

# Get off the path of 'suicidal emissions', UN chief Guterres to urge, in key climate change speech

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres is to use a landmark speech later on Monday to urge greater involvement and leadership on the part of everybody, to protect the planet and its people, from the disastrous consequences of runaway climate change.

"Climate change is undeniable" he will say at UN Headquarters in New York, and "the science is beyond doubt," posted the UN chief in a [tweet](#), previewing his speech about an issue which he says poses an existential threat to humankind.

"It is time to get off the path of suicidal emissions," he reiterated in the tweet.

Mr. Guterres is going to call on governments, businesses, scientists and consumers – "to make changes" and to "be the change" that will put the planet on a path to a better future.

In his speech – scheduled for 3 PM, Eastern Standard Time – Secretary-General Guterres will also outline his vision for a new [Climate Summit in 2019](#), which he will be convening to rally the international community, to step up action in key areas inclusive sustainable energy production, economic growth, green investment and better stewardship of natural resources.

The call for greater ambition on climate action comes amid record temperature rises and extreme weather events across the globe. The last few months alone saw devastating floods in southern India, wildfires in the United States and extreme heatwaves in Japan.

When world leaders signed the historic Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015, they pledged to stop temperatures rising by more than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and as close to 1.5 degrees, as possible. But scientists and a major UN study, indicate that the target is already well off-track.

The UN chief's message also comes ahead of the Global Climate Action Summit, to be held on the west coast of the United States, in San Francisco, from 12-14 September. National, regional and municipal leaders will gather with business people and philanthropic communities to underscore their commitment to climate action.

We will have more on this story, soon.