

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MRS. SANJAASUREN OYUN, MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN DEVELOPMENT OF MONGOLIA AT THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (COP18/CMP8)**

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**Thank you, Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Let me start my statement by expressing my warm appreciation for your great efforts, **Mr. President** to move forward the climate change negotiation process here in Doha and ensure you my delegation's full support in achieving ambitious goals and expected outcomes of the conference under your able leadership.

I would like to thank the Government and people of Qatar and beautiful city of Doha for hosting this conference and excellent arrangements and warm hospitalities provided to the participants of the conference.

**Mr. President,**

The World expects from us concrete decisions, urgent actions, ambitious targets to solve the global challenges caused by climate change. We have had many meetings, conferences and debates and discussions. But, the expected outcomes are still missing. Time is running faster than our action, changes in global climate system are intensifying and its adverse impacts are accelerating from day to day. Therefore, we have no right to slow down the time of action. We already have clear directions from Bali, Copenhagen, Cancun and Durban conferences. Therefore, Mongolia calls on the Parties the convention to fulfill the mandates of Bali Action plan and reach agreements on long-term cooperation and future commitments of the countries, especially developed countries.

Further, we have urgent need for fully operationalising the Green Climate Fund, Standing Committee, Technology Committee, Adaptation Committee established under the decisions of the Cancun and Durban Conferences and provide supports to the developing countries where are strong and urgent needs for concrete assistance from above bodies to take response measures against climate change adverse impacts and to increase their adaptive capacities.

At the same time all countries whether big or small ones, should input their possible contributions in climate change negotiation process. In this regard, **Mr. President**, I am pleased to inform that the Government of Mongolia has just organized today here in QNCC the first ever side event on Grasslands within the UNFCCC process jointly with other international organizations. The main goal of the side event was to highlight the importance of Grasslands for climate change adaptation, mitigation and green development. As we all know, globally there are many millions and millions pastoralists who are custodians of more than 5 billion ha of rangelands, which store up to 30% of the world's soil carbon. In addition Grasslands are important ecosystems for biodiversity conservation. There are great potential to sequester carbons and to link the local communities with the carbon market mechanisms and new financial sources.

**Mr. President,**

Mongolia is one of the most vulnerable to climate change countries in the world due to its severe continental climate and weather conditions, specific fragile geo- ecological systems and traditional trans-nomadic pastoralism. Livelihoods of local communities based on breeding livestock in Grasslands are an important part of Mongolia's cultural heritage and grasslands are our valuable natural resource. Frequency and magnitude of natural disasters associated by climate change are increasing. Because of natural disasters, drought and dzud or harsh winter weather conditions, national economy and livelihood of these local communities experience the significant losses and damages.

In addition to that Mongolia has been facing with serious problems of permafrost melting, glaciers shrinking, land and grassland degradation, desertification, urban environmental pollution, and human health accelerated by unfavorable effects of climate change. Therefore, the Government of Mongolia is paying special attention to these serious environmental problems, by improving legal and institutional arrangements, ensuring the coordination among the related stakeholders and approving the national action programmes and initiatives aimed to overcome climate change challenges. As a consequence, the newly re-structured Ministry of Environment and Green Development has an unique opportunity to implement the climate change actions and measures with close integration into national green development policies and strategies.

With a view to successfully implementing these efforts and initiatives of my Government, I wish to highlight that international supports in the field of financing, technology transfer, and capacity building will play a vital role.

**Mr. President,**

As many other developing countries, Mongolia's total GHG emission is almost negligible, but the emissions are increasing continuously during the last years due to intensive development of Mongolia's energy, mining, industry, transport, construction and other infrastructure sectors. Therefore, in order to reduce the current level of GHG emissions, the introduction of environmentally sound technologies, increasing of renewable energy sources, improving of efficiency and effectiveness of energy and heat generation and use will be the main areas of action.

In this regard, Mongolia has been conducting intensive discussions to establish the Low Carbon Partnership on Joint Offset Crediting Mechanism with the Government of Japan. We hope that this partnership could benefit both sides to meet their needs for achieving low carbon development goals and introduce a new mechanism at international level.

**Mr. President,**

In conclusion, Mongolia reaffirms its strong commitment to deal with global climate challenges and to prevent the global ecological crises and dangerous risks that can be associated by climate change. I believe that Doha Conference should make concrete steps in climate change negotiation process by approving a balanced package of outcomes on long-term cooperation in key areas and the developed countries obligations in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol for what we gathered here in Doha.

**Thank you very much.**