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**Statement delivered by Grenada on behalf of the
the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)**

**High-level Segment of the COP and CMP
Durban, South Africa
6 December 2011**

Address the podium.

Madame President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States.

Madame President,

We are participating in this process, because we believe that this multilateral rules based system is critical to the survival of our countries.

It is our firm belief that this process can deliver the outcomes that will guarantee the survival of vulnerable countries like ourselves, once we can find the political will to do so.

Fellow Ministers, I want to challenge you today to demonstrate to the world over the next few days that we have that political will.

We in AOSIS approach these negotiations concerned that our very survival is at stake and that time is running out to take action.

Madame President,

Our task has never been more urgent because what we are witnessing are emissions at their highest levels in history, with an accelerating rate of

increase. I want us all to be clear on one thing - we in AOSIS have not come here to negotiate ourselves out of existence....but this is what will happen if we give in to some of the proposals put forward in the last couple of days.

We are extremely concerned about the developments under the Kyoto Protocol, and the proposals that have been made to leave Durban without a final resolution on the second commitment period. Madame President, we cannot accept this.

We need this protocol and also believe that it is necessary to develop and finalize a complementary Protocol to cover the countries that are not parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The mandate for this protocol has to be a priority here in Durban and we look forward to concluding negotiations on it. DELAY IS NOT AN OPTION!

Madame President,

We also have to ensure that we agree on the implementation of the Cancun Agreements and resolve the outstanding issues on the Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Committee, the Technology related institutions, and the processes to assist the Least Developed Countries and Africa.

We also have to ensure a robust process for the 2015 Review, and let me be clear here Madame President, the 2015 Review was part of the delicate political balance that we struck in Copenhagen and Cancun. We note that some parties are trying to redefine the scope and content of the review, but let us be clear – if this balance is not respected, then other elements of that political balance could suffer the same fate.

So Madame President, what we are saying is that this process should be able to deliver the survival of all countries.

We must lift our sights and not let national interests overtake global interests. We have a responsibility to the world to do what is necessary to prevent an escalation of the already devastating impacts of climate change that we are now experiencing around the world.

In closing Madame President, I want to reiterate what I said at the start. This process can deliver the outcomes that will guarantee the survival of vulnerable countries as long as we can find the political will to do so.

Fellow Ministers, colleagues, LET'S DO IT!!

Let us not speak one thing outside the negotiating room and another inside the room. Let us leave Durban with a clear path to progress, not the uncertain road of compromise. Let us not mortgage the future of our world.

Thank you!