REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change

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STATEMENT

BY

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HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT

NATIONAL STATEMENT

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Government and the people of the Republic of Mauritius, I congratulate Türkiye on its Presidency of COP31, and Australia on its leadership of the negotiations. Mauritius aligns itself with the statements of the Alliance of Small Island States, the African Group of Negotiators and the Group of 77 and China.

Mr President, I do not stand here alone. I bring the voice of the people of Mauritius: of our women who hold our families together; of our elderly, who have seen our island change within one lifetime; of our youth and our children who ask what future we are preparing for them; and of our farmers, fishers and coastal communities who live on the frontline. They ask that the world hear them.

For a small island state, 1.5°C is not a slogan. It is a line of survival as well as commitment. In our NDC 3.0, we have committed to cut our emissions by 40 per cent, draw 60 per cent of our electricity from renewable sources and phase out coal by 2035. Ambition at home, partnership abroad: that is the compact we offer.

Mr President, this must be the COP of effective implementation and Mauritius looks to Antalya for five clear outcomes.

First, climate finance needs to be predictable, delivered in full, mainly grant-based and easy to access for small island states.

Second, real progress on adaptation, with a credible way to track the means of implementation while addressing the funding gap developing countries. There should also be substantial scaling up of adaptation finance.

Third, a fully resourced Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage that reaches the most vulnerable without delay.

Fourth, recognition of the ocean as a central pillar of climate action as well as its potential for a blue economy,

Fifth, a just transition that leaves no worker, no community and no island behind.

Excellencies, small islands are often described by what we lack. But influence is not measured in square kilometres. It is measured in credibility. We are small in size, but not in vision. We ask not for sympathy, but for partnership to build our resilience.

Let Antalya be remembered as the moment when promises become performance.

I thank you.

R.A.B.