

**World Leaders Summit - Dialogue III**  
**Building a more prosperous development**  
**path - Matching the scale of the moment**

**5 October 2021**

**Statement by**

**Imran Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan**

**Remarks by Prime Minister IMRAN KHAN  
at the World Leaders Summit Dialogue III**  
*“Building a more prosperous development path:  
Matching the scale of the moment”*  
**15<sup>th</sup> United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**  
(5 October 2021)

**Excellencies**

**Madam Secretary General of the UN Conference on Trade and Development  
Ladies and Gentlemen**

First of all, I want to say that I am pleased to join this very important dialogue.

Secondly, I want to congratulate Barbados for holding this conference.

There are four issues I want to talk about Madam Secretary General.

**Number one** is the distribution of **COVID Vaccine**. Unfortunately, the richer countries are vaccinating their people twenty times faster than the developing world. This inequity has to be removed. So, I would ask the Chair that you must try your best to make sure the vaccine has more equitable distribution.

**Second**, Debt Relief. I had campaigned for **debt relief for the developing world**. Everything, due to COVID-19 related lockdown, has disproportionately affected the poorer nations (and) the developing countries. So, I would recommend the debt relief should continue till the pandemic is over.

**Third, Climate Finance**. Madam Secretary General, the developing world and I specifically speak about the small island states and of course countries like Pakistan who have been, who are, more vulnerable to climate change than the richer countries. The small islands because of the rising sea-levels (and) countries like Pakistan because we depend upon water from our glaciers for our survival; and climate change has increased the rate of glacier melting phenomenally since the weather has got warmer. So, I would request that the richer countries contribute in climate finance and specially help those countries whose contribution to carbon emissions are minimal and yet are disproportionately affected by climate change.

And **Fourthly**, Madam Secretary General for me as crucial as the impact of climate change is the illicit flow of money from the poor countries (and) the developing countries to richer capitals, to tax havens and to haven destinations.

According to the FACTI Panel, seven trillion dollars are parked in these tax havens and haven destinations. And also, annually, one trillion dollars leave the developing countries towards these safe havens. And this plunder is taking place because of the corrupt ruling elites of the developing world.

### **Madam Secretary General**

This is a huge crisis. In the coming years this is going to get worse. This has to stop and the only way it will stop is if the recommendations made by FACTI panel are implemented. Unfortunately, for richer countries which can do something about it, there is no incentive or motivation to do anything. What it is doing is that it is crushing the people in the developing world. Not just because the money is siphoned-off which should be spent on human development. But because when the money leaves their countries, it affects their currency which devalues and then leads to inflation and causes poverty. But eventually, even the richer countries will get affected because right now what you see of economic migrants is a trickle. People are dying to get to richer countries. But if this inequality, which is huge and the gap between the rich and poor countries and between rich and poor in the poor countries is increasing. If this trend continues, the richer countries will have to build walls to keep out the hordes of economic migrants.

So, I urge you Madam Secretary General to do everything to raise awareness that this huge injustice which is being done to the people of the developing world is stopped.

**Thank You.**

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