



SHEM STATEMENT TO COP26 GLASGOW 2021

During COP26 2021, world leaders are gathering to debate key factors for human survival. Inequities are more flagrant than ever, whereas the poorest and most vulnerable countries and populations worldwide are the ones paying the highest price. The urgency of "negotiators" is far from synchronized with the actual needs of the people. They are paying with lives instead of carbon credits, despaired by the impacts of the pandemic and by the system rules' lack of compassion from the richest to the most disadvantaged.

The United Nations has defined the four main expected achievements from the COP26:

1. Global net-zero by 2050 and keep 1.5 degrees within reach.
2. Adaptation to protect communities and natural habitats.

3. Financial mobilization of at least \$100bn in climate finance per year by 2025 (COP15 target by 2020 was not met), with the participation of international financial institutions, and the private and public sector, aimed at the achievement of goals 1 and 2.

4. Working together to deliver, mainly by finalizing the Paris Rulebook (the detailed rules that make the Paris Agreement operational), and accelerating action to tackle the climate crisis through collaboration between governments, businesses, and civil society.

Although we recognize these as essential commitments to be made, we must highlight that, once again, relevance of public health threats for the planet's sustainability is being neglected. Avoiding the worsening of the current climate crisis must include the principles inherent to the essence of health equity: human rights.

The right to health principle is embedded in the fundamental notion of equity and in the unavoidable need to address planetary health, which includes care for the planet and humans.

Considering health equity a fundamental concept to guide all actions taken by companies, governments, and the civil society, SHEM urges Glasgow 2021 COP26 participants to take concrete measures to achieve rapid, large-scale emission reductions to maintain the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 °C. For example, keen attention should be paid to reducing indoor air pollution associated with cooking in millions of low-income families.

The Sustainable Health Equity Movement urgently calls on governments, economic actors and all of us, citizens, to drastically change our ways of production, consumption and relations, so as to reduce the collective emissions by half in this decade and towards net-zero emissions by 2050, the only way to prevent catastrophic heating, unprecedented inequity between ours and coming generations, and profound damage to nature.