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GROUP



**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*

Excellencies, it's an honor to address you today on behalf of the UN Secretary General who has asked me to convey his strong support for this Forum and for your leadership. You gather here as a group of 74 nations, representing almost two billion people, 22% of the world's population. Together, you account for just 7.3% of global emissions, yet you face some of the harshest impacts of climate change.

The science is clear. Last year was the hottest on record. The world is on a path towards 22.7°C of warming. Climate-related disasters, as we heard today, already cost more than US\$300 billion each year, with the greatest losses borne by vulnerable economies. As many speakers have said, finance is at the heart of this challenge. The outcome of the Financing for Development Conference, the severe commitment reaffirmed the urgent need to scale up concessional and grant finance for the Climate Vulnerable Forum members.

I want to highlight four priorities: address debt and climate together through swaps, standstills and fair refinancing, move the loss and damage fund from pledges to predictable financing. Third, reform international development banks to triple lending and reduce borrowing costs, which remain up to seven times higher for vulnerable economies. Fourth, strengthen domestic resource mobilization with fair taxation and action against illicit financial flows.

Excellencies, the Baku-to-Belém Roadmap, culminating at COP30 in Brazil, must be a turning point. Leaders must come forward with stronger climate plans aligned with 1.5°C, backed by finance, technology, and solidarity.

The Secretary General calls this our moment of opportunity for your countries. It is also a matter of fairness and justice. The United Nations will continue to support you with evidence, analysis, and advocacy on the Road-to-Belém, and beyond.

Thank you.

MR. DAVID HANIF

Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development
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