Statement and question of Follow This at the Annual General Meeting of Shell plc; London, May 23, 2023

Good morning Mr. chairman, directors, and fellow shareholders, and a warm welcome to center stage, Mr. Sawan. Thank you for the opportunity to speak at today's AGM.

Science is clear: to limit global warming to 1.5°C, as agreed by 194 countries in the Paris Climate Agreement, the world must almost halve emissions by 2030.

Our company, one of the highest emitters in the world, according to its own Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) reporting, has no targets that will lead to substantial absolute emissions reductions by 2030.

This board is determined to cling to their carbon-based business model as long as possible {with the excuse that the profits in renewables are not as handsome. Your board ignores that the excessive profits of turning hydrocarbons into petrodollars will be over as soon as fossil fuel companies will have to pay for climate damage. Your board refuses to use the current windfall profits to explore new business models at scale.} As PGGM, one of the Climate Action 100+ lead investors point out, “No independent, third-party source shows that Shell is Paris aligned in 2030.”

Let’s face it, if Shell had a Paris-aligned target for 2030, the board would not urge their shareholders to vote against shareholder resolution 26, that requests no more and no less than a Paris-aligned Scope 3 target for 2030.

Therefore, I will not waste anyone’s time in trying to convince the board today, and I address you, fellow shareholders.

Your board is only determined to cling to hydrocarbon because they think that is what their shareholders want.

And your board will only choose a different road if you, the owners of the company, vote for change.

You can do so by voting for shareholder resolution 26 requesting a 2030 Scope 3 emissions reduction target in line with the Paris Climate Agreement.

Today, when the votes of this AGM are shown, we will know how many shareholders are real stewards of the global economy and how many shareholders enable Shell to continue to cause climate breakdown and jeopardize the long-term future of the company.

{Because ultimately, it is in the Company's and its shareholders’ best interest to pursue the opportunities the energy transition presents; this will also pre-empt risks of losing access to capital markets, the job market, policy interventions, litigation, liability for the costs of climate change, disruptive innovation, and stranded assets.}
As long as investors enable Big Oil to cause climate breakdown with their votes against Paris-alignment, oil majors will hang on to their fossil business model as long as possible, investing in fossil fuel extraction far outside the boundaries of the Paris Accord, lobby against climate legislation, refrain from investing in alternatives at scale, and even ignore court rulings. Don’t forget, Shell is largely ignoring the Dutch court ruling to reduce all emissions this decade.

An important effect of Follow This Climate resolution is to provide clarity.

First, clarity that the board of Shell does not want to drive down emissions this decade – Shell’s consistent advice against the Follow This climate resolution was crucial evidence in the court ruling.

Second, clarity on which investors are determined to drive down emissions this decade by voting in favour and which investors enable Shell to postpone emission reductions by voting against.

We thank all investors who voted for change and encourage all other investors to follow their leadership in the future.

The only decision you have to take is to decouple short-term profits from long-term risk.

**QUESTION**

For your clarity, fellow shareholders, I will ask the chairman one question.

Mr. chairman,

Can Shell be Paris-aligned without large-scale absolute Scope 3 emissions reductions by 2030?

*Chair and CEO explain why they believe to be Paris aligned*

Thank you for your answer. The question was: **can Shell be Paris-aligned without large-scale absolute Scope 3 emissions reductions by 2030?**

You said Shell is Paris-aligned without large-scale emissions reductions by 2030.

Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Sawan, you know this is not true. The world must almost halve emissions by 2030 and you maintain that Shell, one of the highest emitters in the world, doesn’t have to cut emissions. You are not only misleading your shareholders, you are insulting their intelligence.

As PGGM already said, “No independent, third-party source shows that Shell is Paris aligned in 2030.” Dear shareholders, hope you remember this exchange when you cast your vote next time.

Fellow shareholders, this company will only change if you vote for change.

Thank you.