



## **INFORMAL MINISTERIAL MEETING**

**Durban Platform for Enhanced Action  
Bonn, 4-5 May 2012**

**Statement by  
H. E. Ms. Maite Nkoana-Mashabane  
President of COP 17/CMP 7**

Honourable Ministers,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour and pleasure to welcome you all to this Informal Ministerial Meeting on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. Allow me to take this opportunity to extend South Africa's and my personal appreciation to all members of the UNFCCC family for your support in ensuring the success of the Conference in Durban.

I would like to extend a special word of welcome to President-designate for COP 18 and CMP 8, His Excellency Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah. We are looking forward to collaborate with you to ensure that the Doha Conference deliver on the commitments made in Durban.

I also wish to welcome the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC Ms. Christiana Figueres and extend a special thanks to the UNFCCC secretariat for all the arrangements have been made here in Bonn.

I would like to welcome the Chair of the SBI, Mr. Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow. And I have received apologies from the Chairs of the SBSTA, AWG-KP and AWG-LCA.

Let me also at the outset thank the Government of the United Kingdom for its partnership, which has made this meeting possible.

Honourable Excellencies, many of you were part of that historic decision in Durban when the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action was adopted together with numerous key decisions that in no uncertain terms reflected your determination and commitment to seriously focus on the implementation of existing commitments, to finalize outstanding commitments, while moving to the next phase to find real and enhanced solutions to climate change from 2020. I wish to recall that Parties agreed that all of this will be done, while we will also urgently address the current level of ambition until 2020 and beyond. By agreeing to this package of decisions, the international community sent a clear message that it is ready for the task at hand. The



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Durban Outcomes was a clear turning point and testament to what is achievable when Parties work together.

Important work emerged from Durban with implications for all negotiating bodies.

Durban brought clarity on timelines and a multi-year perspective for strengthening climate change action:

- (i) The two AWGs will have to complete their work this year;
- (ii) The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action will meet for the first time in about two weeks time to plan its work in order to meet its mandates within the established four year horizon;
- (iii) Much work on the implementation, stretching over a number of years has been passed to the subsidiary bodies, namely the SBI and SBSTA and the constituted bodies for actual implementation.

Honourable Ministers and heads of delegations, based on last years' experience of successfully working with you in the months leading to COP17/CMP7, I am convinced that your intervention here today on the eve of the upcoming important inter-sessional meetings of the subsidiary bodies and the launch of the Ad hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, is needed to ensure that the gains made in Durban are not rolled back by being overwhelmed by the enormity of the problem and the task at hand. The reason for convening this Informal Ministerial Meeting is to receive your guidance on how to shepherd the process of the launch of the ADP in a manner that will build confidence and help us to move forward.

I have also noted an urgent need to guide the implementation of the other elements of the Durban Outcomes. In this regard, the next months are very critical.

I am keenly aware that the decisions taken in Durban constitute a very delicate balance and that we still need to make progress on all the elements of the various decisions in order to have a fair and balanced approach to climate change. I am counting on all Parties not to fall back on old negotiating habits and tactics that are clearly unhelpful, but to engage all Parties constructive manner.

This is our collective responsibility.

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