

Monaco Takes Part in the 20th United Nations Conference on Climate Change

Mr. José Badia, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, headed the Monegasque delegation at the 20th Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Lima from 1 to 12 December 2014.

The delegation was comprised of Ms. Elisabeth Lanteri-Minet, Director of International Affairs and Chloé Petruccelli, Secretary of External Relations at the Department of International Affairs, Mr. Christophe Prat, Director of the Environment, Mr. Patrick Rolland, Head of Division and Mr. Jean-Baptiste Blanchy, Head of Section at the Department of the Environment.

This conference marked a decisive stage in drawing up the future agreement on climate change that is due to be adopted at the Conference in Paris in December 2015. Thus, at the end of the discussions, the State Parties to the Convention adopted a decision that lays the groundwork for the contents of this future agreement, which will be comprised, in a balanced manner, of the following aspects: reducing the effects of climate change (a reduction in greenhouse gases), making changes to this end, financing, the transfer and development of technology, capacity building, transparency, and support for the most vulnerable countries. The international community therefore has one year to reach agreement on this ambitious Convention, which will make it possible to take urgent action.

At the ministerial segment of this Conference, the Minister, recalling that changes in the climate could lead to a global disaster, emphasised the fact that Monaco intended to use all the means necessary to participate in this joint effort. The Principality also supports the idea that this future agreement should make it possible to take changes in national circumstances into account with regard to revising their emission targets "upward." Lastly, Mr. Badia recalled that the most vulnerable countries must be given adequate support through funding, technology transfer and capacity building.

The Minister took part in a ministerial round table on climate funding, during which he confirmed the Prince's Government's wish to contribute EUR 250.000 to the Green Climate Fund, a predetermined amount that takes account of the number of inhabitants in the Principality and Monaco's historical responsibility with regard to global greenhouse gas emissions. Monaco welcomed the work undertaken by the bodies of the Convention, which has made it possible to have a better understanding of the needs of developing countries. He expressed the wish for this work to be furthered, in order to make available the funding required to implement activities with a specific focus on reduction and adaptation. He emphasised the fact that the co-benefits of climate investment should be highlighted and

considered that this could constitute a lever for activities to promote the potential involvement of the private sector.

As a side-event of the Conference, the Minister took part in the ministerial consultations of the International Organisation of La Francophonie, chaired by Mr. Abdoulaye Baldé, Senegal's Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development, on the theme of "The Shared Francophone Vision for the Post-2020 Agreement." Experts such as Mr. Jean-Pascal Van Ypersele, Vice-President of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Mr. Pierre Radanne, President and Director of the consulting firm Futur Facteur 4, described the issues specific to developing countries in combating climate change and stressed the need to support them.

Mr. Badia was also able to meet with ministers from the Environmental Integrity Group, a coalition for negotiations of which Monaco is a member, alongside the Republic of Korea, Liechtenstein, Mexico and Switzerland. At this meeting, he was able to reiterate Monaco's full commitment to the work of this group, whose visibility is increasing from conference to conference.

Several bilateral meetings also paved the way for the meeting in Lima:

Ms. Marlies Amann-Marxer, Liechtenstein's Minister for Infrastructure, Environmental Affairs and Sport, Ms. Ségolène Royal, France's Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, Ms. Hela Cheikhrouhou, Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund and Mr. Mark Kenber, Director-General of the independent not-for-profit organisation "The Climate Group."

Photo caption:

Mr. Seong Kyu Yoon, Minister of the Environment of the Republic of Korea; Ms. Doris Leuthard, Federal Councillor, Head of the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications; Mr. José Badia, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Ms. Marlies Amann-Marxer, Liechtenstein's Minister for Infrastructure, Environmental Affairs and Sport, and Mexico's deputy secretary for planning and the SEMARNAT environmental policy.