



The Republic of Uganda

HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 20th SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND 10th SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL (COP20/CMP10) LIMA,PERU, 1st -12th December 2014.

STATEMENT BY

H.E PROF. EPHRAIM KAMUNTU

MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT AND HEAD OF THE UGANDA DELEGATION TO COP 20/CMP10.

9th December 2014

H.E Manuel Pulgar-Vidal, Minister of Environment and President of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention Climate Change,

H.E. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations Excellencies,

Ms. Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention Climate Change,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Uganda delegation, I would like to express our appreciation to the Government and the people of Peru for the warm hospitality extended to us and for the excellent arrangements made to host this Conference. My delegation looks forward to concrete outcomes from this COP that will provide the necessary momentum for a final international climate agreement in Paris next year that is legally binding and comprehensive with balanced and equitable treatment of mitigation and adaptation.

We want to express our deep appreciation to the out-going President of COP 19, H.E Marcin Korolec for the effective leadership that he provided. We also commit ourselves to working with you in delivering the expected outcomes of COP 20/CMP 10.

Mr. President,

The adverse impacts of climate change are threatening the very survival of natural and human systems.

Uganda has not been spared from these impacts. In the past decade alone, the country has witnessed a myriad of disasters with the resultant loss of lives, property and destruction of infrastructure which have greatly affected the achievement of our national socio-economic development goals. Several of these episodes including melting of ice caps on Mt. Ruwenzori, the 3rd highest mountain in Africa, are likely to cause serious consequences on geo-political security and severe adverse impacts to millions of people. Our efforts in tackling these challenges are seriously constrained due to the magnitude of the problem and the inherent huge costs of adaptation, addressing the loss and damage suffered as well as building the resilience of the communities.

Mr. President,

Uganda firmly believes that the collective wisdom of the global community still has a chance in saving the future of our planet and the human race; **but only if we have the necessary political will to act.** We must spare no effort in taking bold action now as indicated by scientific evidence in the latest Intergovernmental Panel Climate Change fifth Assessment Report.

All of us must therefore demonstrate leadership based on the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. There is no longer any doubt about this threat and consequently we have no choice but to ensure that we walk the talk and save the world from these threats. Uganda will always stand high to be

counted in supporting efforts to address this greatest challenge of our time.

Mr President,

Let me now emphasize some specific issues that Lima must deliver. These include inter alia:

1. A single decision on the 2015 Agreement covering all concrete elements of the negotiating text and on the scope of the intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs).
2. Decision on the pre-2020 early climate actions to close the ambition gap and spur sustainable development benefits particularly for African countries and the Least Developed Countries. In this regard, my delegation urges developed country partners to support massive investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, afforestation as part of enhancing our national efforts to move to at least 50% use of renewable energy by the year 2040 and thereby contribute to mitigation efforts.
3. We also need to streamline public health dimension in climate change adaptation and mitigation policies and strategies.
4. Decision re-affirming the predictable, adequate and scaled-up climate financing as well as full operationalization of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) with windows for LDCs to address priority adaptation needs and Loss and Damage. We welcome the recent pledges made by a number of

Developed Country partners towards the GCF, we strongly call for capitalization of GCF to at least USD 15 billion which should be further scaled up to at least 40 billion by December 2015. We note with appreciation that the GCF is on track to mobilize more than US\$10 billion that will be channelled to priority actions in developing countries in the short run and therefore ready to operate. We further call for increased mobilization of resources towards the existing mechanisms of the Least Development Countries Fund, Adaptation Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. We support the anchoring of these existing mechanisms in the new agreement.

5. On REDD+, my delegation calls for concrete decision on full operationalization of the Warsaw REDD+ decisions and therefore paying developing countries for the efforts in conserving their forests.
6. On technology transfer and capacity building, we re-affirm our strong call for a decision to enhance scaled up technology transfer and diffusion in the most vulnerable countries. In this regard, my delegation wishes to thank the UN Secretary General for his recent appointment of High Level Panel on the proposed Technology Transfer Facility for the LDCs and Small Island Developing States that are most vulnerable to adverse impacts of climate change.

Uganda strongly believes that the time is now for the establishment of a framework under the Convention and a dedicated institution solely to

coordinate, monitor, evaluate and report on capacity building under the Convention.

Mr President,

I would like to conclude by urging all parties to show flexibility in reaching agreements to make this conference a concrete landmark towards Paris 2015. We need to act on increasing our mitigation ambitions, to create effective strategies for adaptation and to apply new protections for those who are already affected and who will be affected in the future. **The time to do all that is now - for tomorrow will be too late.**

I thank you for your attention.