

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Attn: Bureau Chief/Assignment Editor/  
Editor Reporter/ Chief Reporter/Chief  
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## **“There is no planet b campaign: Go Green Rally; Cycling Event”**

Islamabad, Friday, November 20, 2015: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Professor Ahsan Iqbal addressed the participants of the ‘Go Green Rally,’ cycling event, jointly organized by SDPI and Heinrich Boell Stiftung, on Friday and announced that land acquisition for building Basha dam has been settled for the early completion of the project .

Irresponsibility of the developed countries has made Pakistan a victim of climate injustice, highly vulnerable to impacts of climate change. That is why the Government of Pakistan is preparing a sizable blend of clean renewables for an energy mix, at a time when new industrial revolution along with the China Pakistan Energy Corridor is at the door steps. Mr. Iqbal praised the cycling event and the “No planet b campaign”, which will promote climate awareness among the youth and across the country.

The cycling event attended widely, started from hbs’s office in G-6/3 and after completing a lap across the population and commercial Centres of the Capital City culminated at a seminar Chaired by Professor Ahsan Iqbal, in which Asad Umer, MNA of PTI representing the federal capital, and Marvi Memon, chairwoman of the Benazir Income Support Programme, also spoke. Asad Umer also shared good news on renewables. He said projects of more than 4,000 megawatt capacity are being pursued for completion aimed at reducing the carbon footprint. He emphasized that demand and consumption side is to be made efficient, while the supply side is taken care of. Marvi Memon praised the event and said, the only way to mitigate climate change is to sensitize vulnerable communities, where local knowledge and wisdom lies. Blending local expertise into policy initiatives is a sure bet for success. She said, through income support programmes, the Federal Government is already supporting the poor and vulnerable communities and individuals.

Appraising the delegates and participants, Country Director of Heinrich Boell Stiftung, Marion Regina Mueller explained that working on resource equity, energy innovations and climate change is the primer goal of the foundation in Pakistan. Now, in the run up to the COP 21, being held in November-December in Paris, ‘Global Action Days’ are being celebrated by the civil society activists across the world. Unfortunately, a similar statement by civil society is not possible in Paris due to the recent tragic events, which has increased the importance of civil society actions in other countries.

Mome Saleem, Programme Coordinator at hbs, explained the importance of the campaign theme, “There is no planet b. Let’s change our policies. Not the climate.” She said that there is a dire need for collective action on the issue of climate change and especially of climate

justice. True Climate Justice needs commitments of the world's political leadership to ensure that those who contributed most to the climate crisis also will have to do most to solve it and that those hardest hit by climate change will be protected. The president of Pakistan Youth Climate Network (PYCN), Yasier Dil at the occasion said, it is the responsibility of youth to protect the climate for the sake of its own future and for the next generations to come. So, Youth should be engaged in all such activities.  
Ends.