

Keynote Address By

Director General, National Council on Climate Change

Dr. Salisu Dahiru

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African Climate Forum

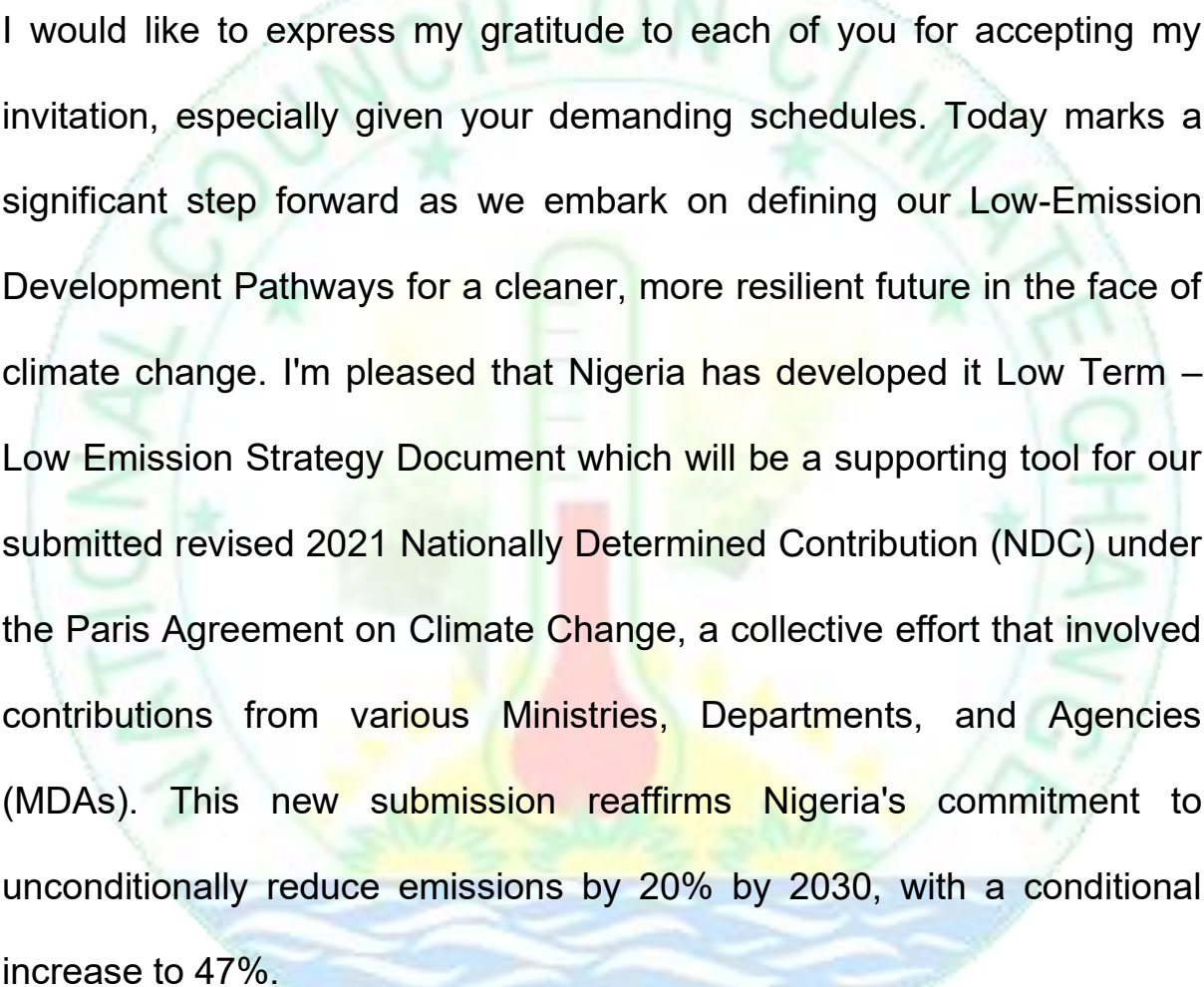
14th November, 2023

Your Excellencies,

The Distinguished Members of the National Assembly,

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The background features a large, semi-transparent watermark of the National Council on Climate Change logo. The logo is circular and contains a central graphic of a thermometer with a red liquid level, set against a background of a sun and waves. The text 'NATIONAL COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE' is written around the perimeter of the circle.

I would like to express my gratitude to each of you for accepting my invitation, especially given your demanding schedules. Today marks a significant step forward as we embark on defining our Low-Emission Development Pathways for a cleaner, more resilient future in the face of climate change. I'm pleased that Nigeria has developed its Low Term – Low Emission Strategy Document which will be a supporting tool for our submitted revised 2021 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, a collective effort that involved contributions from various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs). This new submission reaffirms Nigeria's commitment to unconditionally reduce emissions by 20% by 2030, with a conditional increase to 47%.

2. Today is remarkable as this National Validation workshop aims to serve as an invaluable platform to present updates on the progress achieved and underway in our nation's global commitments toward curbing Greenhouse gas emissions within the UNFCCC process. The

commencement of a momentous journey toward a brighter, sustainable future for our beloved nation, Nigeria. As the Director General of the National Council on Climate Change, I stand before you deeply honored and humbled to introduce Nigeria's Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategy 2060 for National Stakeholder validation. In the global context, the urgency to combat climate change and forge a sustainable path for the future has never been more critical. As a nation, we acknowledge the gravity of this challenge and embrace our responsibility to act, innovate, and lead.

3. Nigeria's Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategy 2060 stands as a visionary blueprint, a testament to our commitment to transition into a more resilient, green, and inclusive economy. This strategy embodies our pledge to preserve our environment, protect our people, and ensure economic prosperity for generations to come. Within its details lie ambitious targets, innovative solutions, and a collaborative spirit that forms the foundation of our journey. This isn't merely a document; it's our shared vision, encapsulating the aspirations of our youth, the wisdom of our elders, and the dreams of future generations.

4. This journey won't be devoid of challenges, yet let us be resolute: the path to a sustainable future is the path to progress. It signifies cleaner

air, enhanced health, inclusivity, food security, green job creation, and improved livelihoods for all Nigerians. It is the route to becoming a global leader in sustainable development. Today, we assemble not just as policymakers, scientists, or leaders, but as custodians of our beautiful nation and our precious planet. Together, we'll convert challenges into opportunities, pioneering a low-emission, high-impact future for Nigeria.

5. I extend an invitation to each of you to engage, question, and contribute to the success of this strategy. Your insights, expertise, and passion are invaluable. Let us embark on this transformative journey with determination, becoming the change-makers our nation and world require.

6. Pertinently, we implore political leaders, including Hon. Ministers, representatives, and NASS members, to commit to supporting Nigerian initiatives toward a Net-Zero trajectory without compromising our national resources. I cannot conclude without acknowledging our Development Partners, especially the 2050 Pathways, who have steadfastly supported Nigeria through the developmental phases of this document since our initial Long-Term Vision submission in 2021.

7. We are immensely grateful for the support received thus far. I also wish to extend gratitude to the national experts, spearheaded by Natural Eco Capital and the Deep Decarbonization Program (DDP), for their unwavering efforts in crafting this comprehensive and exquisite document.

Thank you for your attention, and let us together, hand in hand, lay the foundation for a sustainable and prosperous Nigeria for the year 2060 and beyond.

