

STATEMENT

OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
to the

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**Mr. President,
Your Excellences,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

Let me begin by expressing the warmest thanks to the Government and the German people, for hosting these significant Conferences in their beautiful country and the city of Bonn.

After the ratification of Paris Agreement from Albanian Parliament in July 2016, we hope that it will promote to address existing and emerging challenges attributed to the global warming in many, vulnerable countries to climate change, including Albania.

Albania, although a small country with a low emission contribution, is determined to assume its share of responsibility in this process. On behalf of the Albanian Government I guarantee you for the commitment of Albania as a serious partner to the global efforts for the reduction of greenhouse gases emissions, being fully confident that the contribution of a developing country such as Albania, with the respective obligations and responsibilities of our country under the United Nations Framework Convention, and Paris Agreement is very useful to the global challenge;

To that purpose, Albania has finalized the National Strategy on Climate Change (NCCS) and its Mitigation Action Plan (MAP) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP), as well the Second and Third National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP), as the main documents which set the pillars for the implementation of NDC;

Our challenges in this process are related to maintaining the low level greenhouse gases emissions from energy production sector and developing low carbon policies in order to prevent the increase of greenhouse gases emissions from other sectors of the economy and the investments to implement significantly the energy efficiency measures and to start an emission reduction path in transport, industry and building sectors.

Furthermore, Albania is particularly vulnerable to climate change the effects of which are already noticeable in certain sectors, such as agriculture and tourism. It is crucial to establish the climate change adaptation system and to implement measures already identified in NAP document, to protect from negative impacts, reduce possible damage and costs.

To that end, supported by GIZ, the National Adaptation Plan is finalised while the Adaptation Plan for Coastal Zone as part of the 3rd National Communication is trying to mainstream adaptation measures as part of the integrated coastal zone management;

Alignment with the EU climate *acquis* is another important step on the way to implementation of Paris Climate Agreement and the NDC commitments. Ministry of Tourism and Environment, responsible for environment and climate change, supported by EU, developed the draft climate change law to ensure an effective institutional framework at national level that contributes to mitigate the country's GHG emissions and maintain and enhance carbon sinks and reservoirs.

The draft Law "On climate change", together with the draft Decision of Council of Ministers "On establishing a mechanism for monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and other information relevant to climate change" outline the general framework for the Albanian national system for measuring/monitoring and reporting.

As part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change obligations, Albania has submitted the 3rd National Communication, calling for increased cooperation among all sectors: energy, agriculture, forestry, waste management, transport, etc. and mainstreaming gender equality into the climate change policy and actions plans;

We are convinced that multi-lateral and bi-lateral cooperation mechanisms would play essential role in success of our undertakings toward to the implementation of the Convention and Paris Agreement. Albania is benefitting for instance, from the cooperation with EU, GIZ, UNDP and UNEP for implementing projects to address concerns related to climate change and challenges associated with sustainable development.

Within this perspective, it is needless to say that our efforts should strongly focus on increased cooperation within ourselves, in the climate change, green opportunities.

I hope that the deliberations of this Conference will contribute to move ahead in order to complete the Paris Work Programme by 2018.

Thank you