

Date: 8th December 2011

COP17 – The Organizers of this important global gathering

Mr. President

Your Excellences

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen

I take this opportunity first of all to express my gratitude on behalf of my government and the people of South Sudan for inviting the new Republic of South Sudan to attend this UN Convention for Climate Change. My special thanks go to the leadership, government and the people of South Africa for their fraternal hospitality.

We are thankful as people of the new republic to people of Africa and the rest of the world for recognizing our inalienable right to national self-determination and

independence and accepting us as a member of the free human family. All this shows the strength of international solidarity and confirm our belief that it is not an idle fact but real, and objective reality that goes to testify that there are people out there who are concerned and have some of the best brains in the world – who spend less time for themselves and family in devoting their energies to better this only habitable planet in the entire universe. The presence of these gifted people in the world and particularly in this conference is indeed a cause of great optimism.

In this respect, Mr. President and colleagues, I would like to say that the government of South Sudan is ready to join the human family to get rid of dangerous chemicals, gasses which are threatening to obliterate the very existence of life.

This is the greatest challenge to all the nations whether they are the manufacturers of those chemicals, gasses or

not. Therefore, as President Jacob Zuma has said, we must be together and act in the same way to save our planet earth, because if it is destroyed no nation will be left unscathed.

In the light of what has been said, Mr. President and colleagues, the mandate of my delegation to COP17 meeting is to seek your support for the accession to and ratification of all the international treaties on climate change.

In this connection, the new Republic of South Sudan is not only committed to global environmental protection and conservation but is very willing to develop a productive environment if it is assisted or availed the multi-trust funds meant for those purposes.

In Conclusion, Mr. President, the presence of my delegation is therefore to reinforce the commitment of my

government. It is our utmost hope that we shall achieve such a noble goal with your whole support.

Thanks you for listening to me.

Hon. Lt. Gen. Alfred Lado Gore

Minister for Environment

Republic of South Sudan

Durban, Republic of South Africa