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**TOPIC A - Improve the INDCs of the Russian Federation**

Climate change is the greatest environmental threat humanity has ever faced and one of the biggest challenges. It is caused by the buildup of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels and the destruction of areas that store massive amounts of carbon like the world’s rainforests.

The Russian Federation recognize the threats coming from climate change and acknowledge the necessity of adaptation. We believe that this is a problem that all the countries need to face together in order to give a future to humanity.

In 2015, the Russian Federation submitted its new climate action plan to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Our country compromises to achieve their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs): Russia will cut greenhouse gas emission by 2030 to 70% from the basic level of 1990. This means that for 35 years Russia will keep the emission at one level, largely compensating for the growth in emission in other countries and regions of the world. We plan to achieve this goal in the long-term by introducing new energy saving technologies, increasing energy efficiency of economy, developing renewable and clean energy sources.

But this is not an easy task and it takes time to craft a conceivable strategy for decreasing our dependency on carbon and fossil fuels, without hurting our economy. In the last years Russia has been facing different international and economic problems that have caused cuts in our financial support for emission reduction programs in the country. We need more time to closely examine our socioeconomic issues. We view the PA as a reliable basis for a long-term solution to the climate change problem, but first, Russia needs to create a more solid economy to face the climate change problem.

Russia will continue to make big efforts in order to achieve the commitment we took in 2015. Reducing GHG emissions by 25-30% from 1990 levels by 2030 will allow the Russian Federation to step on the path of low-carbon development compatible with the long-term objective of the increase in global temperature below 2 degrees Celsius.

**TOPIC B - North-South relations - Funding**

The Russian Federation welcomes the agenda of The Green Climate Fund (GCF), the established financial mechanism of the UNFCCC, and the goal to mobilize $100 billion a year by 2020 to develop low carbon emitting technologies, and support developing countries of the world in the fight against climate change.

The fund has per 29th of January 2018 collected $10.3 billion, as a result of many countries contributing to this. Russia applauds this and intends to contribute in the future, as much as the Russian economy allows it. But in all honesty, the by now raised money is, with or without Russia’s help, far from the established goal of the GCF of $100 billion a year by 2020.

Regarding this matter, The Russian Federation believes equity is a key word, and the main responsibility of raising the necessary money lies with Western countries. The historically highest emitting countries and the one’s emitting the most today, should contribute the most to the GCF. For Russia it is of great importance to help all corners of the world with this enormous task.