



## Press Release of the Foundations Platform F20 (2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2018)

### Foundations Platform F20 on the G20 outcome: A sign of hope Communiqué of the G20 reaffirms commitment to fight climate change

Buenos Aires, Argentina: The Foundations Platform F20 appreciates the reference to the Paris Climate Agreement and the 2030 Agenda in the final communiqué of the G20 summit in Argentina. The fact that 19 G20 heads of state reaffirmed their commitment to the Paris Agreement and all of them to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will provide clear guidance for future investments and the implementation of these agreements. The US administration, however, insisted on its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, which must be read as an admission of defeat to such global challenges: "The reaffirmation of the Paris Agreement as irreversible by the G20 is a sign of hope and shows to the world that the US remains isolated in its position on climate change", said Ramiro Fernandez, Director of Climate Change and Renewable Energy at Fundación AVINA and Co-Chair of the F20 platform.

The G20 just concluded yesterday on a text in which they reaffirm their *'commitment to leading the transformation to sustainable development and support the 2030 Agenda as the framework for advancing this goal and the G20 action plan.'* Furthermore, *'signatories to the Paris Agreement, who have also joined the Hamburg Action Plan, reaffirm that the Paris Agreement is irreversible and commit to its full implementation [...].'*

"The Buenos Aires Agreement, reinforces the commitment on climate change under the G20, showing progress on the implementation of the G20 Climate and Energy Action Plan and a new program on climate adaptation. This progress raises the bar for Japan's G20 leadership next year to keep climate change as a top priority", said Ramiro Fernandez.

Klaus Milke, Chair of the F20 platform: "Today, the G20 seems to accept its leading role of providing further ambition for the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement. This will inevitably create more certainty for the next UN Climate Summit, starting today in Katowice in Poland. Despite the hugely regrettable position of US President Trump to avoid any mentioning of the Paris Agreement, it is encouraging that the majority of the G20 seem to be willing to increase their activities to halt climate change."

In order to limit the average global temperature rise to 1.5° C – as indicated by the latest IPCC report which has also been noted in the Buenos Aires G20 summit communiqué – increased action, such as transforming the energy sector towards renewable energy is indispensable. With 75%, the G20 countries are the world's largest emitters of greenhouse gases. Climate action has been agreed by all 195 UN member countries and the G20 summit in Argentina was meant to give clear guidance for investors and public authority to implement them.

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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