STATEMENT BY DR. TRAN HONG HA VICE MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT, THE HEAD OF VIETNAMESE DELEGATION AT THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF 18th SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES UNDER UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, I would like to extend my gratitude to the State of Qatar and the City of Doha for the warm hospitality and for hosting this event.

Mr. President,

Everyone is adversely affected by climate change.

Responding to climate change now is of utmost urgency.

All nations must take responsibilities and act together.

At this Conference, Viet Nam would like to express the following view-points:

1. The second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol must be adopted and ratified, ensuring a smooth transition between the first and the second periods. All Parties should intensify mitigation actions without any delay and increase reduction ambition to achieve the under-2-degree-increase objective.

2. New and additional financial flows, including their mechanisms, institutions and arrangements, must be secured post-2012; with the Adaptation Fund and the Green Climate Fund fully financed and operational for the needs of adaptation and mitigation in a balanced manner.

3. Developed countries need to implement mechanisms and measures for technology transfers and capacity building post-2012 to effectively address the need of developing countries in responding to climate change under the Article 4 of the Convention.

4. Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions by developing countries shall be voluntary measures and implemented in the context of sustainable development and poverty reduction. These actions need to be supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building provided by developed countries.

Mr. President,

As a developing country, highly vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change, Viet Nam regards responding to climate change must be in line with the process of sustainable development and towards a low-carbon economy. Though adaptation continues to be a focus and an urgent task, Viet Nam has been actively strengthening GHG emission reduction in social and economic development activities, with national resources and in cooperation with international communities.

Viet Nam national policies on climate change identify concrete targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A specific task of the National Green Growth Strategy is to reduce the intensity of GHG emissions and promote the use of clean and renewable energies. In the period of 2012 to 2020, with international support, Viet Nam aims to reduce the intensity of GHG emission by 8 to 10% compared to 2010 baseyear; energy consumption per unit of GDP by 1 to 1.5% per year; GHG emission from energy activities by 10% to 20% compared to Business As Usual. To achieve these goals, policy dialogue platform and cooperation mechanism between national policy makers and international donors and organisations are established to assist the Government of Viet Nam in formulating and implementing climate change policies and strategies.

Mr. Presidents,

Viet Nam welcomes all initiatives and cooperation with international partners to effectively respond to climate change.

I firmly believe that with our collective efforts, we can secure our future.

Thank you very much./.