



**FEDERAL REPUBLIC  
OF NIGERIA**

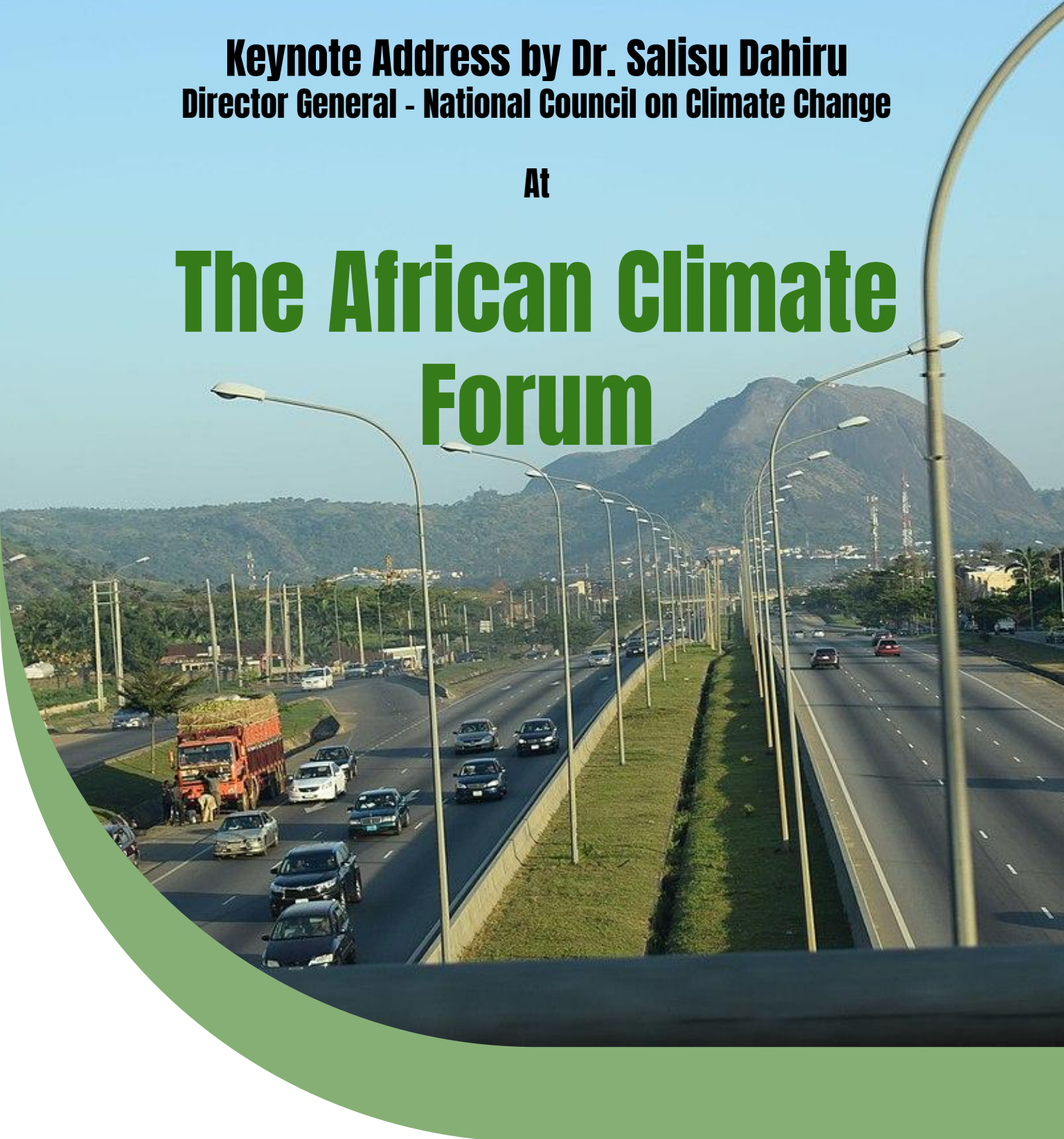
**NATIONAL COUNCIL ON  
CLIMATE CHANGE**



**Keynote Address by Dr. Salisu Dahiru  
Director General - National Council on Climate Change**

**At**

# **The African Climate Forum**







**Dr. Salisu Dahiru**

*Director General, National Council on Climate Change*

Dear Distinguish Participants, My Friends, Brothers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today is quite remarkable and I am very pleased to be part of this very important National High-Level Dialogue on Energy, centred on finding lasting solutions to what we and global communities have seen as a huge challenge. When it comes to energy, we face what seems like a dilemma. On one hand, climate change is hitting harder every year. This year, we heard a strong warning from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and saw the impacts of floods, wildfires, and droughts both nationally and globally. Many, perhaps for the first time, realized that no one is safe. The updated climate promises under the Paris Agreement aren't good enough to prevent dangerous warming that will bring more interruption. To get back on track for the 1.5°C goal, emissions from the energy sector need to be halved by

2030 and eliminated totally by 2050.

2. Today, we face a moment of truth, that how we produce and use energy is the main cause of the climate crisis. As you all know the country has updated the base year for the GHG assessment from 2010 to 2018. The estimations of total emissions of greenhouse gases range between 247 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent (MtCO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions in 2010 and 347 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2018 with the energy sector being the largest source of GHG emissions with 209 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e emitted in 2018 (60% of total emissions). Fugitive emissions from oil and gas are the largest contributor to overall energy sector emissions (36% of total energy sector emissions in 2018), followed by transport, electricity generation (grid and off-grid), and residential and industrial energy consumption. That is why Nigeria developed an Energy Transition Plan as a strategy for the achievement of Net – Zero emissions in the nation's energy Consumption. The plan is inclusive, fair, and equitable and will facilitate Nigeria's economic growth and poverty eradication goals.

3. According to Nigeria's Long – Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT - LEDS), Nigeria's Net-Zero plan for the energy sector will be driven by a shift towards further dependence on Hydro, Biomass, Wind, Solar PV and Nuclear as the country starts to exploit its large renewable energy potential for a successful energy transformation. The current electricity access rate is approximately 55 % of the population, of which 86 % are based in urban areas and 34 % are in rural areas. The modelling in the LT -LEDs indicates that about 60 % of Nigeria's electricity can be achieved under the gas economy scenario while 80 % can be achieved under the renewable energy scenarios,



respectively by 2050. which will progress to 92 % in 2060 under the renewable energy scenario.

4. This is the time for us to act right, according to the Green Job the International Labour Organization assessment there will be about six million fossil fuel jobs lost, but with the right policies 24 million new jobs will be created by 2030. The decentralized renewable energy sector will create jobs in rural communities – the sector employs twice as many workers directly and up to five times as many in indirect jobs, particularly in the informal economies, which are the largest source of employment for least developing countries. Clean energy is doubling in capacity every two years, a growth rate faster than any other technology of its size—an average annual increase of 39 percent in the last decade.

5. Permit me to mention that a key co-benefit from climate action will be the creation of green jobs. A study carried out during the revision of Nigeria's NDC in 2021 evaluated the impact of Nigeria's climate policies on employment, GDP and emissions. The study found that in terms of the total number of jobs created, policies to increase power generation have the largest effect. Over the period 2020 up to 2035, on average, around 12 million net additional jobs will be added across the economy as compared to a baseline scenario. The momentous increase in employment needs to be interpreted in light of the significant capital investments that generate massive job opportunities in different sectors.

6. The Council therefore urges Nigeria to start investing in renewable energy. Clean energy solutions provide the best business opportunities. Nigeria like other developing countries urges international cooperation to dramatically scale up finance and investment needed to accelerate energy transitions, especially in developing countries like ours.

To reach universal energy access by 2030 for us to achieve the conditional target of our NDCs and maintain a net-zero path by mid-century, developed countries must mobilize predictable finance to scale and promote technology transfer to the developing world. We need to triple investment in renewable energy and energy





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transfer to the developing world. We need to triple investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency to \$5 trillion dollars yearly globally.

7. In furtherance to a better future, Africa and Indeed Nigeria must bridge the technological gaps and step up dialogue around innovation. The energy sector is already leading the charge to zero emissions, with breakthroughs and rapid price declines across the auto, power and lighting sectors. Projections from Nigeria's Energy Transition plan for a Net Zero by 2050 show that \$410Bn is required on top of BAU spending over 30 years (\$14Bn/year). And it is estimated that ~\$5 – 6Bn p.a. of public funding will be required.

8. The government of Nigeria has three main strategies that are well-focused on Energy transition which are the NDC, LT- LEDS and the ETP. For these strategies to be fully implemented, there must be proper coordination by the government (which the National Council is championing), political will, and implementation from both public and private sectors. These require a combination of domestic budgetary allocation, private sector finance (national and international), and bilateral and multilateral finance mechanisms. Understanding how to access funding from a diverse menu of multilateral, bilateral, public, and private sources is a complex and dynamic challenge we must address urgently. The government will keep creating demand and opportunity in the market to enable the private sector to invest in climate-friendly products and services. Enacting policies and incentives that will help private sectors switch from unadventurous methods to climate-friendly practices. Put measures for de-risking of investments.

9. Let me today assure you all that Nigeria's energy transition commitments are robust, timely, just, and inclusive in creating jobs, growth, and sustainability

as we journey towards a net-zero path by 2060.

Finally, I would like to thank the organizers of the event for giving me this wonderful opportunity to speak to all of you today, it will be very pertinent that the outcomes of this dialogue are shared with the Council with clear next steps to inform our next policy direction as well as to be considered in the implementation framework of all government strategies and plans. Right now, we know what we need to do, and how to do it and the support and collaborative networks we need are all in place. It is time for words and good intentions to become immediate and meaningful actions. We have a duty of care – to the planet and to every person upon it. We must fulfil it by making our energy system clean, efficient, and affordable.

10. I once again thank you all for your individual roles in tracking climate change.

Signed:

**Dr. Salisu Dahiru**

Director General & Secretary

National Council on Climate Change

