Dear Secretary-General, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen!

I would like to start by reaffirming **Kazakhstan's** solid and continued commitment to the goals and objectives of the **Paris Agreement.**

As you know, our country has set out the **ambitious** target of achieving **Net Zero by 2060**.

As part of this, we are planning to adopt our first-ever **Low-Carbon Development Strategy** by the end of this year.

This will mark a **historic moment:** the first time a country in **Central Asia** has laid out such an ambitious document.

This strategy will update our Nationally Determined Contributions: in it we will pledge to achieve an unconditional 15% reduction of our carbon emissions by 2030. We have also set a conditional target of 25% that relies on the possibility of additional support from international partners.

Currently, "green" energy represents 3% of Kazakhstan's total energy supply.

We have set a target of <u>increasing our renewable</u> <u>energy supply to 15%</u> – that is at least **7 additional** <u>gigawatts</u> by 2030.

Kazakhstan has the potential to be **a global** green energy powerhouse.

Therefore, we are ready to act as a <u>regional hub for</u> <u>renewables</u> and to drive Central Asia's green transition.

Green hydrogen will play a key role in this transition.

International experts believe that our country can become **one of the ten largest hydrogen exporters**.

In addition, Kazakhstan has a **unique role** to play in the global energy transition, thanks to its significant reserves of **critical raw materials and elements**.

Our country holds more than <u>60 major deposits of</u> <u>precious and non-ferrous metals.</u>

We stand ready to offer these critical resources for **exploration** and **development**.

As well as investing in the future of the energy transition, we are also taking urgent action to mitigate our carbon emissions.

Underpinning this effort, the **National Emissions Trading System** has already proved to be an effective mechanism for stimulating innovations in both emissions reduction and energy efficiency.

Separately, I would like to mention the importance of **technological modernization**. There is a critical need to leverage knowledge-sharing and technology-transfer, including within the Paris Agreement.

Therefore, we are developing a framework which will help Kazakhstan to adapt the best available practices from around the world in green technologies.

At the same time, we are devoting special attention to **stimulating green investment**.

We are prepared to use the **Astana International Financial Center** as a unique **regional investment hub** for green finance.

Dear participants!

Today, the temperature in **Central Asia** is increasing **twice** as fast as the global average.

To meet the urgent demands created by rapid global warming, we have **significant adaptation efforts underway** within our new Environmental Code.

The focus is on the **four** most vulnerable sectors: *water,* agriculture, forestry and disaster risk reduction.

Last year, <u>we joined</u> the **Declaration on Forests and Land Use** and the **Commitment to Education and Youth Involvement.**

We are also on track to meet our ambitious target of planting **2 billion trees** by 2025.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

<u>To conclude</u>, I would like once again to highlight the scale of the unprecedented challenges we face.

In this regard, we require bold solutions, and development models that are fair, equitable, and sustainable.

Kazakhstan is ready to collaborate with all international partners across the entire climate agenda.

Thank you.