

Contributions), and the decisiveness of the action you take over the course of next year will

countries urged developed countries to step up efforts to strengthen resilience and adaptation.

Niger President Mahamadou Issoufou called on partners to step up their support efforts through the \$440 billion Climate Investment Plan for the Sahel region that would benefit 67 million people.

"To protect the planet and ourselves", Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said her country was building thousands of cyclone shelters and called for political leadership and international collaboration to limit the global temperature increase and deliver promised finance to vulnerable countries. She emphasized that the rehabilitation of climate refugees is a global responsibility.

Despite challenging economic and credit conditions due to COVID-19, the Roundtable reinforced the urgency of developed nations supporting developing nations, including through full delivery of the US\$100 billion commitment for climate finance in the Paris Agreement. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that more climate finance will be needed, which will require a massive reorientation of capital flows.'

Key civil society leaders – including Tasneem Essop of the Climate Action Network and Laurence Tubiana of the European Climate Foundation - said the climate crisis and pandemic were combining to add to the suffering of the world's most vulnerable people, who must be central in government's recovery plans. They noted the importance of

For example, Kahori Miyake Co-Chair of the Japan Climate Leaders Partnership said 150 Japanese businesses representing 48 terrawatts of energy use are moving towards net-zero emissions by 2050. She also said the Partnership was elevating its calls for Japan to boost renewables to 50 per cent of the energy mix by 2030.

Microsoft President Brad Smith said stepping up climate action and ambition made commercial sense, and that businesses with strong environmental and social frameworks had outperformed other businesses during the global pandemic. He discussed steps the US\$1 trillion company is taking to deliver on its recent announcement to be carbon-negative by 2030.

Itaú Unibanco CEO, Candido Bracher, said three leading Brazilian private banks will launch a program to start reducing finance flowing to illegal deforestation and said the Brazilian finance sector can and must go further in its efforts.

Dinah McLeod, CEO of the Global Cement and Concrete Association - representing a sector producing 7 per cent of global emissions – said 40 cement companies have committed to carbon neutral concrete by 2050, and noted that concrete is the most used substance in the world after water. She called for greater collaboration between the industry and policymakers to promote concrete recycling and the use of alternative fuels in its production, among other actions to drive the transition.

The Secretary-General's opening remarks can be found [here](#) and more information can be found at <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/high-level-climate-change-roundtable>

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