

## WHO Submission – Feedback to the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

**Subject:** Feedback to the High-Level Champions on how to improve the work under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action for enhancing ambition. Full details and questions for consideration are contained in the letter from the High-Level Champions: <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/marrakech-partnership/invitation-to-provide-feedback-to-the-high-level-champions-on-how-to-improve-the-marrakech>

**Mandate:** Decision 1/CP.25, para 28

**Submission:** by World Health Organization (WHO)

*Q1. How would you define success of the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership in terms of enhancing ambition in the next 5 years and beyond?*

Both the High-level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership have played a crucial role in driving the whole-of government, whole-of-society, momentum for climate action needed to halt the climate crisis. Most recently, the Race to Zero campaign spearheaded by the High-Level Champions has recognized the importance of engaging the health community in driving increased action.

For WHO, success would be defined as:

- 1) the successful inclusion and participation of the global health community in the Marrakech Partnership, the High-Level Champions' activities and Race to Zero campaign, including through the mobilization of the health community at large, climate commitments in the health sector, and the implementation and promotion of healthy climate interventions by Party and non-Party stakeholders;
- 2) the mainstreaming of the interlinkages between climate change and human health in Party and non-Party stakeholder climate actions and processes, e.g. by aligning discussions on the recovery from COVID-19 and global climate action; by including health vulnerability and adaptation assessments, as well as health co-benefit analyses in all relevant UNFCCC processes, such as NAPs, NDCs, and the global stocktake; and by securing the prioritization of climate finance to those sectors that are crucial for the health and resilience of people (including agriculture, water, health and the social sector).

*Q2. How can the High-Level Champions and the Marrakech Partnership add the most value and complement existing efforts to drive ambition and transformation in the next 5 years and beyond?*

The Race to Zero campaign has the opportunity to bring together much of the work the High-Level champions and Marrakech Partnership have been doing over the years, as well as bring new communities of stakeholders on board. In that regard, the health community could bring a renewed sense of prioritization and ambition to the Race to Zero and its long-term goals, as they are trusted messengers and an emotionally powerful group of communicators that can help drive ambitious action.

*Q3. How can the High-Level Champions enhance collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders to further catalyze global climate action?*

1) By championing a healthy and green recovery from COVID-19, supporting a coordinated response by Party and non-Party stakeholders in driving increased climate action while protecting the health and wellbeing of people and recovering towards a more healthy, resilient and equitable society. In this regard, WHO has released a Manifesto for a healthy and green recovery, many health and climate groups worldwide are calling for a healthy recovery, and decision-making processes around the world are considering how economic recovery efforts can simultaneously protect our health and drive climate action.

2) The United Nations Secretary-General's 2019 Climate Action Summit led to many coalitions and initiatives in which Party and non-Party stakeholders committed to climate action in 12 different areas. The Summit highlighted how climate action can have tangible and beneficial impacts on people's lives, including on their jobs and health, and served as a springboard for increased climate action. The High-Level Champions and Marrakech partnership could play an important role in the continued coordination, support and tracking of these initiatives and coalitions, and in bringing other communities and actors on board.

*Q4. On the basis of experience so far, how can the Marrakech Partnership be improved for enhancing ambition, including through new and existing tools?*

The Marrakech Partnership and High-Level Champions have increasingly succeeded in making a strong economic case for climate action, which has led to growing participation and commitments from financial actors and other stakeholders. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery efforts, as well as the overwhelming health benefits from climate action, it would be important to make the health case for climate action, e.g. through the health and economic benefits of enhanced NDCs, reduced air pollution from mitigation, the rapid and localized health benefits from climate action at the city and regional level etc.