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**Pakistan's Perspective presented by Dr. Sharmila Sahiba Faruqui Hashaam
during Workshop on Triple Win: Protecting Climate, Health and Economy
by Cutting Methane**

Honourable Chair, distinguished colleagues,

For Pakistan, climate change is not a theory — it is our lived reality. In 2022, one-third of our country lay underwater. More than 33 million people were displaced, crops and homes destroyed. In monetary terms it inflicted an estimated US \$30 billion in damages and economic losses. And yet, our share in global greenhouse-gas emissions is less than one percent.

This is the injustice we live with, and it is why we speak today with urgency.

Among all the greenhouse gases, methane is our fastest opportunity for relief. It is 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide over twenty years, but it stays in the atmosphere for only about a decade.

That means — if we act now — we can slow warming within our lifetime, not centuries from now.

Cutting these emissions is not only possible — it is practical.

On our Part, In agriculture, we are training farmers in water-efficient rice cultivation and better animal feed and manure management — simple steps that lower methane and protect yields.

In waste management, our cities are shifting to composting, biogas, and landfill-gas recovery, turning pollution into power and livelihoods. In the energy sector, we are working with partners to find and fix leaks — every leak repaired saves fuel, saves money, and saves the atmosphere.

All this is part of Pakistan's updated Nationally Determined Contribution (2025), which pledges to cut projected emissions by 50 percent by 2035 — nearly half of that conditional on international finance and technology support. Moreover,

Pakistan has pledged with concrete rules to curb methane: it joined the Global Methane Pledge in October 2021 and has since embedded methane-cutting priorities in its latest climate plan (NDC 3.0, Sept. 2025), which outlines sectoral roadmaps for emissions cuts in energy, agriculture and waste. In oil & gas, binding E&P regulations already restrict routine methane-intensive practices: the Pakistan Onshore Petroleum (E&P) Rules require operators not to flare or vent natural gas without prior written approval.

Colleagues, cutting methane is more than climate policy — it is public-health policy and economic policy.

Every tonne we reduce means cleaner air, fewer respiratory diseases, and healthier communities.

Every captured unit of methane becomes energy, creating jobs and stability for our people.

So this is a triple win — for our climate, for our health, and for our economy.

But to achieve it, developing countries like Pakistan need more than words. We need justice in climate action — not charity.

Access to climate finance, technology, and partnerships, in accordance with the established principles of Equity and Common But Differentiated Responsibilities, is essential if our ambition is to match our vulnerability. Pakistan has received only a fraction of the international climate finance it needs for adaptation and recovery, with pledges often falling short of the country's urgent requirements. This mismatch between Pakistan's minimal role in causing the crisis and the severe toll it suffers underscores the deep climate injustice facing the country.

Distinguished delegates, the world cannot afford to wait.

If we succeed, we give our children cleaner skies, healthier lungs, and a safer planet to inherit.

Let us make this the decade of decisive action — for a cooler earth, a fairer economy, and a more liveable future.

Thank you.
