

**STATEMENT BY HER EXCELLENCY THE MINISTER FOR THE  
ENVIRONMENT OF ANGOLA AT THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON  
THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**DOHA, QATAR 2012**

Your Excellency President of the Conference of the Parties,

Distinguished Heads of Delegations,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of Angola and of my delegation, allow me to congratulate the State of Qatar for the excellent conditions it provided for the holding of this event, as well as congratulate His Highness Emir Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, for the growth demonstrated by this country, which is a striking example of development and a demonstration that reforms, technological modernization enable progress towards sustainable development, innovation and Global welfare.

We would like to extend our congratulations to His Excellency **Abdullah Bin Hamad al Attiyah** for his election to President of the 18<sup>th</sup> Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Climate Change.

Your election comes at a time that we have initiated a profound reflection on the direction and role of multilateralism in the creation of low carbon economies, within the context of our fight against poverty, and the impact of Climate Change.

Excellences,

Angola has grown at an average rate of 9.2% per year over. The past few years the economic diversification policy has contributed to the improvement of the indices of human development, and our economic performance, backed by policies of

stability, oriented towards education, health and improvements in the quality of life of populations.

Approximately 34% of the State's budget has been channeled to the Social Sector.

The reforms and improvements to policies and the structural adjustments envisioned for 2012-2013 aims to preserve the optimal performance attained so far.

The Long-Term Development Plan 'Angola 2025' continues to reaffirm the progress made in previous years and to make major structural reforms with a view to guaranty stability and sustainability in economic growth.

The Government has integrated environmental policies and increased contributions in this area, which, in tandem with international aid to development, particularly at the multilateral level, have contributed to strengthening of food security, substitution of imports, valuing of Families and Gender Equality, and integration and updating of a Population policy to create conditions for the consolidation of the national sustainable development and resource management strategy for the improvement of the living conditions of populations.

Regarding the implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Angola elaborated a Long Term Strategy, is working on its 2<sup>nd</sup> National Communication, is implementing the National Adaptation Program, and has been implementing capacity building activities for the adoption of a low-carbon economy, with infrastructure projects in energy efficiency, reduction of emissions and the production of energy. In this regard, we have adopted an Energy Security Strategy aiming at increasing the proportion of energy from renewable sources, including hydro, Solar and Eolic.

Exigencies,

The constraints caused by climate change have had a significant impact on Biodiversity and have increased desertification, requiring us to work in a multilateral and multidisciplinary framework to solve the various problems of



mitigation in agriculture and in the life of the poorest rural communities, and in the increase of draught and desertification.

Angola participates with the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Congo in an important tripartite initiative that aims at preserving the Mayombe Forrest, the creation of Biosphere reserves, the protection of Biodiversity and sustainable management of forestry resources as well as the strengthening of the cooperation among interested parties. Likewise, we are engaged in various initiatives that aim at the creation of areas for environmental conservation, and the integrated development of the Okavambo-Zambezi region, and the Iona Desert, as well as initiatives for the management of shared hydro resources.

We believe that the Kyoto Protocol continues to be the adequate legal instrument to bridge the Parties in matters of mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change, as well as a basis for the dialogue necessary for the adjustment of principles and practices that ought to be adapted to the real development needs of the parties.

The complexity and flexibility of mechanisms must be adapted, so as to allow the transparent and inclusive participation, supporting economic recuperation projects as well as financing programs for combating poverty and emission reductions in developing countries.

Angola validated six projects in the framework of the Clean Development Mechanism and we intend to secure more competitive market offers that enable economic recovery and that constitute avenues to sustainable development and to fighting poverty. This goal can only be achieved in the context of more ambitious mitigation targets.

Excellences,

After more than 20 years after the entry into force of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and after it has been ratified by a majority of the parties, we have no fear in saying that the biggest challenge is to cooperate on initiatives that can build climate sustainability, ambitious agendas for technology transfer, knowledge sharing and implementation of feasible projects so

that we can make jointly make efforts in the context of the common responsibility that unites us. However this cooperation must recognize the specific circumstances of the parties as well as the their historical responsibilities.

We may cooperate with simple and innovative initiatives and create networks and participatory processes of dialogue and collaboration, converging efforts to implement Strategies that enable experiences, Programs, and activities that promote collaboration, capacity building and sharing of experiences and innovation among us. The bilateral mechanisms that aim at achieving the objectives, principles and rules of the convention can also have an important contribution to our dialogue.

Excellences,

In Angola, sectors such as electricity, agriculture, infrastructure, coastal zones and health are extremely impacted by the occurrence of extreme climatic phenomena, drought, flood and temperature increases, requiring more than 5% of the State budget to mitigate and recover from incalculable damages caused by Climate Change.

At the Conference of the Parties in Durban, we made important decisions to ensure the stability of our planet, thus creating better conditions for future generations. The creation of the Durban Platform, the successful conclusion of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Long-Term Cooperation Agreement and the second commitment phase of the Kyoto Protocol are decisions that would lead to the completion of the Bali Action Plan, adopted at the COP-13, and which should usher in a new and more ambitious Climate regimen which would bring greater global prosperity.

We think it is time to materialize these decisions by adopting, here in Doha, a second commitment phase to the Kyoto Protocol which ambitiously contributes to the reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions in accordance with the recommendations of various scientific evidence.

In addition to the direct reduction of emissions, the second commitment period can



play a catalytic role for financing of opportunities for low-emission development and measures that support the most vulnerable Countries. The Green Climate Fund can be the engine for supporting adaptation as well as Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions, in accordance with national circumstances.

Furthermore, we believe it is important to make decisions that enable the design and implementation of National Adaptation Plans, as only then can we tackle adaptation needs in the medium to long term and contribute to the prosperity of our peoples.

Excellences,

The provision of financing by the more developed nations to mitigate vulnerabilities and reduce emissions in developing countries should be given special attention within the set of decisions to be adopted in Doha.

A great part of the population of developing nations depends on agriculture for their sustainability. Climate change is interfering significantly in food production and consumption, making food and economic self-sufficiency increasingly vulnerable. It is equally important to make decisions aimed at alleviating the vulnerability of this sector to Climate Change.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the framework of the implementation of the decisions made by Conferences of the States Parties and the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Government of Angola, recognizing the importance of this matter, developed and is implementing a National Strategy for the Implementation of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.

We can all have an influence on the work and the dynamics between actors in this Global Society, between the most privileged and the most disadvantaged, between Forests and dry, arid, and desertified zones, as well as between Communities and their Social Problems and Economic Groups through accountability and participation, and we can generate resources and funds for this common challenge.

We begin to see that it is necessary to make the right choices and manage the Future of coming generations, evaluating the impact that Climate Change can have in the quality of life as well as on geopolitics.

Doha should confirm efforts to implement policies that promote low-emission development and accept a period of transition without prejudice to the commitment to common but differentiated responsibilities.

Thank you.