

In the name of Allah the Merciful,
the Compassionate



Remarks of

His Excellency

Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Attiyah

The President of COP18/CMP8

At the opening of the COP19/CMP9

Warsaw, Poland

11 November 2013

Your Excellency Mr. Marcin Korolec, President-designate of the 19th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 9th Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

Honourable Mayor of Warsaw Madame Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz;

Distinguished delegates;

Ladies and gentlemen;

Peace, mercy and the blessings of Allah be with you.

Allow me first to congratulate with our wishes for continued progress and prosperity the government and people of the Republic of Poland on this, the 95th anniversary of independence. I also commend the government of Poland on the outstanding efforts put forward to host this global conference and the warm welcome and hospitality that have been provided.

Ladies and gentlemen,

It's a pleasure to gather again one year after adopting the Doha Climate Gateway, which paved the path towards a new global climate agreement, through a series of decisions including:

- The Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol and its extension to 2020; and
- Completion of the work of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on additional commitments by Annex I countries under the Kyoto Protocol and within the context of mitigation.

I commend those countries that have ratified the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and urge other parties to follow in their footsteps.

In Doha, we were also able to complete the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Long-term Cooperative Action. We congratulate this team on the great work it accomplished and sincerely hope the results it produced will facilitate the implementation of the agreement.

Doha marked the first time for loss and damage to be formally recognized and adopted in the text, which constitutes an important gain for developing countries. Building from this, we stress the necessity of redoubling efforts through technology, finance, knowledge transfer and capacity building.

In Doha, the Parties extended the work on long-term finance for one year and we emphasize again today the need to exert more effort in identifying ways to mobilize climate funding.

Finally, I would highlight the significant progress we achieved on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action.

We hope that these outcomes support what we all seek as governments, institutions and individuals—protecting the planet and reducing our exposure to the impacts of climate change.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

During our Presidency of the Conference, we actively sought to respect the principles of transparency, neutrality and balance as pillars of our work, taking into account all views and suggestions raised during our quest for an agreement that satisfied all parties.

The successful agreement reached by the Parties in Doha would not have been possible without the efforts and contribution of all Parties and the spirit of cooperation that was demonstrated.

So I take this opportunity to thank you all for all those efforts.

And I extend my thanks to the UNFCCC Secretariat for the constructive spirit of cooperation and in particular Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The success of the Doha conference represents another achievement in Qatari multilateral diplomacy built on the foundation established by His Highness the Father Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani and

continued by His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today we have a great opportunity to take additional steps forward towards our common goal of reaching a new agreement in 2015. The key to this comes through the results we deliver here in Warsaw—successes that together, we should carry to Lima in 2014.

So, I invite you to support my colleague, His Excellency Mr. Marcin Korolec, President-designate of the 19th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Climate Change and 9th Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol.

I wish you all the greatest success.

May peace, mercy and the blessings of Allah be with you.