



To Mukhtar Babayev  
COP29 President-Designate  
Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Azerbaijan

### **Response to Green Digital Action**

Minderoo Foundation commends the ongoing work of the International Telecommunication Union and COP29 Presidency in driving the Green Digital Action initiative together. This collaborative effort is essential in addressing the urgent climate crisis and accelerating the transition to a sustainable digital future.

We welcome the introduction by the COP Presidency of the first-ever Digitalisation Day at COP and the development of the Declaration on Green Digital Action. These developments demonstrate a strong commitment to leveraging digital technologies to mitigate climate change.

Furthermore, we wholeheartedly support the UN Secretary-General's call to protect everyone from hazardous weather, water, or climate events through life-saving early warning systems. By harnessing the power of digital technologies, we can significantly enhance early warning systems and save countless lives.

Minderoo Foundation convenes the Lethal Humidity Global Council, which brings together scientists from leading global research and academic institutions to exchange the latest scientific insights and to develop and advocate for urgent, large-scale policy solutions that are crucial in addressing the threat posed by lethal humidity and heat.

In September this year, Minderoo Foundation announced US\$4 million worth of new research to address lethal humidity and heat. A global early warning system for deadly humid heatwaves was among 10 projects that were announced at UN Headquarters during the Summit of the Future.

Lethal Humidity Global Council members are utilising machine learning to quantify and predict excess mortality from climate-induced heat and humidity events. Climate forecasts will be used to develop a robust early warning system for deadly heatwaves.

This will enable the first global forecasts of excess mortality from lethal humidity, providing up to 6 months warning. These predictions will be made widely accessible via a public portal to empower communities and health authorities. It will also include the development of ten case studies on the most vulnerable cities in Southeast Asia and Africa. There is strong alignment with the goals of the Early Warnings for All initiative.



New technologies represent both a challenge and an opportunity to address the climate crisis. Artificial intelligence can be both energy-intensive and used to propagate climate misinformation. However, we do recognise the significant value that these technologies can bring through responsible use in addressing some of the deadliest impacts of climate change.

We know that achieving Real Zero is the only viable path forward in addressing climate change. Real Zero refers to the complete elimination of all greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the extraction and burning of fossil fuels.

While Net Zero is widely adopted globally, it is increasingly criticised for failing to deliver genuine emission reductions. Net Zero enables entities to continue to rely on offsets or defer decarbonisation, which hinders progress on the necessary energy transition and real emissions reduction.

The Declaration on Green Digital Action is a welcome step in advancing climate resilience. Minderoo Foundation stands ready to support your efforts in this crucial initiative.