



Präsidenschaftskanzlei

Vienna, 16. November 2022
Ref.: S120050/90-IA/2022

Dear students,

On behalf of Federal President Alexander Van der Bellen I would like to thank you for your letter dated 3 November 2022 with regards to the President's participation at COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh and the need for more ambitious climate action.

In his national statement at COP27, the Federal President warned that we are far from reaching the 1,5°C goal and that we are already experiencing the devastating consequences of the climate emergency all around the world. He acknowledged that large parts of the Global South are hit particularly hard by the effects of the climate crisis and announced that Austria will assume its responsibility by significantly increasing its budget for international climate finance, including funding for climate adaptation and loss and damage. However, the President also made clear that we cannot buy ourselves out of the climate crisis and that we must do much more much faster to limit global warming. In his speech, the President also explained that he understands the frustration of young people and that we must do everything we can to ensure a liveable future for generations to come on this beautiful planet.

In the margins of the COP, the Federal President met with the Austrian youth delegates for a frank and fruitful exchange of views. The Federal President is impressed and admires the commitment of young people to fight the climate crisis and seizes every opportunity to elevate their important voices.

Finally, allow me to convey the President's best wishes and his appreciation for your commitment to fight the climate emergency.

Yours sincerely,

Shari Wein-Wislocki
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