



Glasgow November 2nd, 2021

Greenland's request for withdrawal from the territorial reservation for the Paris Agreement

Dear Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen

Naalakkersuisut – the Government of Greenland addressed on October 25th, 2021, the issue regarding reconsideration of Greenland's territorial reservation for the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC.

It is with great joy and honor that I can inform you, that it is the wish of the Naalakkersuisut, that the territorial reservation of the Kingdom of Denmark for Greenland to the Paris Agreement must be withdrawn. It is the wish of the Naalakkersuisut that the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), shall be informed about this decision during the COP26 in Glasgow. Greenland can fully support the purpose of the Climate Convention, and especially the objective of the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping the global temperature well under the pre-industrial level of 2 degrees, and in continuing the efforts to minimize the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees.

The Arctic and Greenland has been particularly hit by the rise in temperatures, and it is evident that Greenland wishes to shoulder its fair share of the shared but differentiated responsibilities and respective possibilities in light of different national circumstances.

Following the information regarding the wish from Greenland about the withdrawal of the territorial reservation for Greenland, we will begin a process of approval in Greenland, in which Naalakkersuisut will submit a proposal to Inatsisartut – Parliament of Greenland, to join the Paris Agreement, respecting the final parliamentary process of approval in Inatsisartut. This process will in principle take place following the same pattern as the ratification processes of other countries. It is expected that Greenland's process of approval to the Paris Agreement can be completed in 2022.

When Greenland's expected process of approval has been completed, the Naalakkersuisut wishes that the notification of Greenland's final ratification of the Paris Agreement shall be handed over to the UN Secretary General.

When the approval process has been finalized by Greenland, we will launch the work of formulating the Greenland climate strategy in accordance with the instructions of the Paris Agreement, in such wise that Greenland can notify a Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which will serve as Greenland's contribution to the fight against global warming. The coming NDC of Greenland will be made in accordance with Greenlandic conditions and circumstances.

A fundamental requirement for Greenland's accession to the Paris Agreement will take place as part of the Kingdom of Denmark, and under the following fundamental conditions: future climate



objectives under own NDC will not affect or burden Denmark's own commitments under the Danish NDC. Similarly, Denmark's own commitments, including those promoted through the EU, will not be a burden to Greenland.

As a field of responsibility, Climate has been transferred to Greenland and is thus under competence of the Greenland Self-Government authorities pursuant to Act no. 473 of 12 June 2009 - on Greenland Self-Government.

As part of the Kingdom of Denmark, Greenland shall, via the national Danish focal point communicate/submit its own NDC-climate contributions to the UNFCCC in the future.

It is the intention that the coming NDC of Greenland to a greater extent will impose an obligation to Greenland to ensure the green transition of the Greenlandic society, which still will provide space and opportunity for the economic development of a self-governing country, in which the majority of the population can claim rights for development as indigenous peoples. This will be respected in a future Greenlandic NDC.

Naalakkersuisut has informed The Conservation and Environment Committee, as well as The Foreign and Security Policy Committee of the Inatsisartut, about Naalakkersuisut's decision of October 25th, 2021, regarding the withdrawal of Greenland's territorial reservation of the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC.

Yours sincerely

(sign.)

Múte Bourup Egede

Prime Minister