

17th Session of the COP

Durban, December 8, 2011

Statement of the High Level Segment by the Lebanese Delegation

Madam President,

Distinguished delegates,

Madam President,

On behalf on my government, allow me to express my gratitude to the government and people of South Africa for the very warm hospitality and excellent organization of this 17th Conference of Parties/7th CMP.

We carry here in Durban a big responsibility from our people, our communities, our youth and our children to find answers to the future of humanity. Time is running out, we have to deliver. Durban has to deliver.

We need to achieve clear results to regain trust in the multilateral system. We have to be able to give answers and solutions to the problems we are facing and not to give excuses for shortcomings. This requires flexibility and compromise from all of us; addressing global warming requires international cooperation.

Madam President,

In consistence with the concept of common but differentiated responsibilities that we all signed under the convention, Lebanon is already taking bold actions in mitigation and adaptation activities and is willing to do more, in its respective capacities.

The battle against climate change will require an undivided determination and we cannot compromise the future of humanity. Therefore, we believe that the formulation and implementation of low emission and climate resilient development strategies or plans is an act of a shared responsibility and collective solidarity, and a means to achieve the general objective of human development. It would also serve in closing the knowledge gap and unlock each country's respective mitigation potential as well as identify the needs towards building a climate

resilient economy. However it is only fair for developing countries to be provided with the appropriate technical, financial and capacity-building support to develop and keep their development green and sustainable.

We also believe that developing countries such as Lebanon, which are experiencing now more than ever the very real impacts of climate change, also need the continuous and uninterrupted support to identify concrete adaptation actions to be implemented on the ground. We need real and tangible adaptation actions to be put in effect.

Madam President,

We would like to reaffirm our commitment to work together within the UNFCCC process in a positive, proactive and constructive manner to secure an ambitious, comprehensive, fair, balanced and legally-binding agreement on climate change.

However, we need to be reassured that there is commitment to a second commitment period to a legally binding regime in the near future in addition of enhanced mechanism for the implementation of the convention.

We need to be reassured that adequate and sustainable long term finance will be delivered and that the implementation of all agreements continues without any commitment gap.

We need to be reassured that developed countries will take the lead and table higher ambitions in emission reduction and comparable mitigation pledges. We also need a robust MRV system to ensure transparency of these actions.

Madam President,

We need to have a radical change in the way we think, the way we live, and the way we make decisions. That is not short than a new industrial revolution. We have the responsibility to make Durban a success and to make it a reference point in our collective fight against climate change. We must get the job done for our planet.

Thank you.