ADDRESSING THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON PEOPLE’S RIGHT TO HEALTH

1. MORE AMBITIOUS MEASURES
   - Take more ambitious measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change under the Paris Agreement at all levels.
   - Climate action plans and strategies should be transparently financed and designed in consultation with affected people.
   - Climate action strategies and Impact assessments should be used to ensure that climate action respects all human rights, including the right to health.

2. ACCESS TO REMEDIES
   - Strengthen mechanisms to address climate-related harms on health and deliver climate justice.
   - Governments, National Human Rights Institutions and other actors can combine analysis and action to promote remedies for individual violations of human rights and bridge systemic policy gaps relating to climate change.
   - Encourage communities to exercise their rights to health by removing barriers such as high costs of litigation.

3. BETTER COOPERATION
   - Enhance cooperation on the basis of the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility to ensure adequate-funding of, and research into, adaptation and mitigation efforts.
   - Promote equitable access to technology related to health, including, if necessary, the lowering of intellectual property standards and facilitation of technology transfer.
   - Create a special climate justice fund with contributions from both the public and private sectors.

4. RESILIENT SYSTEMS
   - Develop resilient health systems and infrastructure, including for water and sanitation.
   - Promote universal health coverage and social protection floors, including in emergency responses, paying special attention to the needs of persons, groups and peoples in vulnerable situations.
   - Ensure that early-warning information is publicly available and easily accessible.

5. PROMOTE EFFECTIVE MONITORING
   - Promote effective understanding and monitoring of climate action and its impact on people’s right to health.
   - Specific indicator frameworks should be developed to track the impacts of climate change on health across demographic groups.
   - Use disaggregated data to inform inclusive, effective and rights-compliant climate action.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Climate change mitigation and adaptation measures should capitalize on climate and health co-benefits that lead to direct reductions in the burden of ill-health, enhance community resilience, alleviate poverty and address global inequity. These could include measures that: reduce local emissions of air pollutants through improved energy efficiency and cleaner energy sources; promote active transport systems leading to lower emissions and better health; and provide access to reproductive health services and family planning.

A rights-based approach can strengthen international, regional and national policy, and promote long-term human health.

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