# Press Release of the Foundation Platform F20, 6th September, 2018

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**International Group of foundations calls upon the Heads of the G20 countries to ensure that decisions by the G20 are in line with Paris Climate Agreement**

**Buenos Aires, Argentina:** Today a number of influential foundations from all parts of the world have called upon the Heads of the G20 countries to ensure that the outcome of this year G20 summit in November in Argentina is in line with the goals of the UN Paris Climate agreement and the 2030 Agenda. At its annual gathering today in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the global Foundations Platform F20 (F20) marked current levels of greenhouse gas emissions by the G20 countries as "the number one threat for the environment, our societies and ultimately the human species". According to their joint statement released today, this challenge had to be made "absolute priority by the G20 Heads of State, so that long- term strategies are in line with the 2°C benchmark and a net-zero GHG emission level by 2050 remains within reach. Furthermore, mid-term and short-term decisions by the so called G20 finance ministers relating to energy, infrastructure and international financial flows should aim at reducing carbon footprints and clearing the way for a transformation towards clean energy."

The F20 Foundations Platform is an unprecedented alliance of more than 45 foundations and philanthropic organizations from some 15 countries. Its aim is to further gather momentum for the implementation of the Paris agreement to build bridges between the different stakeholders including the private and financial sector and civil society. In total, the foundations represent a capital in the double-digit billion range (US dollars). F20 hosts this year's event in collaboration with the Grupo de Foundaciones y Empresas (GDFE) of Argentina.

Among the guests of today's foundation assembly are Ricardo Lagos, former President of the Chile, Rabbi Sergio Bergman, Minister of Environment, Argentina, Manuel Pulgar-Vidal, former COP 20 President and current Leader of the Climate Change Program of WWF international, Ana Toni, Executive Director of Instituto Clima e Sociedad (ICS), Brasil, Mika Obayashi, Director, Renewable Energy Institute (REI), Japan, or Naila Farouky, CEO of the Arab Foundations Forum.

**Ricardo Lagos, Member of The Elders, former president of Chile (2000-2006) and UN Special Envoy on Climate Change, (2007-2010):** The G20 has significant potential to deliver lasting change. But as always, this potential will only be realized if there is sufficient political will from its different leaders."

**Ramiro Fernandez, Director Climate Change at Fundación Avina and F20 Co-Chair:** "It's crucial that the G20 stays on track with the Paris Agreement. International financial flows have to be aligned accordingly in order to ensure a just transition. For developing countries as Argentina, we must ensure the new infrastructure we will invest on is resilient to climate change and on track with a low emission development pathway"

**Klaus Milke, Chair of F20, Founder and Chair of the Sustainability Foundation:** "A just transition is not only helping the world to remain well below the 2° benchmark but also exhibits already a positive business case in many parts of the worlds. Protecting the climate is economically, technically and politically feasible and the G20 should set sail in seizing this opportunity. Foundations are part of the solution and are committed to fulfill this role."

Further information and links:

- IDDRI report: **"Accelerating the Global and Local Paradigm Shift"**
- Website: **http://www.foundations-20.org/**
- Video footage : Livestream available **here** and other footage upon request
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