

Group of Friends on “Climate and Security”

Joint position

We, the undersigned,

Aware that climate change is among the key challenges for the international community in the 21st century,

Convinced that in addition to our dedicated efforts to mitigate emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change, we need to cope with the security component of the effects of climate change.

Further convinced that absent a clear international response, effects of climate change can deprive people of their livelihoods, increase the risk of states failing, may cause distributional conflicts and thus lead to situations with implications for regional stability, peace and security,

Concerned that adverse effects of climate change may, in the long run, aggravate certain existing threats to international peace and security, destabilize conflict regions further or create new conflicts within and between countries,

Also concerned that possible security implications of loss of territory of some States caused by sea-level-rise may arise, in particular in small low-lying island States,

Strongly concerned that peace and security impacts of the effects of climate change will increasingly unfold in the years to come and affect millions of people on all continents and that the most vulnerable often are the ones most adversely affected,

Welcoming increased attention and determination to work towards countering the security implications of the effects of climate change, including by regional and subregional organizations through their work on the link between climate change and security,

Sharing the belief, that information and risk analysis on possible security implications of climate change is an indispensable basis for the United Nations system to discharge its functions and therefore calling to strengthen information sharing on climate risks and management within the UN system inter alia based on the present Climate Security Mechanism,

Call for a biennial country- or region-specific and forward-looking report of the Secretary General on climate related security risks, including concrete recommendations for action by UN organs, which draws on available relevant information inside and outside the UN system and avoids duplication with otherwise requested reporting.