



**Speech of the Deputy Minister of Environment  
Dr. Jassim Abdulaziz Hammadi  
At the Second Global South Voice Summit  
17/ Nov / 2023**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

**We extend to you our best greetings from the land of Mesopotamia, the land of civilizations**

**First of all, I would like to thank the invitation to the second virtual summit of the Global South Voice (VOGSS) based on the slogan Together for Growth for All with the confidence of all and based on nature-based solutions.**

**I will focus my talk today on the challenges facing Iraq**

**The Republic of Iraq is one of the Arab countries most affected by climate change, and with the passage of time, in recent years, extreme weather events and their intensity have begun to increase, such as dust**

storms, droughts, sand and dust. storms, resulting in more social impacts around the world.

Nature-based solutions are solutions to societal challenges inspired and supported by nature. These include "actions to protect, manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptably, while providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits".

The nature-based solutions approach is well known and applied in the Arab States region, which is exposed to a range of natural hazards resulting from weather-rainy phenomena e.g. desertification, sandstorms and heat

One of the most important solutions is that adaptation to climate change is a top priority for our developing countries, especially in Iraq, which suffers from the most severe consequences of the phenomenon, especially related to water scarcity, drought, land desertification and the threat to food security, and from this point of view, Iraq calls for dealing seriously with any unilateral measures that contribute to the exacerbation and consequences of climate change, and we also emphasize the importance of dealing with adaptation issues in full swing with efforts to reduce emissions and the exit of the next session of the

**Conference of the Parties. with a clear implementation plan, to operationalize the global adaptation goal under agreement.**

**The ability of our developing countries to promote climate action and raise its ambition depends on the means and mechanisms available to them for implementation, foremost of which is climate financing, and we are concerned about the current gap in climate finance between what developing countries need to implement their commitments, in accordance with the Paris Agreement, and what is available.**

**In the same context, we call, through this summit and all climate conferences, the need to direct funding to adaptation efforts and based on nature-based solutions in a way that contributes to enhancing climate action in developing countries and lifts many of the burdens resulting from the previous repercussions.**

**In conclusion, I would like to emphasize Iraq's aspiration to work in an effort to produce balanced results in the interest of all international forums, especially the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change.**

**Thanks...**