

*Dear Mr. President, dear Excellencies, distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

***Bula!***

It is a pleasure to be here in the beautiful city of Bonn under the Fijian Presidency of the Conference of the Parties. To be honest, I could never have imagined that German precision and Fijian enthusiasm could complement each other that perfectly. I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to address this plenary again on behalf of Hungary at this decisive time.

I was particularly pleased and excited when I have learnt about the priorities and innovations of the Fijian COP Presidency. The greater involvement of non-party stakeholders in the process is an important and essential precondition of success. The successful carry out of the first Open Dialogue, the introduction of the concept of the Talanoa Spirit are great examples of the out of the box thinking that we all have to exercise. We need creativity, openness, mutual trust, cooperation and determination to solve one of the greatest and most complex problems of our time, climate change. Within the EU, we are constantly exercising it. The recent agreement on the rules of the EU emissions trading system after 2020 is one of the latest sign of our determination.

On top of that, Hungary just made a voluntary contribution to the IPCC Trust Fund, and our second National Climate Change Strategy, aiming for more than 80% of GHG emission reduction until 2050 is pending for approval by the National Parliament.

I am also convinced that guided by good will and common determination of the Parties to the UNFCCC, and remarkably accelerated by the Moroccan and Fijian Presidency, the long-awaited Paris Work Programme will be finalized at COP24 next year in Poland, ensuring the smooth implementation of the historic Paris Agreement.

Naturally, while we focus on the implementation of the Paris Agreement, we should not lose our focus of the pre-2020 actions and we encourage all Parties to do the same. As you may know, the European Union, including Hungary is provisionally applying the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol. I can happily report you that Hungary and the EU as a whole are overachieving their 2020 emission reduction targets prescribed by the Amendment and we are committed to continue to follow this trend in the future. The EU and its Member States intend to deposit their instruments of ratification latest by the end of this year.

Moreover, already now Hungary is doing its share abroad. We are carrying out bilateral climate finance projects, including afforestation and adaptive water management in Uganda, promotion of sustainable irrigation in the Sahel Region, preparation of a National Decarbonisation Roadmap in Montenegro, supporting climate smart agriculture in Mozambique, and sustainable cooling and water system involving wastewater project in South East Asia. A project office preparing for the creation of the Balkan Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Trust Fund has also been set up last month in Hungary.

However, we also have to keep in mind that our activities, agreements or achievements are not standing alone in themselves. They can encourage non-Party stakeholders as well as sub-national actors and send positive signals and hope to the wide public. Therefore, the importance of the outcome and the message of our talks cannot be underestimated.

**Ladies and Gentlemen!**

When I look at the meaningful logo of the Fijian Presidency, the following saying comes to my mind; "You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf"! And it is true indeed. I think it is clear

there is no way back. Even if we face difficulties, the growing momentum created in Paris is unstoppable. Let us learn to surf on it.

*Thank you for your kind attention!*