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CVF Leaders Meeting on a New Era of Accountability: An Adaptation Package, Debt Solutions, and Health Resilience for Vulnerable Nations

*24 September 2025, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM (EDT)
Conference Room 12, UN Headquarters, New York City*

Bangladesh has long been proud to serve as a voice for the vulnerable. From the Dhaka Declaration of 2011 to the Dhaka-Glasgow Declaration of 2021, our leadership has helped place loss and damage at the center of global negotiation, culminating in the creation of the Loss and Damage Fund at COP28—that achievement reminds us when the vulnerable speak together, the world cannot look away.

Yet, Excellencies, the clock ticks louder. Rising seas, floods, salinity, and cyclones already disrupt the daily lives of millions in Bangladesh. By 2050, 17% of our territory could be lost for us. Climate change is not tomorrow's headline, it is today's lived struggle.

We heard the most powerful thing yesterday at the General Assembly. We are hearing the voice of those powerless here. We must admit the task ahead of us is not only challenging, but in fact becoming daunting. We have to persevere and pursue because we believe we are on the right side of history. Bangladesh has long championed the idea of developing positive climate action. We believe that the true climate successes must be measured by the empowerment of vulnerable nations to achieve prosperity and meet their development goals.

In line with this vision, our updated Nationally Determined Contribution commits to an ambitious conditional reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 15.12% by 2030, with a focus on clean energy transition and resilience building. However, achieving these goals depends on tangible international support, particularly the delivery of long-promised climate finance.

Today, our nations face a dual crisis, one of climate and one of finance. This unsustainable burden forces many nations to divert resources from health and education simply to service the debt from devastating floods to prolonged salinity intrusion. Our people endured the harsh realities of a crisis that they did not create.

Our participation at the recent FFD4 Conference was guided by the same spirit of solidarity, advocating for a robust international financial architecture that supports all vulnerable nations, calling for affordable capital, developed investment pipeline, and fit-for-purpose financial mechanism. We've also emphasized that climate change is not an ecological issue but a profound human rights challenge. Most recently, we pen-hold for the adoption of the landmark resolution titled Human Rights and Climate Change at the 59th Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, reinforcing the imperative of a right-based approach to climate action.

Looking ahead to COP30, allow me to play the four clear calls on the table.

First, set an ambitious New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance that is predictable, concessional, and fair.

Second, fully operationalize the loss and damage fund, not tomorrow, not next COP, but now, ensuring swift and accessible disbursement.

Third, reform the global financial structure architecture to provide debt relief and concessional financing so vulnerable nations do not have to choose between building schools or building cyclone shelters.

Fourth, harness the authority of the International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion to strengthen accountability and make climate change negligence not just immoral, but unlawful.

Excellencies, our Nobel Laureate, Professor Muhammad Yunus, has called for a vision of zero poverty, zero unemployment, and zero net carbon emission that is bold, that is just, and that is the path forward.

Bangladesh remains steadfast in its commitment to walk this path with you. Together, we must ensure that climate action becomes a catalyst for sustainable and equitable development for all.

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