

Statement by His Excellency TSAKHIAGIIN ELBEGDORJ,
President of Mongolia at the Leaders Event of the 21st
Session of the Conference of Parties to the United
Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

EPIC-SCALE CONTRACT

Le Bourget, Paris

30 November 2015

Your Excellency President Francois Hollande,
Mr. Laurent Fabius, President of the 21st Session of the Conference of Parties to
UNFCCC,

Excellences,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I congratulate and commend the Government of France on its dedication and leading role in hosting this historic 21st Session of the Climate Change Conference.

Today the humanity is facing two most urgent global challenges. First is the rise of terrorism. The latest victim is France itself. Once again I re-affirm our solidarity with the people of France. Second is the global climate disturbance. The victim is the mother-earth and the entire human race.

Some might ask what Mongolia's concern on global warming is. Mongolia is facing real challenges associated with the melting of permafrost and glaciers, shortages of surface water, and soil and pasture degradation. But apart of challenges, we have potentials.

What can my country offer for the global good? It is the abundant renewable resources. The green development policy of Mongolia aims at increasing the use of renewable energy in electricity generation from 7.6% in 2014 to 30% by 2030. A feasibility study by an international team indicates that Mongolia can well supply the entire Asia-Pacific region with renewables if funds are available.

Friends, colleagues,

Let us all review and renew our commitments. Let us chart our roles and responsibilities. Let us mobilize all the real potentials and resources each and every one of us can offer.

First; FINANCE. Any serious endeavor cannot be fully accomplished without adequate financial and technical support. We all understand it now. We are critically short of funds. We need to fulfill the commitment made in Copenhagen in 2009, to raise funds and establish the Green Climate Fund.

As I stated earlier, Mongolia has vast opportunities in renewable energy. Yet, renewable energy remains costly. It is at least a quarter more expensive than the energy produced from fossil fuel. Therefore, let us synergize our resources and potentials through joint investment and development.

Second; ACCOUNTABILITY. I urge now for no more retreats, no more disappointments. I hope this time we will have an agreement. It must entail heightened accountability for the commitments we make. The communities we represent can no longer afford one more global document if there is no clear exercise of accountability. Therefore, I emphasize accountability, accountability and more accountability.

Third; EMISSIONS PER CAPITA. I propose instituting a new measurement on emissions – Emission Per Capita. It will help us track our emission footprints and adjust policies and actions. It will tighten our accountability and provide a fair taxation base on emissions.

Ladies and gentlemen,

For the first time in human history, more than 150 heads of state and government gathered today in one spot. For the first time we have come together to agree on the epic-scale contract to save the mother-earth. It is our shared duty to hand over our one blue planet, safe and sound, to our next generation.

Let us put our differences aside. Then we will succeed. Just as we succeeded to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in New York. I am confident, we can re-affirm our commitment and responsibilities for the wellbeing of the people of earth.

Thank you, beautiful Paris, for hosting us. I hope you will save our mother-earth and the entire humanity from the facing dangers.

I thank you for your kind attention.