

REMARKS BY ABDULLAH BIN HAMAD AL-ATTIYA COP 18/CMP 8 PRESIDENT

to the COP 18/CMP 8 Bureau at its meeting on
Wednesday, 1 May 2013 in Bonn, Germany

It is a pleasure for me to welcome you all to the second Bureau meeting in 2013. I would also like to welcome all Bureau members and express once again my thanks for their exceptional commitment.

As agreed, negotiations in Doha were streamlined to create a smoother path forward. Allow me to recap the outlook of Doha and how the Qatari Presidency envisions the year ahead.

Doha has opened up a new gateway to stronger ambition and to greater action, which is why we called the package the Doha Climate Gateway.

Now governments must move quickly through the Doha Climate Gateway to push forward with the solutions to climate change at the national and international levels. Work will need to move ahead in areas such as: finance, adaptation, technology, the review and gender. The task ahead requires working collectively within the process established under the Convention. We agreed to speedily work toward a universal climate change agreement covering all countries from 2020, to be adopted by 2015. Therefore, it is your responsibility to secure the implementation of the decisions. There is a sense of urgency to make substantial advances on pressing issues in preparation of the Durban Platform deadline. We all need to do our part and ensure that the process is more effective and timely in its deliverables.

I reassure that you have my utmost support and I look forward to cooperating with you this year. The Presidency is indeed interested in seeing that progress is made on all fronts.

As part of Qatar's effort to learn from COP18, the Presidency is currently working on a substantive report investigating the impact and outcome of COP18 from a variety of standpoints—economic development, logistics, capacity building, public policy, and others.

In order for this study to be as informative and insightful as possible, the Presidency would be most appreciative if you could give some of your time later today to the consulting team in charge of this project for a quick interview.

Your views and feedback on your experience at COP18/CMP8 would indeed be most valuable to us and, I am sure, to the future hosts of the Conference.

Before we begin, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Bureau for supporting the candidates I proposed for the co-chairs for the work programme on long-term finance and the work programme on REDD plus. I understand that the chairs are starting to get down to work.

The meeting today will take stock of the discussions at the ADP session, and also other issues as requested from the last meeting.