

*Speech by Ms. Gramaglia - Minister of Public Works, the Environment and Urban Development –
Principality of Monaco
Ministerial Meeting on Health, the Environment and Climate
Marrakech - 15 November 2016*

Ministers,

Madam Director-General,

Madam Director,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Friends,

As you know, in 1998, the World Health Assembly adopted a resolution on climate change and health and alerted the world to "*threats linked to climate change and the depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer.*" From this date onwards, the World Health Organization has proposed practical ways of protecting health.

It was not until the COP21 in December 2015 and the Paris Agreement that these threats and this essential joint action were recognised as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

As you are keen to emphasise, Madam Director-General, the Paris Agreement, which was adopted following the meeting of the parties to the Framework Agreement, is also a public health text. The Principality of Monaco, alongside its partners, was involved in this respect in all the negotiations that led to the adoption of this important text.

I am convinced that the effective implementation of this new international instrument will have a positive impact on the health of populations.

It is essential, in this regard, to promote mitigation and adaptation measures that will generate common, direct health benefits. In this respect, the development of a clean mobility policy is an example of the many approaches that will have positive short- and long-term effects on health.

Be assured that, in the context of its development cooperation policy, Monaco will increase its support for such initiatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For several years, Monaco has been supporting the work of the WHO in the area of health protection in the face of the consequences of climate change and atmospheric pollution.

This cooperation has been further strengthened in the past weeks with the designation of Monaco Scientific Centre and its Human Health Unit as a WHO collaborating centre for health and sustainable development – the first of its kind, moreover.

Let us never forget that health is a component, a target, and, of course, a goal of sustainable development.

In this regard, the WHO's 3rd High-Level Meeting of the Small Countries of Europe Initiative took place recently in the Principality. At this meeting, the Ministers present adopted a declaration whose title, "*Health in All Policies – Health in All SDGs; a Call for Action on Climate Change*," should inspire us in our debates today.

It is by pooling our strengths and efforts and by sharing our knowledge and experience that we will be able to bring about improvements to health effectively while combating climate change. The declaration proposed for adoption today lays the foundations for such a movement.

That is why I express the wish that the Meeting today will be the start of fruitful collaboration between the sectors of health and environment, and I assure you of the Principality of Monaco's unwavering support.

Thank you.

Check against delivery.