PM statement at COP27: 7 November 2022

When Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II addressed COP 26 last year,

she reflected how history has shown...

"...that when nations come together in common cause, there is always room for hope."

I believe we found room for hope in Glasgow.

With one last chance to create a plan that would limit global temperature rises to 1.5 degrees,

....we made the promises to keep that goal within reach.

And the question today is this: can we summon the collective will to deliver them?

I believe we can.

When we began our COP Presidency, just one third of the global economy was signed up to net zero...

...today it's 90 per cent.

And for our part, the UK...

...which was the first major economy in the world to legislate for net zero....

...will fulfil our ambitious commitment to reduce emissions by at least 68 per cent by 2030.

And because there is no solution to climate change without protecting and restoring nature ...

In Glasgow, more than 140 countries which are home to over 90 per cent of the world's forests...

... made a historic promise to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by the end of this decade.

And just this afternoon I co-hosted the first meeting of the Forests and Climate Leaders' Partnership to ensure this is delivered.

Central to all our efforts, is honouring our promises on climate finance.

I know that for many, finances are tough right now.

The pandemic all but broke the global economy.

And before coming here today...

...I spent last week working on the difficult decisions needed to ensure confidence and economic stability in my own country.

But I can tell you today...

....that the United Kingdom is delivering on our commitment of £11.6 billion.

And as part of this — we will now triple our funding on adaptation to £1.5 billion by 2025.

Let me tell you why.

First, I profoundly believe it is the right thing to do.

Listen to Prime Minister Mottley of Barbados, as she describes the existential threat posed by the ravages of climate change.

Or look at the devastating floods in Pakistan...

...where the area underwater is the same size as the whole United Kingdom.

When you see 33 million people displaced...

...with disease rife and spreading through the water...

...you know it is morally right to honour our promises.

But it is also economically right too.

Climate security goes hand in hand with energy security.

Putin's abhorrent war in Ukraine and rising energy prices across the world are not a reason to go slow on climate change.

They are a reason to act faster.

Because diversifying our energy supplies by investing in renewables...

...is precisely the way to insure ourselves against the risks of energy dependency.

It is also a fantastic source of new jobs and growth.

In Glasgow, we began an approach globally...

...using aid funding to unlock billions of pounds of private finance for the development of new green infrastructure.

So instead of developing countries being unfairly burdened with the carbon debt of richer nations and somehow expected to forgo that same path to growth,

...we are helping those countries deliver their own fast track to clean growth.

And the UK is making further commitments to support this today ...

...including by investing £65 million in a range of green investment projects in Kenya and in Egypt.

I'd like to pay tribute to President Sisi for his leadership in bringing us all together...

....and to thank the UK's President of COP26, Alok Sharma...

...for his inspiring work to deliver on the Paris Agreement and Glasgow Climate Pact.

By honouring the promises we made in Glasgow....

....and by directing public and private finance towards the protection of our planet....

...we can turn our struggle against climate change into a global mission for new jobs and clean growth...

...and we can bequeath our children a greener planet and a more prosperous future.

That's a legacy we could be proud of.

So as we come together once again in common cause today,

there really is room for hope.

Together, let us fulfil it.

PM meeting with President Emmanuel Macron: 7 November 2022

Press release

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak met France's President Emmanuel Macron at COP27.



The Prime Minister met France's President Emmanuel Macron on the sidelines of COP27 in Egypt today.

The leaders welcomed the opportunity to meet in person at COP27 and agreed on the importance of continuing to drive climate action forward. They noted opportunities for the UK and France to collaborate further on the transition to clean energy, including on civil nuclear power.

The Prime Minister and President Macron spoke about the ongoing challenge of illegal migration, stressing the urgency of cracking down on criminal smuggling gangs. They committed to continue working together with partners to address the issues in the Channel.

The leaders also discussed the ongoing Russian attacks on Ukraine and the continued importance of maintaining military and economic support for the defence of Ukraine.

They looked forward to working closely together as allies and neighbours to strengthen bilateral ties and address global challenges.

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PM meeting with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi: 7 November 2022

Press release

The Prime Minister Rishi Sunak met Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi at COP27.



The Prime Minister met Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi at COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh today.

The Prime Minister was pleased to have been able to travel to Egypt for the Summit and thanked President Sisi for his country's leadership in hosting this important event.

The leaders discussed opportunities for the UK and Egypt to collaborate further on the transition to renewables, including in developing green hydrogen and mobilising private investment.

The Prime Minister raised the case of Alaa Abd el-Fattah, stressing the UK Government's deep concern on this issue. The Prime Minister said he hoped to see this resolved as soon as possible and would continue to press for progress.

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PM meeting with President Isaac Herzog of Israel: 7 November 2022

Press release

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak met President Isaac Herzog of Israel today at COP27.



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak met President Isaac Herzog of Israel today at COP27 in Egypt.

They reaffirmed their commitment to delivering on the legacy of Glasgow, taking action to drive down emissions and protect nature.

The leaders also discussed regional security and welcomed continued defence and security cooperation between the UK and Israel.

The Prime Minister and President Herzog looked forward to further deepening the close ties between the UK and Israel, including in trade and investment and collaboration in technology innovation.

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Royal Navy infrastructure protection ship accelerated

Press release

Ship to protect UK's critical national infrastructure to be delivered months ahead of schedule



The purchase of specialist ships to protect the UK's critical national infrastructure has been brought forward, the Defence Secretary has announced, as he confirms the National Flagship programme has been suspended in order to deliver this.

The two Multi-Role Ocean Surveillance (MROS) ships will be operated by the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and are vital to our national security by protecting our subsea cables and pipelines. The first of these ships will be handed over in January 2023, several months ahead of schedule.

The increasing commercialisation of the seabed for energy and communications purposes has resulted in increased opportunities for adversaries to hold Western subsea critical national infrastructure at risk.

The vessels will be adaptable, and able to provide a range of capabilities, such as operating remote and autonomous offboard systems for underwater surveillance and seabed warfare.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said:

In the face of Russia's illegal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine and Putin's reckless disregard of international arrangements designed to keep world order, it is right that we prioritise delivering capabilities which safeguard our national infrastructure.

To effectively address the current and future threats, we will now invest in MROS ships that protect sensitive Defence infrastructure, and civil infrastructure, to improve our ability to detect threats to the seabed and cables. I have also therefore directed the termination of the National Flagship competition with immediate effect to bring forward the first MROS ship in its place and I shall make further announcements on our continued Naval investment in the coming weeks.

In light of this, the National Flagship programme has been suspended to prioritise delivery of the vital MROS capability.

Rear Admiral Rex Cox, CEO of the National Shipbuilding Office said:

The National Flagship project showcased the talent of the UK's maritime industry and I am grateful to all those bidders who took part. The willingness to embrace modern design and production practices with a focus on green innovation embodies the essence of the National Shipbuilding Strategy Refresh. This contemporary approach to shipbuilding and design will be fundamental to the success of the future shipbuilding pipeline.