

MINISTER RENE CASTRO

COSTA RICA

HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT

5 DECEMBER 2012

3:00PM

Distinguished Excellencies and delegates:

1. Costa Rica we **would like to reaffirm its commitment to negotiate a new global agreement applicable to all, to be negotiated in 2015 at the latest.**
2. **The Principles and Provisions of the Convention will remain paramount** and must be respected.
3. **But we also find it equally necessary for our work to open up space to operate in a context of dynamism in how we apply the principles of the Convention:** on the one hand, we do not want to end up with an agreement that burdens countries unfairly. Efforts to negotiate an agreement will fail if a majority of countries view it as unfair and politically unacceptable.
4. **On the other hand, we would like to avoid a scenario in which a stiff interpretation of the principles becomes a barrier to climate security.**
For us the application of the principles going in forward has to enable bigger, better, faster responses to climate change.
5. **Our common responsibility has to be differentiated but also consistent with the 2C world we want.** As I said, the agreement will fail if it is considered unfair but we will end in failure if responsibility is

operationalized in a way that locks people, ecosystems, and infrastructure into a 4C world.

6. **Going forward on the basis of the binary structure would not be consistent with the nature of our changing economies.** Some of you are very concerned that we might end by with unworkable formulas that seek to rank countries and we do see the risk of getting caught up into endless discussions of country classifications.
7. **The new global agreement has to be “applicable to all” and for us that means that as part of the agreement every Party will make a contribution in the form of a legally-binding commitment.** To ensure full and ambitious participation, it is essential to acknowledge the different national circumstances of countries. **BUT WE ALL NEED TO DO MORE.**
8. **Commitments have to respect national circumstances** so the question is how to ensure that these commitments do add up to a level of ambition that would meet the objective of the Convention. Our group is keen to offer ideas next year about **WHAT KIND OF INCENTIVES CAN INCREASE THE AMBITION OF OUR NATIONAL OFFERS?**
9. Ultimately the agreement must encourage an upward spiraling of ambition, including by rewarding early and bold action. There is a technical discussion to be had about what these incentives would look like in practice.
10. But this afternoon I would like to emphasize what I see as a the most tangible and troubling disincentive for full and ambitious participation: a lack of ambition among some developed countries. It is clear that some are doing more than others. Some have incredible challenging conditions

at home. But the reality is that this damaging lack of ambition puts the break on global ambition. Many developing countries ask why they have to be first movers?

11. One of the most tangible and helpful incentives to be delivered here in Doha and from now until 2015 is a stronger, more credible, and far more reassuring signal that some of you will be fighting for the \$100 billion in your capitals and given your national circumstances.
12. We need to find a solution to the current silence on climate finance. Many developing countries are engaging in NAMAs and adaptation projects and are deeply worried about the lack of fund-predictability post 2012 when the fast start finance period ends, **and as to how developed countries will meet the USD 100 bn goal following a trajectory that keep us on track.**
13. **Climate finance requires political decision commitment at the highest level. We need to move beyond agreeing only to process and technical issues, to the provision of clarity on how the commitment will be translated into a clear, credible trajectory that will build trust in the developing world. We expect a tangible outcome in Doha in this regard.**
14. Moreover, we would like to explicitly emphasize that **adaptation** must be one of the key elements of the new climate agreement. Adaptation is a core concern for all countries, in every region of the world. Increasing climate finance flows is essential in order to support our ongoing efforts to put in place long-term programming approaches that will enable our development pathways to adapt to the impacts of climate change. For particularly vulnerable countries like ours, this is one of the most pressing imperatives of our time.