

30 November 2023

**Business and Industry NGOs (BINGOs) Statement**  
**Dubai Climate Change Conference 2023**  
**Joint COP, CMP, CMA, SBSTA and SBI Opening Plenary**

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

My name is Ester Biaget. I am the CEO of Novozymes, a global biotechnology company. It is my honor to address you today on behalf of the Global Business Community at the opening of these critical negotiations.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the United Arab Emirates and the COP28 Presidency for hosting COP28 and their warm welcome in the city of Dubai.

We are failing in our collective efforts to avoid the most severe impacts of climate change and we are failing to work together as a multilateral community.

COP28 provides us with a chance to reunite, correct course and move forward together on all fronts – mitigation, adaptation, finance.

Business stands firmly behind the Paris Agreement. We recognize that we hold a great responsibility to help put the world back on the 1.5-degree pathway.

At Novozymes, climate commitments are at the heart of our business. Our biosolutions help our customers reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. And even with growing production volumes, we have reduced our own emissions, and we are on track to reach net-zero for scopes 1, 2, and 3.

But Novozymes and the business community face roadblocks that are bigger than us.

To succeed, we need a policy framework that facilitates investments and mitigates regulatory barriers to the development and deployment of sustainable technologies at scale.

In this context, we urge Parties to deliver tangible outcomes in three central areas:

First, we call for an ambitious and forward-looking Global Stocktake that delivers what science tells us is needed: mitigation at speed and at scale and a just and responsible energy transition worldwide.

It must include concrete policies that enable net-zero, such as effective carbon pricing, while utilizing all available technologies.

Second, we welcome ongoing efforts to mobilize 100 billion US dollars in climate finance and applaud today's commitments by several countries to the new Loss & Damage Fund.

Still, we see an urgent need for COP28 to deliver beyond promises.

This includes aligning the global financial system to the Paris Agreement and tackling growing challenges to the access, the affordability, and availability of climate finance.

And lastly, we call on Parties to lay the foundation for a cross-border carbon market by continuing their efforts and settling on all outstanding elements related to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

The task in front of us is immense, urgent, and hugely challenging politically. But failure at COP28 is not an option.

The world needs you to show the determination and political will to move beyond national positions and create the conditions for an ambitious outcome.

Please consider business a strong partner in achieving this.

Together, we can and must bring the change that our planet, people, and nature deserve.

Thank you.

**UNFCCC Business and Industry NGOs (BINGOs) Statement Joint SBSTA SBI Closing  
Plenary**

**COP28**

Thank you Chairs.

My name is Sandra Hanni, I am the Focal Point of the Business and Industry Constituency, and it is my honour to address you on behalf of the business community at this crucial time in the negotiations here in Dubai.

We are gratified to observe Parties have taken some steps in the right direction. However, we note that a number of critical unresolved issues persist, and we have only very little time left.

We see this first GST as an unprecedented opportunity to set the highest bar for mitigation ambition for the years to come and to fast track a just and responsible energy transition across the world.

It is clear that we have an action gap and an ambition gap.

The GST must inform and guide the next round of countries NDC's in order to put us back on track on a 1.5 pathway. We must use all the tools and workstreams available, such as the Mitigation Work Programme in this regard.

The GST needs to recognise that public finance will not be enough to achieve enhanced ambition and action.

We must open the floodgates for private finance into climate action through instruments such as effective carbon pricing, the full operationalisation of Article 6, and addressing barriers to investments in emerging and developing countries.

While we welcome ongoing efforts to meet the longstanding pledge to mobilise US\$100 billion, a new action agenda is urgently needed to better align the global financial system with the Paris Agreement and tackle growing challenges to the affordability and availability of climate finance in many emerging markets.

The elements to answer these calls from the business community are present in the work done by Parties.

Business has a critical role in delivering the changes and the investments needed to keep 1.5 within reach - while creating jobs and promoting sustainable economic growth.

But we need you, Parties, to set the direction, show commitment and provide clarity.

On Article 6, while we welcome Parties engagement on this important agenda item, we are concerned by the lack of progress made over the past days.

We note with concern that some Parties are trying to introduce new barriers for the implementation of cooperative approaches under 6.2, by proposing a prescriptive definition of “cooperative approaches” and overly complex authorisation requirements.

We further express our concerns regarding interventions from some Parties saying that they wish to open-up the recommendations provided by the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body.

We believe that these recommendations represent a constructive compromise and opening them up again would risk further delaying operationalisation of the 6.4 mechanism.

On agricultural, while we applaud the considerable commitments and declarations made outside of the negotiation rooms, we regret that Parties could not achieve consensus on this critical issue.

On technology, the business community is pleased that the joint annual report by the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Center and Network has been accepted.

As greater technology deployment needs to take place, greater investments are needed and we need to address barriers to the development and deployment of new, sustainable technologies at scale.

Going into the second week, we consider it critically important for Parties to considerably speed up discussions and move together from positions to concrete solutions.

We thank you Chairs for your hard work and stand ready to support the COP28 President and his team in their endeavour in the coming days and are hopeful to see a an ambitious set of outcomes next week.

Thank you.

## **Remarks for COP28 – Opening Dialogue**

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen

My name is Rachel Dignam. I am the Director of International Affairs at Sage, a global technology company. We provide solutions to Small and Medium Enterprises around the world to manage their finances, operations, people and, most recently their carbon footprint.

I have the honour to address you today on behalf of the global Business Community at this COP28 Presidency's Open Dialogue and thank the Presidency for this opportunity.

I am joined today by the International Chamber of Commerce – the UNFCCC Focal Point for Business and Industry – as well as a number of business leaders and business organisations from various sectors and jurisdictions.

The global business community stands firmly behind the Paris Agreement. We recognise that we hold a great responsibility to help put the world back on the 1.5-degree pathway.

We have the ambition. We have made more than just commitments , statements and pledges, we are driving real world climate action.

But business action alone will not put the world back on track.

We increasingly need coordinated action from governments to address barriers to the deployment of climate solutions and enhance the viability of investments in a net-zero future.

With the right political will, we believe that COP28 presents an opportunity to address these challenges head on –

and, in doing so, send a clear message that governments are united in their commitment to speed the implementation of the Paris Agreement,

And fast track a just and responsible energy transition worldwide, --- in a way that works with and for the real economy.

There is no net-zero transition without more sustainable finance, trade and support for SMEs.

## **Finance**

- Finance plays a critical role in turning our ambitions into action
- While we applaud the commitments made on loss and damages earlier this week, we stress the urgent need for COP28 to deliver beyond promises
- We need to bridge the climate finance gap

- And for this to happen we need a concerted effort from governments, international financial institutions and the private sector to better align the global financial system with the world's climate goals.

## **Trade**

- The private sector applauds that - for the first time ever trade has been featured as part of the official agenda
- It has long been the missing link when responding to the climate crisis
- This nexus with trade policy and facilitation is fundamental to scaling up the trade of environmental goods and services and to accelerating the decarbonization of supply chains
- We call on Parties to lay the foundation for a well-functioning, high-integrity cross-border carbon market, by continuing their efforts and settling on all outstanding elements related to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.
- We must work together, to evolve the multilateral trading system, and use trade policy as a lever to combat climate change and nature loss --- and identify opportunities for trade, investment and innovation. This will enable industry, but especially SMEs to deliver on a just transition.

## **Inclusive just transition (SMEs)**

- The transition needed is a whole economy challenge that will radically shift how our economies are structured, our businesses operate, and our people live and work.
- And SMEs are at the heart of it.
- They play a pivotal role in sectors at the forefront of the climate transition.
- They represent about 90% of businesses and more than 50% of employment worldwide.
- Their role is not just peripheral
- SMEs are often the innovators, suppliers and service providers that enable larger businesses, like Sage to operate.
- Any meaningful and just transition must prioritize SMEs, not only because of their sheer number but also due to their significant impact in achieving our climate goals
- For a transition to be both successful and sustainable, there needs to be an explicit focus on SMEs and the challenges they face.

## **Conclusion / Global Stock Take**

- The Global Stock Take is a pivotal moment for the world to come together and accelerate ambition, but more importantly action.
- It the moment for us to come together and deliver on what science tells us is needed.
- We need mitigation at speed and at scale and a just and responsible energy transition worldwide.
- We need concrete policies that will enable net zero, we need agreement on Article 6, and we need this to be based on the technologies that are available today.
- Business appreciates the opportunity to take part in this dialogue and we stand ready to work with the Parties and all stakeholders to unite, act and deliver on the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Thank you