



Press Release of the Foundations Platform F20 (30 November, 2018)

More than 50 foundations from all parts of the world urge Heads of G20 countries to ensure a “climate compatible” outcome

The F20 group is deeply concerned about a “weak” G20 outcome with regard to the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement

Buenos Aires, Argentina: Few hours before this year’s G20 summit in Argentina the Foundations Platform F20, an international group of more than 50 influential foundations and philanthropic organisations, has expressed its strong support for the 2030 Agenda and the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. These UN frameworks agreed by 195 UN member countries should be the key reference for any decision resulting from the G20 summit, according to a F20-statement issued today. The F20 group also expressed its deep concern, that without an explicit reference to the Paris Agreement, the G20 countries could fail in giving clear guidance for public authorities and the private sector to invest large amounts of financial resources into new infrastructures. This could ultimately lead to a higher concentration of greenhouse gases which would inevitably drive average warming above the dangerous 1.5°C benchmark, as indicated by the latest IPCC report. G20 states need to stick to their commitment of the Paris Agreement and its implementation as agreed under the “G20 Hamburg Action Plan” during the G20 summit 2017.

The group also raised its deep concern about currently isolated approaches by some countries to marginalize the threat of climate change and the role of the Paris Agreement, reemphasizing the important role of the majority of G20 countries to stick to their commitment. Furthermore, the F20 platform expresses its concern about the consequences of no communiqué or a weak outcome that would be lacking guidance for the UN Climate Summit in Poland (COP24) next week.

“A G20 outcome without a clear reference to the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement would be a very negative and confusing signal to the UN climate talks which start just two days later. A clear sign from G20 countries for both agreed UN frameworks is needed”, says Klaus Milke, Chair of F20, Founder and Chair of the Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit

Ramiro Fernandez, Director Climate Change at Fundación Avina and F20 Co-Chair: “Until 2030, more than 90 trillion dollars are expected to be invested in new infrastructure projects, such as power plants, mobility grids, agriculture, water systems or industry. These investments will heavily impact the world’s ability to implement the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, which is why countries have to make it crystal clear that they stick to their agreements.”

The Foundations Platform F20 is an unprecedented alliance of more than 50 foundations and philanthropic organizations from some 15 countries. The platform aims at further gathering the momentum for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement in order to build bridges between different stakeholders, including the private and financial sector, politics and civil society. In total, the foundations represent a capital in the double-digit billion range (US dollars).

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