Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is an essential tool to “rebuild back better”, which allows us to jointly address the three current planetary crises: climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

In this “Decade of Action”, a wide range of transformations are needed to effectively address these interlinked challenges. In this regard, a siloed approach or advances in only a few Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will not be enough.

Argentina has put the environmental agenda at the center of its public policies priorities.

Despite the economic and social situation derived from unsustainable indebtedness and the recession due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in December 2020 we advanced the presentation of our Second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) with a goal to limit our greenhouse gas emissions to a level 25.7% lower than the NDC previously submitted in 2016. Moreover, during the Leaders’ Summit on Climate, our President Alberto Fernández announced that Argentina will increase its NDC goal a 2% further.

The Second NDC also included our Second National Adaptation Communication, and it was developed within the National Climate Change Cabinet, a formal inter-institutional work space established by law that aims to design public policies on climate change through the strategic articulation of the different areas of the national government, subnational governments and civil society actors.

In compliance with the Minimum Standards of Adaptation and Mitigation to Global Climate Change Law, the Cabinet is currently working on the elaboration of a clear and ambitious National Adaptation and Mitigation Plan, which will guide the actions and agreements necessary to meet our commitments.

At the same time, and in order to scale up our action on SCP and advance the overall progress towards SDG 12, we are currently developing a National Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

The central objective of this National Strategy on SCP is to promote the transition towards SCP patterns, incorporating new technologies and SCP practices, based on
innovation and social commitment. It seeks to promote decoupling resource requirements and environmental impacts from the expected economic growth of the country, with a focus on resource efficiency.

- This Strategy is based on scientific assessments from the International Resource Panel and has been enhanced through interministerial cooperation and intersectoral dialogue in the framework of the Cabinet.

- Argentina also Chairs and represents our region in the Ten-Year Framework of Programs on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) adopted by the United Nations at the Rio + 20 Summit in 2012.

- In this sense, international cooperation can be an important tool for driving the implementation of these changes, and for re-aligning the financial flows and exploring new and innovative mechanisms for access to means of implementation, to promote a more sustainable, resilient and inclusive development.