

High Level Segment

Statement by

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QNCC, Doha, 5 December, 2012

Your Excellency Mr. Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, President of COP18/CMP8
Distinguished Executive Secretary

Hon'ble Ministers and Heads of Delegations

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon,

First of all, I would like to thank the Government and the People of Qatar for their warm hospitality and goodwill. Given the excellent arrangement for COP 18/CMP 8, I hope Doha will become even a more widely accepted home of conferences.

Mr. President,

Let me associate myself with the statements made by LDCs, AOSIS and G77 and China.

Mr. President,

We consider COP 18/CMP 8 is very significant, we have two more days to go and there are still clouds on the skies of many issues. We are concerned whether we are going to conclude the work under the AWG-LCA in Doha, in particular, on Shared Vision, Adaptation and Finance.

Mr. President,

Under the Shared Vision we have to agree on a specific time frame for the global emissions peak, preferably no later than 2015, so as to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C above preindustrial level. Peak year must be agreed before the termination of AWG-LCA.

Distinguished Ministers,

The issue of Adaptation is related to our very survival. We urge world leaders to take immediate actions under 'Cancun Adaptation Framework' by undertaking various measures with regard to climate change induced displacement, migration and planned relocation, at the national and international levels.

We further urge all for effective operationalization of various institutional arrangements and bodies established under Cancun Agreement, namely, Cancun Adaptation Framework, the Green Climate Fund, the Technology Mechanism and the Standing Committee etc.

Mr. President,

Loss and Damage associated with the impacts of climate change is a reality for Bangladesh. This Loss and Damage could not be addressed only by adaptation activities. We therefore urge that a separate International Mechanism be established to address loss and damage that could be done through Disaster Risk Reduction, compensation, rehabilitation and other approaches. It is important to take decision in this respect.

Mr. President,

Finance is linked to all issues we are negotiating; to ensure sustained flow of resources in the future, decisions on how the finance gap in post 2012 period shall be addressed; how to address MRV of the financial support; clarity on the scale and sources of long term finance, its distribution between public and private sources and balanced allocation between adaptation and mitigation.

Distinguished Ministers,

The Kyoto Protocol is the only legally binding agreement we have. We are looking forward for a decision on the second commitment period, addressing all outstanding issues. We are observing with concerns that some of the Annex I KP Parties have come out of the Second Commitment Period. In this regard, allow me to emphasize that Annex I countries that are not Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and those Parties who will not join the second commitment period of Kyoto Protocol must take ambitious and comparable mitigation efforts under the Convention with robust MRV mechanism with a view to close the pre 2020 mitigation gap. We also want to ensure continuation of the flexible mechanisms.

We emphasize that developed countries would show leadership as laid down in the Convention through raising their level of ambition as we see a significant gap between the current pledges and the required ambition to keep the global average temperature rise below 2°C.

Mr. President,

It is clear that our efforts and deliberations under ADP must preserve and build on the principles of the Convention. The principles and provisions of equity and Common But Differentiated Responsibility and Respective Capabilities remain central.

Distinguished Ministers,

The new agreement would also have to be universally applicable to all Parties, with differentiated obligation. And in accordance with decision 1/CP.17, ADP shall plan its work on all issues of mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer and capacity building. We would like to see all these elements are properly addressed in the negotiation process and appropriate agreements reached.

Mr. President,

I hope that our collective political will, will be heightened to help us achieve the three major decisions that are crucial for successful outcome in Doha, Decision on the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, Successful completion of AWG-LCA and beginning of an effective journey of ADP.

I Thank you Mr. President.