

**Address By HE Eng.**

**Ali I. Al-Naimi**

**Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources**

**Saudi Arabia**

**Before the**

**20<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP 20)**

**Of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change**

Lima, Peru (10 December 2014)

**In the Name of Allah, Most Merciful, Most Gracious**

**Mr. Chairman,**

**Your Excellencies,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

The Government of Saudi Arabia would like to express its deep gratitude for the Government of the Republic of Peru for its great and distinguished efforts in preparing for this conference, which will provide an opportunity to facilitate and implement decisions paving the way for a new agreement to put into action the obligations set forth in the [UN] Framework Convention on Climate Change, with a view to serving humanity.

Saudi Arabia would like to stress that the new 2015 agreement should focus on two major components: international cooperation and Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs); and we should build on the principles of the Convention, especially the Common but Differentiated Responsibility ; and that rather than re-writing or interpreting the Convention, we should build on the current institutions, commitments, guidelines, and methodologies and commit to the decision made in Durban.

In this regard, focus should be on the implementation of the Parties' previous commitments. We should consider how to advance international cooperation instead of dictating to the Parties what to do. We should try to incentivize and help countries achieve their goals. The developed nations should play the leading role in this respect. Rather than imposing actions, the agreement

should focus on helping the developing nations and enhancing the six elements we agreed upon in Durban.

**Mr. Chairman,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is of the view that specific Nationally-Determined Contributions (NDCs) should be the core of the new agreement and the means through which we can implement the Durban decision calling for enhancing our commitments under the Convention. The important question here is how can specific NDCs be ambitious and, at the same time, adhere to the Convention's principles.

With regard to ambition, and according to the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, climate change effects and the response procedures will slow down economic growth, make poverty eradication more difficult and further erode food security. This is why it is important to treat such issues through adaptation and mitigation. From this standpoint, NDCS will play a vital role in creating the appropriate solutions in line with each country's priorities and national circumstances.

We believe that adaptation is the main incentive for achieving sustainable development and drive for mitigation. The more we adapt and mitigate today, the less the costs we will face in the future when addressing climate change and its social effects. We agree with our partners in the industrialized nations that mitigation has a basic role to play in addressing climate change. However, we also believe that wisdom calls for a similar role for adaptation in order to make sure that

countries are ready to face up to the negative effects if the international community cannot achieve the required ambitions in this respect.

Based on the above, there are three aspects of ambition that could be thought of as contributions aiming to achieve the desired objectives. Phase 1: All countries should integrate climate change issues into their sustainable development. Phase 2: Countries that can make more efforts should have their efforts recognized. Phase 3: Countries should determine the efforts that lie beyond their capabilities and work with the international community to enhance global efforts.

**Mr. Chairman,**

As a developing nation, and in accordance with the economic diversification decision adopted in Doha, Saudi Arabia is taking practical steps towards adaptation and economic diversification to address climate change through sustainable development programs, and increase the Kingdom's ability to face the gas emissions reduction procedures targeting fossil fuel. This will be achieved through actions in the following areas:

1. Increasing energy efficiency.
2. Utilization of solar and wind energy.
3. Carbon Capture, Use and Storage (CCUS), and CO<sub>2</sub>-Enhanced Oil Recovery.
4. Switching from liquid to gas.
5. Research and development in the area of clean energy.

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman.**