

Pologne

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Ever since the Climate Convention was introduced, Poland has been active in shaping the system of climate protection. As the only country in the World, we have, as the COP Presidency, three times taken on the honour but also the challenge of leading the talks of the international community in climate negotiations. As one of the few countries, we have also been able to achieve huge emissions reductions – our result is as much as 30% in comparison to the base year 1988, with a simultaneous growth in the GDP according to the purchase power parity. We feel we are leaders, and we have clear reason to feel so, but as such we also feel the responsibility for the course and the results of this summit.

Poland is very well aware that preparing for climate changes and – most importantly – preventing these changes from taking place is a process which is neither easy nor fast or cost-free. Our own reduction success has been encumbered by huge economic and social costs. Therefore, on our further path of sustainable development we are seeking solutions which would make it possible to avoid unnecessary and ineffective actions at all levels: global, regional and national.

One of the actions calling for particular attention is, in the opinion of Poland, appropriate policy of afforestation and species protection. We should all be aware of the fact that it will not be possible to achieve global carbon neutrality, (globalna neutralność węglowa) without appropriate active global forest policy.

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We trust that the new agreement will be truly global and that all countries will all undertake the efforts necessary to prevent global changes. For Poland, it is the fundamental condition for being part of this agreement.

We are happy that ever since the COP 19 in Warsaw, we have the system of INDC's (indicative nationally determined contributions) in place, as it makes it possible to introduce own solutions adapted to the diverse specificity of the environment and the economies of the Parties to the agreement. It is a direction indicating the emergence of a new architecture of the agreement,

which we support and see no possibility of a return to a situation where only a small group of countries have the duty to act for global emissions reduction.

We expect for other countries to undertake an effort comparable to the reduction level declared by the European Union, as no economy in the world functions in detachment from the rest of the world, and clear air is a global good for which we all should care.

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No doubt one of the important elements of the new climate protection regime is the financing of activities aimed at emissions adaptation and reduction. Despite the fact that Poland does not have the obligation to provide help, it does feel responsible and is ready to assign a sum of 8 million USD until 2020, in support of the Green Climate Fund in its activities for the adaptation and reduction of emissions. I hereby appeal to all the countries to join the group of donors of this climate assistance.