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State of Palestine

Environment Quality Authority

Statement delivered by: H.E. Ms. Adalah Atira

Minister of Environment Quality Authority

{Manuscript of the video message}

Greetings.

Climate change is real.

No one can ignore this or deny it. Developing countries including Palestine and members of Climate Vulnerable Forum never had been among the causes of this change, rather a victim.

Its serious impact on all development sectors is well recognized. Weather and climate extreme events are strongly hitting all countries and all nations. New soaring records of high temperatures all over the world is telling us that unless we move fast, swift and with real big steps to control and decrease our emissions, everyone on this planet will extremely suffer by one way or another and sooner or later. Increased number of casualties in developed as well as developing countries



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of the world is clearly witnessed and very alarming. Coming generations will never forgive us for missing the opportunity of taking serious actions to decrease or minimize our emissions.

In countries and for people under occupation such like Palestine, occupation is an amplifier for every bad thing resulted from changing climate. Occupation measures and actions by systemically targeting all environmental resources of occupied people in addition to tying the hands of occupied people is an environmental crime.

Palestine as a state party to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change since 17th March 2016 and Paris Agreement since 4 November 2016 did many efforts to respond to Paris Agreement provisions and calls of action. Palestine was among the first countries in the world who signed and ratified Paris Agreement in New York in 22 April 2016 by the President in person, this is an indication of the right and focused vision of our leadership to respond swiftly and actively to climate change challenges.

We were able to attract the attention of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions Facility to support the important sector of olive in Palestine by approving the support of preparing the detailed preparation phase for **low carbon olive value chain**, a project worth 15 Million Euro.



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In the pipe lines of Green Climate Fund we have projects of tens of millions. Our Nationally Determined Contributions is estimated at 14 billion USD. Support with regard to means of implementation: capacity building, technology development and transfer and financial resources to implement adaptation and mitigation actions is crucial a prerequisite to be able to deliver. This support is all what we need from the international community in order to enhance the resilience of our people and to decrease their high vulnerability. Palestine as a member of Climate Vulnerable Forum is very much committed to its noble targets and with the support needed; we will be able to achieve the ultimate goal of UNFCCC. Let us work together to avoid irreversible damage of our planet earth and let us do every possible effort to avoid reaching dangerous tipping points.

I thank you.