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## Response to COP29 High-Level Champion Appointment

**30th January 2024 | Geneva, Switzerland:**

SHE Changes Climate would like to publicly recognise the recent appointment of H.E Nigar Arpadarai as COP29 High-Level Champion, and plans for her to work closely with COP28 High-Level Champion H.E Razan Al Mubarak. This collaborative design, particularly between two women, offers hope that inclusion and diversity will continue to be upheld in future climate decision-making processes.

With Arpadarai and Al Mubarak working together, we see an opportunity for them to build on a legacy started 7 years ago by Hakima El Haite (COP22 High-Level Champion, Morocco) and Laurence Tubiana (COP21 High-Level Champion, France). These were the pioneer High-Level Champions, though after their tenures, only men were appointed to these prominent positions in subsequent COPs.

That said, we urge H.E Nigar Arpadarai to become a champion of both inclusive climate action and human rights at a global level as the interconnectedness of these issues cannot and will not be ignored.

We conclude with a note of gratitude to Nigel Topping who has been a tireless advocate for inclusion and diversity, as well as the appointment of a female High-Level Champion for COP29.

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