

Statement at the High Level Segment of COP 17 and CMP 7

by

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Durban, 8 December 2011

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Threat from climate change is serious, it's urgent, and it is growing. It was already triggering more extreme weather, while climate change is projected to even worsen conditions. An increase in heat waves is almost certain, while heavier rain, more floods, stronger cyclones, landslides and more intense droughts are likely across the globe to come this century.

Climate change is a fundamental challenge which has been threatening the security and stability of each nation and people all over the world. We know what needs to be done and the time we have is running out.

Limiting global warming to 2 degrees Celsius is difficult but not impossible. If all the countries take transparent and verifiable actions and have a fair share in global undertaking an effective limitation of climate change follow by energy and resources security, jobs and growth will be ensured.

We believe that decision on the way forward to a new comprehensive, legally-binding global agreement built on the Kyoto Protocol's principles, is the first and urgently needed step on our journey towards that goal.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Two major pillars in addressing climate change, mitigation and adaptation need to be pursued together. Adaptation is a practical need and there is no time for delay. It necessitated effective mechanisms and funding.

Operational Green Climate Fund and progress towards identification of sources of finance for climate action will significantly contribute to efficient and transparent implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions all over the World.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Recognizing the importance of low-carbon development Serbia expressed willingness to reduce its emissions through the support to the Copenhagen Accord and has been making a lot of efforts to fulfil these obligations. We believe that "green" and "growth" go together and are the ways for a successful and competitive economy on the World stage.

Moreover, we believe that an agreement to roadmap for future action from all the Parties in Durban could significantly contribute to our and, more important, pathway of all the Parties towards cleaner, greener and more sustainable economy and the global effort to tackle climate change.