Eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 18)

National statement of Romania

delivered by Mrs. Elena Dumitru, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Environment and Forests

Doha, 6th of December 2012

Mr. President, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to start by expressing my congratulations to you, Mr. President, for your election as the President of COP 18. I would like to use this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the Government and people of Qatar for hosting the Conference, as well as for the excellent organization and state of the art facilities provided to delegations.

We came here to agree the elements needed for the implementation of the balanced political package that we all adopted in Durban last year. It is our will and our duty to make full use of the current dynamic political momentum and show that Doha can deliver.

In order to have a constructive outcome we need to have a global approach on the various issues under discussion and prove our commitment to work towards achieving the 2 degrees goal.

Our first task in Doha is, in our view, to develop a workplan that will set out the key milestones between now and 2015 and a more detailed programme for our work in 2013. It is also essential for us to continue the ongoing constructive discussions regarding our common objective to put in place a single legally binding comprehensive agreement applicable to all Parties. The new regime should be, in our view, inclusive and equitable, according to each Party's responsibilities and capabilities. It is

proven beyond doubt that climate change could only be managed if all major economies commit to such a regime.

We should not forget the paramount importance of using the pre-2020 ambition to close the commitments gap. Acting in a timely manner is essential and both developed and developing countries can contribute by putting forward, with a sense of urgency ambitious and transparent pledges.

Romania aligns itself with the statement by EU and would like to reinforce the idea that the key to success on climate action is to move forward together. In that respect, all nations need to commit and contribute, bearing in mind that climate change and climate disasters endanger us all and can only be tackled by joint global actions.

I would also like to reiterate that Romania has strongly engaged in the JI mechanism and we are actively seeking a solution to preserve the seamless continuation of this mechanism. Alongside all EU member states and a few other countries, Romania will commit to a second period under the Kyoto Protocol, with the hope that others will join. I would like to use this opportunity to highlight the importance the Government of Romania attaches to increasing energy efficiency at the national level, by implementing proper measures in that regard.

Last, but not least, enhancing implementation across each track of our negotiations is essential. We should not forget that beyond the doors of our negotiating rooms our citizens are watching us closely. The EU and Romania are keenly aware of this reality and regard the NGOs and the civil society as key partners and can be essential to our success.

We recognize that there is still a large amount of work to be done. But if we all work together I am convinced that we can deliver.

Thank you!