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Eidgenössisches Departement für Umwelt, Verkehr,  
Energie und Kommunikation UVEK

# Joint Statement on bilateral Cooperation under the Article 6 of the Paris Agreement

**H.E. Simonetta Sommaruga, Federal Councilor for the Environment, Transport,  
Energy and Communication of Switzerland**

**H.E. Kirla Echegaray Alfaro, Minister for the Environment of Peru**

**We the ministers for the environment of Switzerland and Peru have signed on October 20<sup>th</sup> 2020 a bilateral agreement to protect our planet. The agreement facilitates joint action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It is the first treaty of this nature under the Paris Climate Agreement. The cooperation between the two countries will establish a standard for international climate projects, respecting strict safeguards for the environment as well as for human rights. Due to the Covid pandemic the signing ceremony was held remotely through a video conference.**

20 October 2020

The Paris Agreement promotes voluntary cooperation between countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Today, the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Peru signed a bilateral Agreement under the framework of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

This bilateral Agreement, the first of its kind, establishes the legal basis for transferring reductions of greenhouse gases between the signatories. From 2021 onwards, it provides the foundation for enhanced Swiss investments in climate action in Peru. The agreement is mutually beneficial: Peru will benefit from accelerated low-carbon development with environmental and social benefits and it will allow Switzerland to implement its enhanced reduction ambition, as defined in its Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement.

The Paris Agreement sets conditions for the international transfer of mitigation outcomes. On this regards, Peru and Switzerland show global leadership in their operationalization: A set of criteria to ensure environmental integrity, the promotion of sustainable development and the respect of human rights are defined in the Agreement. Likewise, the avoidance of double counting of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs) is at the heart of the bilateral Agreement. At the same time, the Agreement ensures that the investments under Article 6 are additional to international climate finance. Finally, commonly agreed monitoring and verification procedures will ensure that the ITMOs are real and additional to any that would otherwise occur.

With this bilateral Agreement, Peru and Switzerland celebrate their strengthened cooperation on climate change. Both governments remain committed to deliver a full multilateral rulebook under the Paris Agreement at the next UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26, November 2021).

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K.E.