

*COP20/CMP10*

*High Level Segment*

*National Statement on behalf of the Republic of Poland*

*to be delivered by*

*H.E. Mr. Marcin Korolec,*

*Secretary of State in the Ministry of the Environment,*

*Government Plenipotentiary for Climate Policy*

I would like to share with you my sincere pride of the fact that Poland is consistently delivering on climate change policy objectives. Persistence and determination in implementing even the most difficult measures are shown by both our government and citizens.

Over the last 25 years after regaining our freedom we managed to completely turn around our economy. Our sustainable growth pushed GDP up by almost 200% while we successfully cut greenhouse gas' emissions but also radically improved the quality of the environment as a whole. The list of our successes continues. We have overachieved our Kyoto target fivefold, shown major progress in energy efficiency and are on the way to have 15% of energy consumed coming from renewables in 2020.

Last October together with other countries in European Union we adopted target of 40% emission reduction by 2030 compared to 1990 levels, which is the most ambitious climate target in the world. We achieved the consensus in spite of many differences between EU member states. This agreement was reached in a spirit of fairness and solidarity. I hope that this ice- breaking European announcement followed by American and Chinese will start an avalanche of mitigation actions undertaken throughout the world.

But we are not only active in mitigation field. Having experienced severe consequences of extreme weather conditions ourselves, such as floods and droughts, we are implementing national adaptation strategy. We share global community's commitment for building climate resilient

economies as well as concerns regarding potential disastrous effects of inaction.

In Poland we do not limit our efforts only to domestic action. Last year's COP in Warsaw was the second one we hosted in Poland (after Poznan in 2008) and it was third time that Poland was presiding over this process. It is not an exaggeration to say that we have been one of the most important midwives of the future global agreement in Paris.

Apart from supporting the process, we are constantly increasing our commitment to support countries in need. Apart from multilateral and direct financial support we help to establish private-public partnerships between Polish providers of environmental technologies and their partners in Developing countries. Our GreenEVO project is gaining more recognition every year as it has proven to effectively implement projects, create jobs and enhance local environmental infrastructure.

All these achievements would not be possible without involvement of Polish citizens. The latest surveys show that as much as 86% of Poles consider climate change a major environmental challenge. With knowledge comes commitment and willingness to act. We are experiencing this in Poland and with this realisation we decided together with the Peruvian Presidency to launch here in Lima an initiative for the Ministerial Declaration on Education and Awareness Raising. I strongly hope you will pick up on this issue with enthusiasm equal to mine and you will support our initiative.

I'm glad that I could share with you the Polish perspective and our achievements. I hope that you'll find our experiences as well as famous Polish courage inspiring in your further work in Lima.