

## **HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2020**

### **Remarks by Ambassador Milenko Skoknic "Protecting the Planet and Building Resilience"**

Thank you very much, President.

The delegation of Chile would like to thank you for your efforts in carrying out this very important Forum, despite the current difficult context the world is facing.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the associated political responses have highlighted the interconnectedness and fragility of our socio-economic systems, affecting especially to the most vulnerable population and putting at risk the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

However, despite the severity of this health crisis, climate action must continue at all levels, as extreme weather events and other climate-related impacts will continue to devastate communities across the globe.

Although Covid-19 caused the postponement of COP 26, the need for parties to fulfil their commitments under the Paris Agreement remains, in particular the submission of new NDCs this year in 2020, which should aim for an increase in global ambition.

This is why Chile, understanding the importance of this commitment, has done its part and presented a new NDC a month ago that translates into a substantial increase in our mitigation objectives, including an absolute goal of reducing emissions and a reaffirmation of our commitment to be carbon neutral by 2050.

We are in a scenario never before seen in a hundred years, however, this health crisis must be an opportunity for a green recovery. We must start now the hard work of designing the measures to ensure that the revival of our economy is compatible with a carbon-free future. In the midst of this terrible pandemic, a window of opportunity is opening: a chance for nations to steer the economy of the 21st century onto a greener, cleaner, healthier and more resilient path.

Green recovery will be a vehicle for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDAs) and advancing the transition to low-carbon, resource-efficient and inclusive economies.

Thank you very much.