



**CVF
V20** CLIMATE
VULNERABLE
FORUM
VULNERABLE
TWENTY
GROUP



16TH V20 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE PROSPERITY, STABILITY, AND SECURITY IN AN ERA OF PLANETARY INSTABILITY

*14 April 2026 (Tuesday) | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM (ET)
MC 13-301, World Bank Headquarters, Washington, D.C.*

Well, thank you very much, Chair, and recognizing the Prime Minister for this excellent support to the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage. Let me make three points in 3 minutes, as has been allocated to me.

1. I want to just highlight the nexus between the climate crisis and development challenges that most of the countries around the table likely face. And I had the opportunity to visit Jamaica recently, where I witnessed the damage from Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica. I've seen the disaster tropical cyclone in Madagascar. And I've also seen the disaster that came from the hurricane in Barbados.

What all these crises have in common is a human face to the climate crisis. These are the most vulnerable people actually affected by the climate crisis. And what it also does is underscore the sense of urgency for us to act because we talk about people's lives, and that's why I believe with this kind of gathering, it's very important to underscore the sense of urgency. Now, with a sense of urgency alone, it's not going to provide the support the country needs. I wanted to actually underscore the importance of investing in early warning systems, and making sure the policymakers have access to the needs to make decisions when it comes to these kinds of crises.

2. My second point about the response to this crisis to me is like threefold. Number one, the global solidarity that led to the creation of this fund that I'm running today, the Secretariat is an example of what we can do when we come together, and through global solidarity to create a fund that has been in the making for three decades. Now that it's here, we have to make it work. And that work involves delivery.

How do we learn from other funds in terms of access and availability of funding to the extent that we can move from inception to delivery so that we can get funding to where it's needed. On our side, we are prepared to do a bit, and that is we'll launch an early intervention of US\$250 million. We are in the middle of making sure money gets to where it's needed.

3. My last point I want to make is a call-to-action. And I'd like to quote my good friend Selwin Hart. "You need to fund the fund." You cannot actually have a fund that doesn't have enough resources to meet the demand of the countries.

Indeed, we actually welcome the voluntary pledges we've made so far. So our priority is to convert this pledge into actual funding. But the real work starts now in making sure we actually mobilize longer-term resources so we can support the countries, so that no one is left behind because there is a human face to the climate crisis.

And collectively, we have a responsibility in making sure we support the countries so we can deal with the loss and damage.

Thank you.

MR. IBRAHIMA CHEIKH DIONG

Executive Director
Fund for responding to Loss and Damage