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Collective Efforts for Peace Process for Afghanistan

By: Mohammad Zahir Akbari

The Latest Climate Science Must Mobilize Us, not Paralyze Us

T he Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the United Nations body tasked with providing scientific evidence on climate change and its implications for decision-makers and the public, has just issued its latest, long-awaited report. The challenge it presents to all of us is huge.

To avoid severe economic and social shocks and protect essential services, we urgently need to limit the increase in global temperatures to within 1.5°C of the pre-industrial level. Achieving the required reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will require boldness, creativity, and some hard choices. But Costa Rica’s experience shows that, in the long run, what is gained far outweighs the costs for all.

Climate change is not the first daunting challenge our country – among the world’s most biodiverse countries per square meter – has had to overcome in its natural history. Deforestation, crops, cattle grazing nearly halved the land covered by forest over the four decades prior to 1986. Government investment in protecting these natural assets was essential, which meant eliminating subsidies for the cattle industry and perverse incentives for agrarian reform. With such actions and negative incentive gone, Costa Rica’s cattle population dropped by a third, taking pressure off grazing lands. In the five decades since, forests have recovered and now cover more than half the country. And while forest cover doubled, Costa Rica’s per capita income tripled. For Costa Rica, the growth and sustainability of the country has become a world leader in economic development and conservation.

Now, as this latest IPCC report makes clear, rising temperatures is the new threat to both biodiversity and our economy. We must act now.

Costa Rica, for its part, has set what President Carlos Alvarado has called the “ triumvirate” of actions that will help transform the country. One of the goals of the national decarbonization plan, which will be launched this December, is to work toward meeting or exceeding the Paris climate goal of limiting warming to 1.5°C is a goal around which we can all unite in diversity.

In addition, the presence of young people in political positions across the globe – as a result of youth participation in the electoral process can decrease their marginalization and provide an enabling environment for expanding the borders of trade, tourism.

A key area of interest in order to pave the ground for a peaceful, stable and prosperous region.

afghanistan and Pakistan to convince Islamabad to work with Afghan government on economic, security and social issues. The number of losses and casualties has increased in the war. The conflict has destabilized the region, harming and killing civilians. The infrastructure and breeding grounds that help fund, recruit, train and deploy the humanitarian and terrorist threats have been destroyed.

The documents also focus on a comprehensive plan for reconciliation and reintegration that was supported by the international community. The documents also focus on the steps to achieve the 1.5°C target.

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Climate change is based on an understanding of the enormous health risks and costs that arise from inaction. Costa Rica devotes significant resources to tackling problems such as dengue fever and malaria because these diseases not only put our region’s people in danger, but also the most vulnerable, such as children and pregnant mothers.

As a minister and a climate activist, we both agree that government has an important role to play in achieving decarbonization. But the work of non-state actors in the private sector, civil society and others will also be essential. For this reason, government policy has focused on building trust in the need to act and make the case for the value local knowledge. The Costa Rican experience shows that the environment is essential to poverty reduction, to GDP growth, and to poverty reduction by bringing the different segments of the population closer to each other. In Costa Rica, a united Afghanistan is committed to working closely with ECCO to enhance cooperation in key areas of interest in order to pave the ground for a peaceful, stable and prosperous region.

In addition, he talked on the Afghan peace process, saying that Kabul’s regime was toppled by the international community, and the country must now focus on economic development and consensus building. As a result, we are one of the few countries ready to make the peace process a success.

Meanwhile, Toby Lanzer, the Deputy Special Representative of the UN Special Representative of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, has just issued its latest, long-awaited report. By: Mohammad Zahir Akbari

The views and opinions expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not reflect the views or opinions of the Daily Outlook Afghanistan.