress there are still gaps in gender equality, citing continued violence in women. The minister celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Beijing declaration and calls for a female secretary general from their region.
- Mexico rejects the criminalization of migrants seeking refuge and escaping poverty. With an emphasis on families and a rights-based approach, they commit to seeking improvements in host communities through global and regional collaboration.
- While committing to reforestation and other actions to fight climate change, the minister notes problems with servicing debts over public spending in developing countries and instead appeals for "moral economy of wellbeing" to fight socioenvironmental issues.

# <u>Panama - His Excellency José Raúl Mulino Quintero</u> (<u>President</u>)

 The climate trifecta crisis presents itself as climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss, surging amidst reduced global cooperation. Panama has committed to their Nature Pledge to curb emissions even as they are already a carbon negative country. They seek to restore priority ecosystems and ensure that the energy transition is just.  Migration numbers have reduced, especially through the perilous Darien Gap, but the root causes of migration still remain unaddressed with extreme humanitarian and environmental consequences.

# <u>Peru - Her Excellency Dina Ercilia Boluarte Zegarra</u> (<u>President</u>)

- The president cites hatred against women as a cause of the worst crimes in history, when it is built as a narrative of truth to instrumentalize people and results in violence and discrimination. International crime exploits women, as they are taken from their homes and deprived of their freedom. Peru commits to revitalizing the UN to preserve world stability and strengthen multilateralism to end issues like this.
- Global problems such as climate change require the UN, as a forum for discussion and cooperation that results in collective action.
- Peru condemns illegal mining as pollution to the environment and source of modern slavery.

### <u> Uruguay - His Excellency Yamandú Orsi (President)</u>

- Uruguay acknowledges fresh challenges they are facing in child poverty and social inequality, but the president praises national consensus on finding solutions to these issues. A robust political institution allows the country to stand out in terms of development and income distribution along with an "unfettered respect for international law."
- In response to the migration crisis, the president commits to fraternal and hospitable tolerance and dialogue for migrants from all latitudes.

### Europe

### France - His Excellency Emmanuel Macron (President)

- France calls for greater collaboration amongst countries as peers to fight climate change, urging that while it is not under control and biodiversity is "collapsing," a few major stakeholders are blocking efforts that the majority want. The President believes that multilateralism is the solution to expedite a just transition and address global imbalances in funding to fight climate change. He references the success of the Nice Treaty ahead of COP30 in Belem, calling for collective mobilization on plastic pollution, biodiversity, and carbon credits.
- While cynical fear plagues solutions to the migrant crisis, the president urges countries to act together.

# <u>Germany - His Excellency Johann Wadephul (Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs)</u>

 The minister calls for climate justice for those most affected to adapt and address pressing effects of global warming.

- As reducing global emissions is a common goal, Germany stands by their target to be climate neutral by 2045.
- Germany expresses concern over the security and humanitarian crisis aggravated by the triple planetary crisis of pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss. This and the lack of respect for multilateralism and international law that holds the solution to these issues threatens more instability, conflict over resources, and loss of lives and livelihoods.

### <u>Italy - Her Excellency Giorgia Meloni (President)</u>

- The president argues that the conventions regulating migration and asylum laws were enshrined when mass migration and trafficking did not exist, so they are no longer current and have been politicized. She calls for greater reform to build a system that keeps pace with the times while allowing countries to protect their borders.
- Italy stands by uniting to combat human trafficking in the framework of human rights.
- The president argued that green energy plans lead to deindustrialization not decarbonization that is dragging the middle class down.

# <u>Portugal - His Excellency Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa</u> (President)

- Referencing the recent Ocean Conference, Portugal emphasizes the importance of marine conservation.
- The president celebrated the role of women and youth as "agents of change" and called for greater access to education and women in political positions.
- He spoke to the protocol to protect children in armed conflict as not merely a suggestion but a legal, political, and moral duty.

### Spain - His Majesty Don Felipe VI

- Spain is prioritizing three major areas: migration, gender equality, and environmental issues.
- In calling to implement a global compact on migration that emphasizes human rights, the king celebrated immigration as "a vector of mutual development for countries of origin, transit, and host countries."
- Referencing the Beijing Declaration, Spain pledges to refresh commitment to gender equality, including in sexual and reproductive rights, fights against genderbased violence, and increasing women in leadership roles.
- To fight the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss, the King demands strengthened governance and sufficient resources provision to a just energy transition, namely through increasing renewable energy capacity and energy efficiency while decarbonizing economies.

### Asia-Pacific

# <u>Australia - His Excellency Anthony Albanese (Prime</u> Minister)

- Australia is bidding to cohost COP31 with the Indopacific as climate change poses existential threat. The country commits to meeting their 2030 target of 43% reduction of 2005 emissions levels, followed by 72% by 2035. The country will do this by prioritizing clean renewable energy, as well as helping economies decarbonize.
- The Prime Minister celebrated women's involvement in international politics by highlighting Jessie Street, 1 of 8 women at the formation in 1945, who insisted that UN charter specifically mention sexual discrimination: "where the rules are silent, women are not usually considered."
- Australia reaffirms the promotion of education and empowerment around the world, especially in their aboriginal communities.

# <u>Cambodia - His Excellency Sokhonn Prak (Deputy Prime</u> Minister)

- Cambodia is committed to expanding access to education for girls and increasing the number of women holding leadership positions in politics and business, specifically celebrating the high figure of women peacekeepers.
- Noting environmental stewardship as a global duty and climate action as humanity's greatest collective task, Cambodia is committed to the Climate Change Conference and Paris Agreement having deposited their ratification instrument earlier that month.

### China - His Excellency Li Qiang (China)

 China recognized climate change as a shared issue, calling for common but differentiated action. The minister promoted the Paris Agreement as a strong solution and China will be announcing their Nationally Determined Contributions as part of the agreement. The country seeks to enhance international collaboration on the green economy and renewable energy system.

# <u>Democratic Republic of Korea - His Excellency Jae Myung</u> Lee (President)

 Korea applauds the UN for championing sustainable development over the past 80 years and calls on nations to respond in "fulfilling humanity's shared promise of sustainable development." The President called for structurally-reformed globally developed governance and enhancing the quality of resources, using their own success story as an example of going from aid recipient to aid donor.  The country is pursuing an energy transition with enhanced science and technology to increase energy efficiency and expand renewable energy, will be submitting Nationally Determined Contributions this year as part of the Paris Agreement, and will be hosting the Fourth UN Ocean Conference next year.

# <u>India - His Excellency Subrahmanyam Jaishankar</u> (<u>Minister for External Affairs</u>)

 Climate change is a shared priority, but "if climate action itself is questioned, what hope is there for climate justice?"

### Indonesia - His Excellency Prabowo Subianto (President)

 As the world's largest island state, the country is experiencing direct consequences of climate change in the form of rising sea levels. In response, the president launched plans for building a sea wall to mitigate the effects. The country is also committed to investing in climate-smart agriculture and reforestation. These efforts manifest in their commitment to the Paris Agreement as they aim to be net zero by 2060 or earlier.

# Nepal - His Excellency Lok Bahadur Thapa (Permanent Representative)

- As the climate catastrophe is widening inequality, Nepal calls for equitable and inclusive sustainable development, as seen at this year's Sevilla conference. This can be accomplished through more predictable and accessible development finance.
- The ambassador is deeply concerned about unequal impacts of climate change, such as glacier melting, impacting the lives of millions. He celebrated Nepal's convening of the Mount Abras Dialogue in May this year to discuss the climate crisis, where the country reaffirmed its commitment to the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda by submitting their Nationally Determined Contributions.
- "For inclusive development, we must invest in youth and promote gender equality and empowerment in women and girls. The rights, safety, and dignity of migrant workers must be fully respected and protected."
- "We must act with urgency and resolve. This is not a crisis of emissions, it is a crisis of equity, of survival, and of justice."

# <u>Pakistan - His Excellency Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif</u> (<u>Prime Minister</u>)

 Pakistan had declared a climate emergency in the face of recent devastating floods that proved to be "glaring examples of loss."  The Prime Minister points out that Pakistan contributes less than 1% of emissions but bares the brunt. He laments the solution of borrowing loans as it furthers their debt and has adverse climate effects, and finds this to be unjust as a developing country.

# <u>Philippines - Her Excellency Ma.Theresa Lazaro</u> (<u>Secretary for Foreign Affairs</u>)

- The Philippines wants to accomplish "equitable, sustainable, and inclusive development." Structural asymmetries undermine climate-vulnerable countries to mobilize finance as borrowing costs that exceed projected growth rates. The secretary calls for a greater equitable distribution of financial resources, technology transfer, and capacity building for developing and middle income countries, which are the shapers of effective and long-term solutions.
- She celebrates Filipino migrants as a testament to the positive benefits of migration.

# <u>Thailand - His Excellency Sihasak Phuangketkeow</u> (Foreign Minister)

- Global peace and security responsibility must be inclusive because "multilateralism is more effective when women participate fully" in peacekeeping, conflict prevention, or humanitarian support. Their inclusion strengthens the community and makes peace more durable. The minister celebrates the presence of a female president of the General Assembly in achieving such progress as well as the youth delegates sent by Cambodia to participate in UN processes.
- Climate change is a major issue for social development as well as the environment as it is "widening the gap between have and have nots."

### Viet Nam - Lương Cường (President)

- Viet Nam is pursuing sustainable development models based on digital transformation and green transition. The president calls for enhanced and timely technology transfer from developed to developing countries to achieve these sustainable development goals "to ensure that no one is left behind."
- The president hopes that the world summit for social development will deliver important outcomes for the 2030 agenda.

### **North America**

### Canada - Her Excellency Anita Anand (Foreign Minister)

- Canada is dedicated to fostering gender equality and safeguarding the environment despite rising unilateralism and the overbearing strength of the post-World War II order. In response, they navigate to protecting the Charters and multilateral institutions.
- The country is looking to pursue sustainable development in the Arctic.

### United States - Donald Trump (President)

- The President claimed that "immigration and the high cost of so-called clean energy" are destroying the world.
- He attacked the global migration system and argued that the UN is creating
- "Uncontrolled migration" and "funding an assault on western countries and their borders" by providing cash assistance to those displaced. He claimed that the "globalist migration agenda" leads to an increase in trafficking in children.
- Noting that he doesn't believe in climate change, he argued that clean energy will bankrupt countries.





