

## DE PRESIDENT VAN DE REPUBLIEK SURINAME | SPEAKING NOTES

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All protocols observed.

Good morning,

I am standing here representing my country Suriname, which is covered with 93% of rainforest.

While our deforestation rate is less than half a tenth of a percent.

With that comes a high-quality biodiversity, which we must protect at all costs.

Yes, we are a Carbon-sink nation and one of the only three carbon-negative countries in the world.

And we are committed to keeping it that way!

For us, for you and the generations after us.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Climate is a global good, the adverse impacts are felt by all and us, members of the Caribbean Community, CARICOM.

As part of the eight Amazonian countries united in the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, ACTO, we are committed also to fight deforestation of the Amazon region.

My country and people are forced to adapt to extreme dry and wet weather events which cause losses and damages.

At the same time, we must respond to the legitimate demands of our population for economic development and diversification.

This we do, through a balanced approach, consisting of:

- national resources utilization through environmentally friendly strategy;
- and sustainable forest management and active protection of biodiversity;
- and also continued transition to green energy and other green innovations and technologies.

The recently announced offshore oil and other economic developments in Suriname will be developed on this basis.

Contributing to the energy security of the world.

We are committed and confident that we will remain carbon negative.

Let that be clear!

And finally, ladies and gentlemen,

We must put into effect, climate finance that **actually works and** which is easily accessible for all countries and people.

And Financial promises, must be kept!

It is imperative that we continue our efforts of putting the Article 6 Rule Book into practice and enhance the practical implementation of mitigation, adaptation, loss-and-damage, capacity-building and “just transition” finance.

Conservation of our standing forests and biodiversity, should be higher valued than reforestation.

Financial methodologies accounting for “removals”, is of utmost importance to nations like mine.

Financial promises must be kept!

Ladies and gentlemen,

Addressing climate issues requires political will and commitment from government and business leaders and inclusivity of everyone.

In closing, let us not forget that there is only one planet.

We do not inherit the planet earth from our ancestors, but we borrow it from our children.

So let’s keep in mind that the planet will continue without us!

But we humans cannot do without Planet Earth!

I thank you and may God bless you all!

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