



**Government of Rwanda
National Statement**

**23rd Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change -
COP23/CMP13/CMA1.2**

Bonn, Germany | 16 November 2017

- Excellencies
- Fellow Ministers
- Distinguished Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to express my appreciation to the Government of Fiji and Prime Minister Bainimarama for your strong leadership at this meeting of the Parties.

I also thank the Federal Republic of Germany for your warm hospitality.

Two years ago we forged an accord of historic consequence. The Paris Agreement stands as testament to what is possible when we come together in common purpose.

Today, while some progress has been made, there remain substantive issues that require our urgent resolve.

We need to increase the pace of developing the Paris Agreement rulebook, we need to quickly address questions on the Adaptation Fund and allow it to serve the Paris Agreement, and we need to ensure the same rigour of transparency that will be applied to emissions reporting is also applied to climate finance and technology transfer.

In doing so, we will be in a better position to achieve the goals we have set for ourselves and reaffirm the message we sent to the world in Paris: a new era of clean, green and equitable development is dawning.

Rwanda's experience has shown us that transformational change is only possible with the right legal and institutional frameworks, paired with comprehensive strategies and policies. We also know that all sectors of society must work as one: government, the private sector, civil society and the scientific community.

By harnessing the best knowledge and latest technology, we can reduce emissions and prepare ourselves for life on a planet that is already significantly warmer and will only get hotter.

But to do so, vulnerable countries like Rwanda need to work with other nations that have the financial and technical know-how to achieve climate resilience. This extends to addressing the very real consequences of a warming planet, including health issues from air pollution and vector borne diseases.

To conclude, I would like to thank Parties for their support of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol.

With the potential to avert half a degree Celsius of warming by the end of the century - and double that if we invest in energy efficiency - the amendment is one practical way to mitigate further emissions.

I encourage nations that have not yet done so to ratify the Amendment and begin the work of phasing out hydrofluorocarbons.

Such demonstrations of tangible action will spur other nations to invest in the important work of climate change mitigation and adaptation, and give hope to citizens that we are addressing the challenge with the seriousness and speed it deserves.

Thank you for your kind attention.