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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

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English/French

COUNCIL

Meeting of the Council at Ministerial Level, 6-7 May 2014

2014 OECD MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

(Adopted at the Council Meeting at Ministerial Level on 6 May 2014)

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Climate change is a major urgent challenge and a potentially irreversible threat to the achievement of our goal of “Resilient Economies and Inclusive Societies”, requiring a decisive, consistent and coherent response. While policies adopted by different countries will need to reflect their individual circumstances, we recognise the importance of aligning policies across all relevant areas¹.

We² welcome OECD work on climate change and affirm our common resolve to work towards:

Adopting at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris in 2015 a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all parties that will come into effect and be implemented from 2020; and communicating our intended nationally determined contributions well in advance of the COP21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so).

Reinforcing our existing efforts and using the OECD’s research and evidence-based analysis, including under the OECD’s Green Growth Strategy, to help us to pursue ambitious and cost-effective policies with a view to doing our part to limit effectively the increase in global temperature below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and simultaneously supporting the recovery from the economic and financial crisis, including by:

- investing in public research and fostering a strong business climate for new technologies and innovations;
- better aligning investment and climate policies to support an effective partnership among governments, development partners, and the private sector in order to incentivise private investment in low-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure;
- pursuing policies that foster markets for green goods and services to facilitate trade, international investment flows, diffusion of low-carbon technologies and scaled-up private investment;
- rationalising and phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption while providing targeted support for the poorest;
- continuing discussions on how export credits can contribute to our common goal to address climate change; and,
- encouraging domestic policy reform, with the aim of avoiding or removing environmentally harmful policies.

Reinforcing our efforts to strengthen climate change resilience and adaptation through enhanced and co-ordinated policies and planning, including at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015.

Achieving the developed countries’ goal to jointly³ mobilise USD 100 billion per year by 2020 from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral including alternative sources to address the needs of developing countries, in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation; strengthening our efforts to improve measurement, reporting, verification and accounting of greenhouse gas emissions for all countries; and improving the reporting of international climate finance flows.

Ahead of COP20 and COP21, we invite the OECD, in cooperation with the IEA, the NEA and the ITF, to continue to support the UNFCCC negotiations and to examine how to better align policies across different areas for a successful economic transition of all countries to sustainable low-carbon and climate-resilient economies and report to the 2015 OECD Ministerial Council Meeting.

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- ¹ These areas include economic, fiscal, financial, competition, employment, social, environmental, energy, investment, trade, development co-operation, innovation, agriculture and sustainable food production, regional as well as urban, and transport policies.
- ² Ministers and Representatives of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.
- ³ Consistent with Decision 26/CP.7 of COP 7 and subsequent relevant UNFCCC COP decisions recognising the special circumstances of a Party with a different situation from other Annex I countries.