

COP26 President's opening remarks at the Africa Adaptation Summit Opening Ceremony

Patrick, thank you very much.

Presidents, your excellencies, sisters and brothers, if I may: I want to thank everyone for all the inspiring words we've heard, and indeed the pragmatic suggestions, as that's what actually matters, Patrick, as you've said.

And I want to thank you, Patrick, you and your team at the Global Centre on Adaptation for putting this together, together with the African Union, with Akin and the African Development Bank.

This is a critical summit. I want to start by saying that, unlike Kristalina, I have no original jokes to offer. But I've noted the joke you made, and I'll be using it – like a good politician, I'll be repeating it and claiming it as my own at future events!

Friends, we are ten months since COP26. And, as I think we've heard, that was an important milestone on adaptation and the work that we do around this.

We have the Glasgow/Sharm-El-Sheik Work Programme, which has got going on the global goal on Adaptation.

And in Glasgow we also had the event – that I was very pleased to be part of – on launching the African Adaptation Acceleration Program. And Akin, you talked about the £20 million of UK funding for the program.

This is all about making sure that we are driving policy and project support to those working to design and implement transformational adaptation interventions.

And so whether that's in agriculture or infrastructure, or innovative finance, as Ngozi said (and others have commented): at the end of the day, we have to see tackling climate change also as a growth opportunity. For jobs, for the economy.

And I think unless we encourage everyone to do that, we will not make the progress that we need to make.

Ban and other leaders have referenced the commitment that we got at COP of developed countries at least doubling their collective provision on adaptation finance for developing nations by 2025.

I can tell you that this wasn't an easy process, but we got there. And the reality now is that countries have to deliver.

You will all have seen the OECD figures that have come out for 2020 on the \$100bn goal. We are moving in the right direction when it comes to adaptation, but the reality is we are going to have to quicken that pace.

Patrick, you said not to talk about all the things that have been going wrong in the world when it comes to climate, so let me just say this: the one thing I think every single one of us can say, just looking in our own countries, our continents, is that the chronic threat of climate change has got worse since COP26.

Things aren't getting better.

I could give you all the examples of Africa, which I've got here, but I'm not going to because you know all of this.

I can tell you from a UK point of view, for the first time, we had wildfires this summer; we have droughts being declared; we have climate emergencies in terms of temperature levels being declared this summer.

Climate change does not recognise borders. And I think the sooner every world leader recognises that, the better.

We've got sixty-two days to COP27. Patrick, you said we want to see what is actually going to happen.

One of the things that we did agree was that there would be a progress report on the \$100bn delivery plan, that is being worked on by our friends in the Canadian and German governments.

We will publish that before COP27, so we will be able to see what progress is actually being made.

And of course, this is going to require all the providers – the MDBs and others – to set out clear, ambitious adaptation finance targets when we meet in Egypt.

And I also want to acknowledge the brilliant work that Kristalina and her team have done on the RSD; that is really quite remarkable, so thank you so much for all your leadership on that.

We know that the annual adaptation costs are expected to reach at least \$140bn a year by 2030, and frankly public finance is not going to be enough. We are going to need private finance. And so in a way I agree; I wish we did have more of the private finance providers around this table.

You've all set out very clearly the challenges we have and how we rise to those. And I want to acknowledge, firstly, the enormous support and help that I've got from Amina over the past years in this role; but also to make the point that, as she said, we need to make sure that when we get to COP27, we have to demonstrate that what we achieved at COP26 is starting to be delivered.

I said in Glasgow that the pulse of 1.5 is weak. And I have to say to you

friends, it does remain weak right now.

On the positive side, we were able to show in Glasgow that the multilateral system, however unwieldy, can work when we all understand that it's in our collective self interest.

And so what we do need to ensure in the coming days, weeks, and two months to COP27, is that we're delivering on adaptation.

I want to end by what Akin said. He said: 'you're all doers in this room'.

So I have to say friends, now we just need to get it done.

Thank you.

[No change to MHRA advice on the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines for those who are pregnant or breastfeeding](#)

News story

Our advice remains that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective during pregnancy and breastfeeding



We are aware of false claims on social media that our advice on the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines while pregnant or breastfeeding has changed.

We would like to reassure the public that our advice has not changed. Our advice remains that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective during pregnancy and breastfeeding and there is substantial evidence to support this

advice.

For our latest advice, please see our [Summary of Coronavirus Yellow Card Reporting](#) or the [Summary of Product Characteristics](#).

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[Government backing puts wind in sails of Middlesbrough boat builders](#)

Press release

UK Export Finance support unlocks new contract to export fishing boat to Ireland.



- Parkol Marine Engineering, a family-owned business, was established in 1971 and is renowned for its quality vessels
- A new 23-meter ship is the second to be built as part of a Bond Support deal worth £3m from UK Export Finance
- The ship will be launched today at its Middlesbrough site and transported to Ireland

Family-owned shipbuilder, Parkol Marine Engineering, has announced the launch of its new vessel, Green Isle, which on completion will sail to the west coast of Ireland from Middlesbrough, marking its expansion across the country. The boat is the second to be built as a result of a new £3m Bond support package from UK Export Finance (UKEF).

The contract is the second exporting win for the business, with the first contract secured in 2020 for a 27-meter fishing trawler commissioned by Irish fishing company D&N Kirwan. UKEF's Bond Support deal has helped Parkol and NatWest to provide security for the Buyer's stage payments in the form of advance payment guarantees.

Louis Taylor, Chief Executive of UK Export Finance said:

The United Kingdom is charting a new course as an independent trading nation and maritime businesses are crucial to driving the Global Britain we are building towards.

Now we can help shipbuilders to grow and harness the benefits of maritime trade using support from UK Export Finance to help Parkol grow their business through exporting.

The support from UKEF reiterates the government's support for the UK's maritime industry. Launching its new shipbuilding vision earlier this year, the government committed to investing over £4bn to support shipyards and suppliers across the UK, with new measures including better access to finance and vital skills-building.

Sally Atkinson, Director of Parkol Marine Engineering said:

Exporting has opened up new opportunities for our business. Thanks to UKEF's support, we've unlocked another major contract and expanded our business in Ireland by delivering a high-quality vessel. We're looking forward to continuing to capitalise on our exporting potential and reach new markets.

David Priestley, Head of Export Finance Managers for UKEF said:

We are pleased to see Parkol launch another ship into Ireland, helped by our support. Its exporting success is testament to its first-rate engineering heritage and investment in its people. We're looking forward to seeing further growth from the company in the years ahead.

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[Darlington man prosecuted for waste offences](#)

He was also disqualified from acting as a company director for three years and ordered to pay £490 costs.

John Burnside Jones (26), of Coniscliffe Road, Darlington was sentenced at Teesside Magistrates' Court on Friday 2 September 2022 having previously pleaded guilty to involvement in illegally misdescribing waste for financial gain.

Environment Agency officers visited Jones' waste operation at the Trinity Works site in Haverton Hill, Billingham in January 2019. They found the business to be processing large volumes of waste types which the site's environmental permit did not allow. The site was also found to lack the required management systems to deal with the environmental risks. Jones was served with notices requiring details of the site's waste but failed to respond to these in full.

Further investigations by the Environment Agency revealed that between September 2018 and February 2019, over 6,000 tonnes of unpermitted, combustible waste had been transported to the site from as far away as Bristol. Jones had then transported more than 11,000 tonnes of inert waste soils to a nearby landfill site during the same period. The discrepancy between the volumes of incoming and outgoing waste was a result of Jones mixing incoming waste with soil and stones left from previous site operations and falsely describing this resulting mixture as inert waste.

Inert waste incurs significantly lower landfill tax per tonne and may also be disposed of at a much-reduced rate at landfill facilities without the same level of safeguards and protections as would otherwise be required. By fraudulently misdescribing the waste, Jones was able to make large sums of money by flouting his environmental obligations.

In mitigation, Jones stated that although his company had operated the site, he had limited direct involvement and had been very naïve in relying upon others to run the site for him. He had never previously been in trouble and fully co-operated with the investigation. He admitted that he had never seen the site's environmental permit and was oblivious to its requirements.

The court ruled that the offending was deliberate and committed for financial gain. At an earlier hearing the permit holder James William Mason, 64, of Camden Street, Stockton-on-Tees had pleaded guilty to allowing the illegal waste activities to be undertaken on his site and was ordered to pay a total of £2,528 in fines and costs.

A spokesperson for the Environment Agency said:

The conditions of an environmental permit are designed to protect people and the environment. Failure to comply with these legal requirements is a serious offence that can damage the environment, undermine local legitimate environmental permit holders, put jobs at risk and cause misery for local communities.

We welcome sentencing by the Court, which should act as a deterrent to others considering flouting the law.

PM call with President Zelenskyy: 5 September 2022

Press release

Prime Minister Boris Johnson spoke to President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy this afternoon.



The Prime Minister spoke to the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, this afternoon to thank him for his leadership and friendship.

The Prime Minister made clear that he believed President Zelenskyy and his people can and will win the war in Ukraine.

President Zelenskyy thanked the Prime Minister for believing in Ukraine and its people and updated on the recent progress of his Armed Forces in the south of the country.

The Prime Minister said he was convinced the Ukrainian forces could continue to succeed in pushing back Russian forces and added that the UK remained steadfast in its support.

The Prime Minister told President Zelenskyy it had been a privilege to work with him and support him, and the leaders agreed to stay in close touch as friends.

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