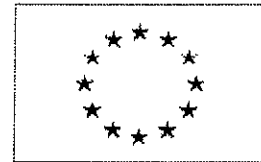




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STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE EU AND ITS MEMBER STATES

The twentieth session of the Conference on the Parties of the UNFCCC and the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

Lima, 1 December 2014

Mister Chair Minister Pulgar-Vidal, Distinguished Colleagues, Dear Friends,

Let me take the opportunity of this first intervention in the COP and CMP opening plenary to express the EU's gratitude to you, to the Peruvian people and to the city of Lima for hosting the 20th COP and 10th CMP sessions.

In Lima we expect to make progress towards the adoption of the new global agreement on climate change in Paris next year. To this end, the EU announced its proposed target in October, welcomes the more recent announcement from the US and China and looks forward to a decision here in Lima that will provide the guidance to all parties to communicate their targets in a comparable manner well in advance of Paris. And of course we need to leave Lima with a balanced elements text that will provide the basis for our negotiations on the Paris Agreement.

We would like to welcome the recent publication of the IPCC Synthesis Report and its findings. The report highlights the need for collective and significant action to keep warming below 2 degrees C.

Regarding climate finance, we welcome the successful outcome of the initial capitalization of the Green Climate Fund, which so far has reached 9.7 billion USD. This represents a real investment in mitigation and adaptation in developing countries. The significant pledges by several EU Member States show the EU's firm commitment to the central role of the GCF in international climate finance.

We have achieved significant progress on adaptation and approaches to loss and damage over the last years and in Lima we will continue to support efforts on the ground to build capacity and implement adaptation measures. The work of the Adaptation Committee made a significant contribution in this direction and we welcome its report. The same is true for the work undertaken in the context of the Warsaw international mechanism on loss and damage.

The EU looks forward to further progress in balanced access to decision making and in promotion of gender-sensitive climate policies by confirming a framework including a two-year work programme by COP20, as well as integrating gender equality in the elements which form the basis of the new climate agreement.



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We also support the Polish and Peruvian initiative on Ministerial Declaration on education and awareness raising on climate change.

This tenth anniversary of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol provides a chance to reflect on the important progress we have made, and to learn lessons for the new Paris Agreement.

In Doha, the EU agreed to join a second commitment period to the Kyoto Protocol, to show our support for the multilateral process and to ambitious action pre-2020. The EU is already implementing the legislation on our target to reduce emissions by 20% from 1990 levels by 2020, and we are well on track to outperform these commitments. The EU and its Member States are advancing as well with ratifying the Doha amendment, preparing the relevant legal acts at European and national level.

In terms of lessons learned for the 2015 Agreement, the Kyoto Protocol has shown us the essential role of a strong, international rules base to delivering transparency and holding Parties accountable for their commitments. It has also shown that with a legally-binding framework and a strong rules base, international carbon markets can lead to cost-effective action, and incentivize greater ambition.

We have also seen, through the Kyoto Protocol Adaptation Fund, the benefits of providing for a dedicated facility for supporting investments in adaptation to climate change in the most vulnerable countries, a challenge that will only grow in coming years.

However, the Kyoto Protocol has also shown us that a global agreement in which only a small number of Parties takes commitments is not enough to prevent dangerous effects of climate change. The Kyoto Protocol second commitment period currently covers only 14% of global greenhouse gas emissions, a smaller fraction than when it was adopted in 1997.

Finally, the EU would like to re-state its commitment and expectation for good organization of the negotiating sessions, transparency, inclusiveness and intense and fruitful work during the two weeks ahead. We appeal to all Parties involved to redouble their efforts and focus on resolving outstanding issues here in Lima.

I thank you Mr. Chair.