

Enhancing actions to limit global warming at 1.5 degrees is a must: CSOs at press conference

Today 3rd November 2022, a media sharing event was organized to unwrap the CSOs position paper titled, '**Climate Diplomacy towards COP 27: Sharing CSOs position**' and articulate CSOs position on and demand from the imminent COP 27. The press event was organized by A CSOs alliance, comprising of 25 organisations and coordinated by Center for Participatory Research and Development (CPRD) at Tofazzal Hossain Manik Mia Conference Hall, National Press Club, Dhaka.

Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP and Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on MoEFCC was present as the Chief Guest in the event. Besides, Ms Shaheen Anam, Executive Director, Manusher Jonnyo Foundation; Ms Farah Kabir, Country Director, ActionAid Bangladesh; and Md Shamsuddoha, Chief Executive, CPRD; and many other CSOs activists were also present. CPRD Chief Mr Shamsuddoha facilitated the event.

In his keynote speech, Mr. Shamsuddoha, as the representative of the CSOs alliance, strongly demanded that the COP 27 take actionable decision on massive emission cut to limit global average temperature rise to 1.5 degrees C compared to the pre-industrial level to rescue the earth from a certain catastrophe. He also demanded a mandatory phase-out of coal by 2030, and all fossil-fuels by 2040. Mr Doha also urged for a separate funding facility for addressing L&D, WIM's governance under both CMA and COP, a separate board for Santiago Network on Loss and Damage (NELD), new and need-based finances, grants-based adaptation finances, and instituting human rights in all aspects of addressing climate change.

In the speech of Chief Guest, Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP discussed several burning issues for COP 27. He said, Bangladesh always regrets its achievement from the climate negotiations, but we must not forget that without having a specific strategy towards the COPs we cannot achieve something significant from the negotiations. He also alluded that the CSOs position paper will surely contribute to our negotiation. He also added that, the climate negotiations are not succeeding in expedite potential climate actions mostly because of absence of democracy within the UN system based on principle of unanimity. Mr Chowdhury also said, there is adaptation gap, there is mitigation gap, there is finance gap, but the greatest gap is in mutual trust. He said, Bangladesh was a leading country to propose the 1.5 degree C target in the climate negotiation, and it also played a momentous role in creating public support in its favour. “We are already experiencing the climatic effects with the globe warmed by 1.2 degrees C from pre-industrial level. UN Secretary General has alarmed that, the failure to implement strong climate actions will place the earth on a track of 2.8 degrees C by the end of this century which will be catastrophic”, said Mr Saber Hossain Chowdhury. He furthermore said that we have almost reached the hard limit of adaptation. “There is overlapping between climate change and natural disasters which may require separation and restructuring of ministries in future”- He added.

Ms Farah Kabir uttered that since the very beginning of climate negotiations we have presented several evidences and logics about the situations that have been confronted by climate vulnerable

countries. However, we failed to convince the developed nations about the intensity of the problems created by climate change. She also added “we urge to set a new limit for emission reduction and the commitment to provide sufficient financial assistance for adaptation”.

Ms Shaheen Anam said “today we CSOs are sharing our positions about COP 27, we would expect our government to play a significant to communicate this to the global negotiations. We have often seen that many countries spend trillion dollars in wars but we hardly get any financial assistance from them for adaptation and mitigation purposes. We must raise our voice to save the climate afflicted communities and to minimize the GHG emissions; this could ultimately pressurize global leaders to take drastic steps to combat climate change”.

The press event was jointly organized by ActionAid Bangladesh, AOSED, Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA), Center for Participatory Research and Development (CPRD), Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh -CCDB, ChristianAid, CDP, Concern Worldwide, COAST Foundation, Diakonia Bangladesh, Development Organisation of the Rural Poor-DORP, HEKS/EPER, Helvetas, International Centre for Climate Change and Development- ICCCAD, Islamic Relief, Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), NETZ Partnership for Development and Justice, Practical Action, SDS (Shariatpur Development Society), WaterAid, and Young Power in Social Action (YPSA).