

### One Earth, One Duty: The Time to Act is Now

We are living through environmental crises, and the time to act is now. Barack Obama once said, "We are the first generation to feel the effect of climate change and the last generation who can do something about it." Our throwaway culture has turned the earth into a dumping ground, polluting land, waterways and air. This pollution is not just damaging nature, it's harming our health, with rising cases of respiratory illnesses, cancers and other conditions linked to environmental exposure. Yet, we often turn a deaf ear to this reality.

However, within this challenge lies a chance for change. Repairing instead of replacing, reusing instead of discarding and choosing sustainable options over convenience can transform our future. "We do not need to use what we cannot reuse," I restated.

Beyond individual efforts, strong policies like carbon pricing and the polluter-pay principle can push industries toward greener practices. Every action matters, be it recycling, planting trees or educating others. As Arthur Ashe said, "Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can." This planet is our shared home. Protecting it is not just a responsibility, it's a duty.