

**Statement by Keit Pentus-Rosimannus  
on behalf of Republic of Estonia  
at COP18 CMP8, Doha**

Mr President, Ministers, ladies and gentlemen,

A year ago, many of us met in Durban for COP17. When I recall the run-up to the conference, I remember pessimism from the participants and scepticism from the public. There was a general feeling that Durban will fail to deliver anything of substance, that the outcome will be bitterly disappointing. And yet we managed to surprise the world and agree on a way forward.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I suggest we surprise them again. We all know that if we want to keep global warming below 2 degrees, if we want to avoid the devastating consequences of climate change, if we want to leave our children a planet they deserve - then we need to do more.

First, we need to agree on the second period of the Kyoto protocol. An 8 year commitment period with the possibility to increase the ambition during that 8 year period, uninterrupted continuation of Kyoto flexible mechanisms and a solution to the issue of AAU carry-over are all important elements of the amended protocol.

But while agreement on Kyoto II is crucial, it is certainly not enough. It is a limited and temporary measure that will contribute to achieving our goals, but is ultimately meaningful only in the context of a serious global effort to address climate change. We need a global legally binding agreement and we need it soon, so it is high time we decide how to get there.

In the mean time, we also have to look at what we can do before 2020. We cannot postpone action for 8 years and then declare that we have left it too late. And we cannot leave it to Europe to act alone - even if EU would cut all its CO2 emissions by 2020, it would still not be enough: we are only responsible for roughly 10% of world's emissions. And our share is decreasing every day. So we call upon parties of the convention to define and fulfill their pledges and go beyond them, where possible. To facilitate ambitious action, EU has made clear that we will continue

with climate financing for developing countries also after 2012 with a specific focus on adaptation in most vulnerable and least developed countries.

Dear colleagues,

I come from a country that has the population roughly the same size as the one welcoming us at the moment. Estonia has 1.3 million inhabitants and it covers 45 000 square kilometers. Our GDP per capita is, however, five times smaller than that of Qatar. We have also not been blessed with abundant natural resources and our energy system has traditionally been built on oil shale, a labour intensive substance with a notoriously large CO2 footprint.

Despite that, we have done our part to halt climate change both home and away. Compared to 1990 we have reduced our CO2 emissions by 50%. In a few years, we have brought the share of renewable energy up to 25%. We have invested heavily to cut the emissions in most emitting sectors - energy sector, most remarkably in the housing sector. We have contributed to fast start financing scheme to help adaptation efforts in Bhutan and Afganistan. We have done all this while doing a hard work of rebuilding the economy in a country that regained its independence only 21 years ago. Clearly, if there is a will, there is a way.

We will keep doing our part. We will reduce emissions further by greening our electricity production and rethinking the use of oil shale, making it cleaner and more efficient. We will keep investing in energy efficient housing and transport. We will find ways of doing everything in a smarter, climate-friendlier way. Even as a small, and not very wealthy country we will continue contributing to climate finance beyond Europe's borders.

I hope you will join us.

Thank you.