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Executive Secretary
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFCCC Secretariat
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Dear Sir

Early Submission of Information and Views

This has reference to your letter number ODES/COP14/09 dated 09 January 2009 regarding the early submission and views. I am pleased to submit the following views of the Government of Sri Lanka.

3. The fulfillment of the Bali Action Plan and the comments of the agreed outcome to be adopted by the conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session (AWG-LCA)

1. A shared vision for long- term cooperative action

Sri Lanka would like to join with other parties to implement the long term cooperative actions to fulfill the ultimate objective of the convention.

Sri Lanka intends to initiate several programmes on developing adaptation and mitigation measures focusing sustainable development with the financial and technical support of international community.

Therefore, we request AWG to consider the proper mechanism to obtain financial and technical support of Annex I parties to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change.

Sri Lanka has taken into consideration the Ecological Aspect, Climate Aspect and Distribution Aspect of Wealth. Incorporating these aspects into Human Development Index (HDI) we have developed an index called Sustainable Human Development Index (SHDI).

We request all countries to look at this new concept called SHDI and reevaluate their position.

2. Enhanced National /international action on mitigation of climate change,

Sri Lanka has taken action to identify the gaps related to implement the mitigation measures, baseline and mitigation scenarios and projections, and new options for mitigation as well as the barriers for mitigation focusing on formulating policy framework to be incorporated into national development plans.

The Government of Sri Lanka established the Sri Lanka Carbon Fund with a view to improve our participation in CDM and multilateral financial assistance to enhance such institution mechanism would be important. Sri Lanka need capacity enhancement in bundling small scale projects, implementing policy CDM, programmatic CDM and REDD initiatives. A mechanism where developing countries can see technical expertise, financial assistance for verification and validation are essential. Validation and verification should be streamlined and capacities of DOEs need to be improved.

3. Enhance action on adaptation,

- Addapting to climate change may sometimes require "hard" infrastructure, such measures will be insufficient to address the full scope of climate change impacts.
- What we have learned is that we need to look after our natural environment as the most effective response to climate change.
- It will be imperative to ensure that ecosystems that support biodiversity and provide all of our people with food, water and sources of income remain intact and interconnected to allow for nature and people to adjust to changing environmental conditions.
- Incorporating ecosystems into adaptation plans are most important for conservation, development and poverty alleviation.
- Not only do healthy coral reefs and mangroves provide a buffer from increasing storm surges, but they will also continue to supply the ecosystem services upon which coastal communities depend for their livelihoods, including, for example, fisheries and tourism.
- Maintaining a healthy natural environment is the best way to build resilience to impacts such as rising sea levels, increased and strong surges associted with storms.
 - Sri Lanka invites parties to join us in pursuing ecosystem-based adaptation as a key consideration in our collective approach to tackling climate change.
- Most importantly, for all this we urge the international community to focus on urgent need for adequate and predictable financial resources for the implementation of adaptation.

Risk Reduction and Risk Management

We know that tropical ocean especially in Western Pacific and Indian Ocean a slight increase of Sea Surface Temperature associated with sea level rise, more valiant and frequent cyclone and other weather related extreme events are to be expected. These definitely affect Tropical Island nations and low lying coastal areas of all these are developing countries.

Therefore, it is necessary to put in place national and international tools to respond to these event and management of risks associated. In this regard networking, information sharing, data exchanging and capacity building are very important.

Yours sincerely

Dr W L Sumathipala

Director / Climate Change Division

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Sri Lanka