

Dear H. E. Razan Al Mubarak and H. E. Nigar Arpadarai,

On behalf of Global Optimism - and specifically the Groundswell project - we would like to share some inputs in response to your recent [letter](#).

Firstly, we would like to underscore the critical role of the Climate Champions - and the Marrakech Partnership - since COP22 in strengthening collaboration between Parties and key non-Party stakeholders. As the intergovernmental process shifts its focus from negotiations to implementation, this work has raised awareness of the vital role of the global climate action agenda, as well as driving ambition and action among these Parties and Non-party Stakeholders. We want to acknowledge both the core Secretariat team and the Climate Champions Team in helping to deliver this work. Their efforts have clearly contributed to more dynamism in the action agenda in recent years towards delivering and accelerating a just and equitable transition.

We offer our sincere congratulations and thanks for your leadership. We believe the mandate of the Climate Champions and the Marrakech Partnership should be extended through 2030, in order to continue accelerating progress throughout this decisive decade.

However, since 2016, the climate action ecosystem has grown and evolved significantly. In some areas it has become vastly more complex, more fractured, and more susceptible to a narrative of doom and hopelessness.

Recognising this challenging context - coupled with climate action being perceived as a polarising, rather than mainstream story - we wanted to offer up six recommendations for how the Climate Champions and the Marrakech Partnership can continue adding value to the ecosystem over the years to come:

1. **Provide a unifying space** for the climate community to mix in, building an inclusive movement of movements and recognising that progress on climate action can look different whilst still striving for the same overarching goal;
2. **Champion leadership** and celebrate momentum underway, amplifying (with Partners) the solutions available. Avoid concentrating too much effort on holding actors accountable, as this is better dealt with by stronger regulatory infrastructure;
3. **Embolden the Climate Champions** (and their teams) to always push for higher ambition - ensuring they are always in position to be constructively provocative, set high-ambition goals and challenge the status quo in order to accelerate the transition;
4. **Foster stronger connection points** between real economy leaders and the party driven process, in order to point to the specific support non-Party stakeholders can provide to Parties. Through stronger connection, Parties could also be made more aware of how much more their real economy leaders could deliver if timely and effective incentives and regulations were put in place. These connection points could also offer an opportunity for Partners to outline in more detail what they in turn need from their real economy leaders (within and beyond climate milestones like CWNYC, COP etc.);
5. **Engage with cultural actors and citizens** through more salient and targeted storytelling. Work with relevant organisations to understand and reflect the perspectives of the public, making climate talk human;
6. **Balance novelty with continuity**: recognise and create space for new leaders to bring their own priorities into the Champions agenda, whilst identifying mechanisms through which to ensure a continuation of former (impactful) projects in order to build momentum over time.

We would be delighted to discuss any of the above at any point.

Yours

The Groundswell team