

Today, at the closing of the Talanoa Dialogue, the Presidencies of this and last years' UN Climate Change Conferences (COP24 and COP23) issued the Talanoa Call for Action. This statement calls for the urgent and rapid mobilization of all societal actors to step up their efforts with a view to meeting the global climate goals agreed in Paris in 2015. The calls to action were delivered by youth champions Timoci Naulusala from Fiji and Hanna Wojdowska from Poland.

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“The Talanoa Dialogue now must give way to the Talanoa Call for Action. Together, we must recognize the gravity of the challenge we face — the need to increase our collective nationally determined contributions fivefold — five times more ambition, five times more action — if we are to achieve the 1.5 degree target. Together, we must unreservedly accept the science and the advice that our present NDCs have us on target for warming of at least 3 degrees by century's end. Together, we must commit to continue exchanging ideas and best practices to raise our NDCs and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. Together, we can overcome the greatest threat humanity has ever faced — with the entire global community eventually emerging more prosperous and more resilient,” he said.

Overall, today's “call for action” represents the outcome of a year-long process that has, for the first time in UN Climate Change's history, brought together governments and thousands of actors from across the world in informal discussions on international climate policy that have seen virtually all segments of society have their say. ...

The Talanoa Dialogue — borrowing from the Fijian traditional way of holding conversations to tackle collective issues — was convened as part of the UN climate talks and gathered views on three guiding questions in relation to the climate crisis: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there?... Its purpose was to take stock of global efforts since the Paris Agreement was adopted and inform the preparation of nationally determined contributions. The response has been overwhelming, showing unprecedented levels of climate action by governments, businesses, civil society, citizens, and many others. Under the third question, the process identified myriad solutions and ways forward to meet the Paris goals.

-United Nations, “Join the Talanoa Call for Action” (December 12, 2018) excerpt