

Your Excellency Mr. Peter Altmaier

Your Excellency Mr. Marcin Korolec

Excellencies,

Distinguished participants,

It is with great pleasure that I accept this kind invitation by the governments of Germany and Poland to participate in the 4th Petersberg Climate Dialogue. I would like to extend my thanks to the Government of Germany for organizing this high-level meeting, in collaboration with Poland, to address the challenges of climate change and future global climate agreement.

This meeting gives me the pleasant opportunity to reiterate my heartfelt appreciation for the generous efforts and the exceptional commitment you have shown during the COP 18, which contributed to the successful Doha outcomes.

Doha reaffirmed that the climate change regime is strong by establishing a firm basis. Please allow me to recap the key decisions of COP 18/ CMP 8 achieved in the different negotiation working groups and adopted as the "Doha Climate Gateway":

- Agreement to a second commitment period with legally binding targets.
- Successful conclusion of AWG-LCA.
- Advancement on the Durban Platform.
- Recognition of loss and damage.
- Decisions to move forward on finance.

On AWG-KP, a key achievement of the Doha Conference was the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol, thus preserving until 2020 the only existing international legally-binding climate agreement. This secured what has been achieved in past COPs, while a new international binding agreement is negotiated.

On the LCA, several work streams were launched, and Doha has provided a balanced way forward regarding streams such as shared vision, finance and ambition.

Doha marked the first time that it was agreed upon, that action would be taken on the issue of loss and damage in the context of climate change negotiations.

Finance decisions that were adopted in Doha, including the extension of the work program on long-term finance showed our resolve to speed up actions against the climate threat.

ADP decisions adopted in Doha provided a flexible scope for a range of outcomes based on a party driven process. The COP in 2015 is due to adopt a protocol, another legal instrument

or an agreed outcome with legal force under the convention applicable to all Parties.

**Excellencies,**

Five months have passed since the day we adopted the historic Doha Climate Gateway, but still we recognize that many more important implementation decisions are needed to address climate change. The COP 18/CMP8 outcomes were identified as the "Doha Climate Gateway" because the decisions made in Doha streamlined the negotiating process as well as clearing the path towards delivering a new global climate agreement in 2015.

Attention can now be focus on negotiating a new climate change agreement. Raising ambition on all fronts will be important for reaching an agreement in 2015. The negotiations in COP 19 will benefit from the additional ADP sessions that have just concluded.

These discussions will allow for further momentum for progress in the formal upcoming negotiations in the June session.

However, as we look to the future, we should also not forget past commitments that were made and the importance of implementing them. A balanced approach is key to maintaining and enhancing the climate change regime.

Let me reiterate that it is the responsibility of parties to move quickly through the Doha Climate Gateway and push forward with the solutions to climate change at the national and international levels. The task ahead requires working collectively within the process established under the Convention.

I reassure you that the Cop18 Presidency is interested in seeing that progress is made on all fronts. In this regard, we also assure full support to Poland as the Incoming Presidency, and we are confident that COP19/CMP 9 will provide further momentum for the climate change regime.

I would like to conclude by saying that the success accomplished in Doha was the result of our collective work. The dialogue we heard in this meeting is indeed fruitful and helpful in identifying the important milestones required for the work ahead of us.

Thank you!