

PRESS RELEASE

Amber Rudd MP, Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change, underlines UK commitment to climate action despite decision to leave EU

London, June 29: Giving a keynote speech at the opening of the second day of the Business & Climate Summit in London's Guildhall, UK Secretary of State for Energy & Climate Change, **Amber Rudd MP** re-affirmed UK leadership on action against climate change despite vote to leave the European Union.

She said: *"Climate change has not been downgraded as a threat. It remains one of the most serious long term risks to our economic and national security.*

I was lucky enough to lead the world-class team of British diplomats at last year's Paris climate talks. Our efforts were central to delivering that historic deal.

"And, the UK will not step back from that international leadership. We must not turn our back on Europe or the world ... So while I think the UK's role in dealing with a warming planet may have been made harder by the decision last Thursday, our commitment to dealing with it has not gone away."

She also went on to reaffirm commitments to low carbon investment, saying: *"Investment in renewables has increased by 42% since 2010. In 2014, 30% of all of Europe's renewable energy investment took place in the UK. Annual support for renewables is expected to double during this Parliament to more than £10 billion."*

Ms Rudd confirmed the Government's decision on the 5th carbon budget would be made tomorrow.

The Business & Climate Summit – the annual gathering of leading global businesses and politicians dedicated to climate action – met over two days (June 28-29) at London's Guildhall, in the heart of the world's leading international financial centre, to address how business can, and should, respond to the historic Paris Agreement reached by world governments last December.

The rest of the day's speeches can be watched live at <http://www.businessclimatesummit.com/>

The Summit was addressed by a stellar cast of global CEOs and international policymakers over its two-day duration including: **Christiana Figueres**, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC; **Paul Polman**, CEO Unilever, **Patrick Pouyanne**, CEO, Total; **Michel Madelain** President & COO, Moodys Investors Service; **Felipe Calderón**, former President of Mexico and Chair of the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate; **Sir Martin Sorrell**, CEO, WPP; **Ségolène Royal**, French Minister of the Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs, and, President, COP21; **Kerry Adler**, CEO, SkyPower; **Steve Williams**, CEO, Suncor; **Saker Nusseibeh**, CEO, Hermes Investment Management; **Jean-Louis Chaussade**, CEO, Suez; **Rachel Kyte**, CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL); **Sir Roger Gifford**, Chairman, City of London's Green Finance Initiative; **Mahendra Singhi**, CEO and Whole Time Director, Dalmia Cement (Bharat); and **Jean-Dominique Senard**, CEO, Michelin.

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About the Business & Climate Summit

The [Business & Climate Summit](#) is the leading annual forum for businesses, investors and policymakers on climate action. It is where business and governments come together to agree a roadmap for reaching net zero emissions over the next half century. It will demonstrate how low carbon strategies are good for business and good for growth and it will build the partnerships needed to scale up and accelerate the low carbon transition.

The Summit is being convened by a network of partners that represent over 6 million businesses worldwide, including the International Chamber of Commerce, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the We Mean Business coalition, Entreprises pour l'Environnement, UN Global Compact France, The Climate Group, Consumer Goods Forum, La Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc, The City of London Corporation, Business for Social Responsibility, Casablanca Finance City Authority.

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