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Marrakesh, 29 October – 9 November 2001

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUENOS AIRES PLAN OF ACTION

Statements made in connection with the approval of The Bonn Agreements on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (decision 5/CP.6)

Note by the secretariat

1. The Conference of the Parties, at the second part of its sixth session, agreed that the secretariat should issue a transcript of the statements by Parties made at the 15th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2001, in connection with the approval of “The Bonn Agreements on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action” (decision 5/CP.6) (see FCCC/CP/2001/5, para. 61).
2. Accordingly, the present document contains a transcript of the above-mentioned statements in order of delivery and based on the English interpretation in the case of statements delivered in languages other than English.
3. A complete webcast of the 15th plenary meeting, held on 23 July 2001, may be viewed on the COP 6 web site at http://www.unfccc.int/cop6_2/. This webcast permits viewing with the original floor sound, or the English language.

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STATEMENT NO. 1: IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)
(on behalf of the Group of 77 and China)

There could not be a happier occasion for the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China than this very moment to express our best felicitations on an achievement of historical significance and import: an accomplishment under very trying circumstances, an honourable deal indeed!

Allow me, Mr. President, my dear Minister Pronk, to congratulate you and your colleagues, and Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar and his colleagues in the secretariat, for your excellent and hard work and perseverance for so many months now, and more specifically, since last week here in Bonn – not to mention a sleepless night of marathon negotiations. An excellent outcome for really good work. Three cheers to all of you!

The agreement we have just reached is the final outcome of a multilateral process that has gone through a winding, bumpy road – all of us directly engaged in the process know exactly what that means. But, notwithstanding all kinds of difficulties and the rather familiar pull and push in international intergovernmental negotiations, we, the intergovernmental body in its entirety, managed to rise to the challenge of the moment and finish the unfinished work of The Hague. The significance of what we achieved here in Bonn does not merely relate to the climate change process and the further operationalization of the Convention and progress on the Kyoto Protocol – important as they are. Rather, it signifies the centrality of the concept of international cooperation for higher common objectives of the global community. The success in Bonn cannot but be the very direct outcome of dialogue, mutual understanding and a sense of conciliation and compromise.

Everybody here remembers vividly the message in the statement I read on behalf of the Group of 77 and China last Thursday, 19 July. It was a message of engagement, commitment and hope. We said in clear and unambiguous words that we came here with the resolve to make the Bonn meeting a real success. We promised to extend a helping hand to the international community on an important and yet sensitive area of global commons. We came here for real, genuine cooperation with our developed partners in the North.

This occasion and this moment confirm what I said at the very beginning of that statement – with my allusion to a Persian proverb that “*words coming from the heart do indeed touch the heart.*” We reached out, and they reached out. And here is the outcome: representing the triumph of multilateralism and cooperation over unilateralism. This should, no doubt, augur well for the future of this process and other multilateral processes. Let us hope the achievement here today will prove conducive to the early re-engagement of all members of the international community in the continuation of the process.

I would like to seize this opportunity to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to all negotiating partners for their openness, sense of conciliation and cooperation, and above all, their political will and political acumen not to miss the chance - fleeting as such moments are. I should as well express my most sincere words of gratitude to the members of the Group of 77 and China and the coordinators for their excellent work, support and cooperation throughout the whole process. It was only through the solidarity of the Group of 77 and China that negotiations on behalf of the developing world could be undertaken, with mandate

and authority. I thank all my dear brothers and sisters in the Group. Let me assure them all that the work of the Group will be pursued with the same sense of commitment, and vigour towards the unity and solidarity of the Group.

I end with words on a note of renewed hope and resolve for the further cooperative work lying ahead of all of us.

STATEMENT NO. 2: BELGIUM

(on behalf of the European Community
and its Member States, and also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway and
Switzerland)¹

On behalf of the European Community and its Member States, I should like to thank you for the extraordinary and lengthy task which you have so brilliantly accomplished. Through you we would like to thank your whole team. My thanks also go to you, Mr. Zammit Cutajar, and to your whole team. I should like to thank the countries who have reached this agreement and particularly those whose positions were very far from our own. The agreement which we have concluded today is of course historic. Nobody contests the reality of climate change and we might have thought that the challenge was too great for to be met. We have met this challenge and we were right to do so. The agreement which we have concluded is very positive for the international community; it is very positive for the United Nations in particular, and from the bottom of my heart I welcome this.

Permit me then without any chauvinism or sense of competition, on the contrary, in a spirit of international cooperation, and understanding - to say to you how important this agreement is for Europe, fifteen countries whose common history has often been changeable and at times tragic; and who joined together over the years. Today these countries can welcome the fact that they have been obstinate in their efforts to save the Kyoto Protocol. Europe is not only a matter of institutional architecture, Europe is above all made up of convictions and projects. One country unfortunately feels that this Protocol may not be the best tool to combat climate change. I can say to the representatives of this country that we have deliberately left the door wide open and that we shall continue our constructive contacts in this area and that they are welcome.

[continued in English]

I should like to now read out, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, and also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland, the following Political Declaration on Financial Support for Developing Countries:

We, the aforementioned Annex II Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, fully recognize the need to provide financial resources to developing countries, in accordance with our commitments under Article 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.8 and 4.9 of the Convention.

We welcome the progress that has been made at the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties towards decisions which would enable developing countries to readily access further funding for a broad range of activities in the fields of capacity building, technology transfer and full adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change and response measures, including through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) or other financial channels.

We agree that least developed countries (LDCs), in particular, require special consideration to assist them to respond to the climate change challenge. We welcome the

¹ The original statement was partially delivered in French.

progress made towards specific efforts, such as National Adaptation Programmes of Action, to strengthen support to address LDC needs.

We take full account of the need for predictable and adequate levels of funding to help developing countries meet their obligations under the Convention and to prepare for the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol.

We recognize the efforts which the GEF has already made to streamline its procedures and project cycle. But still more needs to be done. We acknowledge the need for further streamlining and will pursue this through the GEF Council. We also look forward to a successful third replenishment of the GEF.

We also welcome the establishment of an Adaptation Fund, a Special Climate Change Fund and a Least Developed Countries Fund which should contribute substantively to supporting the efforts of developing countries in addressing climate change. We are committed to the prompt start and effective operation of these funds and the prompt start of the CDM.

We reaffirm our support for a fully transparent process of reporting and review of our climate change actions and measures, including financial assistance and technology transfer, through national communications under the Convention.

We reaffirm our strong political commitment to climate change funding for developing countries. We are prepared to contribute US \$ 410 million, which is 450 million Euro, per year by 2005 with this level to be reviewed in 2008. Funding to be counted can include: contributions to GEF climate change related activities; bilateral and multilateral funding additional to current levels; funding for the special climate change funds, the Kyoto Protocol Adaptation Fund and the LDC fund; and funding deriving from the share of proceeds of the clean development mechanism following entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol. We invite all the Parties to contribute also.

STATEMENT NO. 3: MOROCCO²

On this great day of joy, which all delegates here have experienced, and which public opinion has experienced through the media, on behalf of our Minister and the Moroccan delegation, I would like to address our sincerest and warmest congratulations and very special thanks to our President, Mr. Pronk, for the work that he has performed and for all the efforts he has been making over these hard and testing days. I would also like to thank and congratulate all of those who, from near or from far, have contributed to ensuring that this is a joyful and memorable day.

I would like to recall that the Parties have also taken another decision, that is to organize the next Conference of the Parties in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 29 October to 9 November 2001. I would like to take this opportunity to say to all delegations that the preparations are well under way, as the Minister already stated in his opening address, and that we shall meet the challenge. With the help of all the Parties present, and in particular the developing countries and the Group of 77 and China, we will do everything to ensure that the Conference is a success and that Marrakesh is a springboard that will lead to a new momentum on our way towards Johannesburg.

² The original statement was delivered in French.

STATEMENT NO.4: AUSTRALIA
(on behalf of the Umbrella Group)

Mr. President, I also want to thank you for all you have done. You richly deserve this success. I also want to thank the Executive Secretary and staff - they join with you in that success. I want to thank my colleagues, particularly the Umbrella Group, which I have had the honour once again to coordinate. I would like to thank my officials, those of my collaborators, and those with whom we negotiated. Mr. President, it is not easy to speak on behalf of the Umbrella Group, as you know. We rarely have a common view on anything; but the interesting aspect is that we seem to get on well together and, even if we do not have a common view, we are always prepared to back each other up. I know that this has sometimes made your task confusing, Mr. President.

I am however pleased at so many things that have come out of this process, particularly the emphasis that has been placed upon least developed countries. I am pleased with the increasing response to adaptation, which regrettably is going to be so necessary; also with the development and transfer of technologies which can be part of the solution. It is good to have made progress on the Kyoto Protocol rules: emissions trading; joint implementation; the clean development mechanism, all of which have an important part to play in low-cost and equitably distributed abatement. Not surprisingly, I am particularly pleased with the sinks outcome, emphasizing the legitimate role of sinks in our armoury.

There are always, Mr. President, some disappointments in a negotiating process such as this, but on balance there have been many more pluses than minuses. Most important, I think, is that the international community has, through implementing the Convention and advancing the Protocol, shown a determination to significantly address this major environmental economic and social challenge, and I think that it is worth reminding ourselves that we are still only making early and tentative steps along a very long road - we need to build momentum. I can assure you, Mr. President, that Australia is prepared to play its part and we will meet our responsibility. It has been a privilege to work in this field for the last five years or so and to see such significant and hard-won successes.

STATEMENT NO. 5: CHINA³

Today marks a memorable day in the history of the negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The political agreement before us represents an important step in the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. Although every part of it might have some points which are unsatisfactory to some parties, it has created the conditions for the early entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and will thus enable the Annex I Parties to take actions to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases and mitigate climate change. This political agreement also made it possible for the developed countries to support the developing countries in this regard, which represents a major breakthrough. In this connection we would like to welcome the political statements made by the European Community and by some of the other developed countries.

In order to reach this political agreement, all parties have exerted their utmost efforts in the negotiations, and the developing countries have also made some major sacrifices. This serves to demonstrate that, faced with political crises, the international community is able to overcome difficulties and hold to the correct orientation. History will show that all the efforts that we have made today will be rewarded in the future.

Mr. President, I will be as brief as possible so that you can have more time to take a rest. I know you have been working for at least 48 hours without any sleep, whereas we have been only working through the night. I think that, no matter how this political agreement will be evaluated, your leadership in the negotiations process and your unremitting efforts have made you a historical figure in this process. Your efforts in this process will be remembered.

³ The original statement was delivered in Chinese.

STATEMENT NO. 6: JAPAN

Mr President, first of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you for your tireless and dedicated work as the President of the COP 6, to finally reach an agreement on a number of important issues under the Convention and the critical issues which are vital for the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol.

Since the historic conference in Kyoto in 1997, Japan has been exerting its all-out efforts in close cooperation with other partners for the successful outcome of our negotiations. In the course of our negotiations, we have always tried to ensure the viable and sustainable systems and mechanisms to achieve the goals under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.

The Government of Japan is pleased to join in the consensus to adopt the decisions we finally made today. Today's agreement is a vital step forward towards realizing the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol by 2002.

In order to achieve the objectives of the Kyoto Protocol, we need to have the widest possible participation of countries. We should try to build up a system to encourage all our friends to join us in our common efforts to address the global warming.

Our work still continues, and many more days of hard work are required to ensure that detailed rules and procedures are adequately laid down. I am very happy to see that consensus was reached through the maximum flexibility and patience of all the participating countries. Global warming requires us to mobilize our wisdom and courage, as we sail across uncharted seas into the future.

On behalf of Japan, I would like to make a statement regarding financial support for developing countries.

Japan welcomes the political declaration delivered by other members of Annex II countries. We associate ourselves with many elements included in the declaration, such as those regarding the streamlining of the GEF procedures, and the establishment of an Adaptation Fund, a Special Climate Change Fund and a Least Developed Countries Fund, which should contribute substantively to supporting the efforts of developing countries in tackling climate change.

Japan is committed to supporting the efforts of developing countries in addressing climate change because this is a global problem requiring a global response. We have transformed this commitment into concrete action through the Kyoto Initiative announced in 1997. Under the Kyoto Initiative, Japan has committed itself to providing on average about 2.4 billion US\$ annually in highly concessional loans for projects related to climate change in developing countries. Japan has also provided financial and technical assistance amounting to 7,400 million US\$ for climate change projects since 1998. Japan considers that such on-going activities to assist developing countries should be legitimately recognized as contributing to strengthening developing countries' actions against climate change. Let me

conclude by expressing our commitment to intensify ongoing efforts to assist developing countries in the area of climate change. Thank you.

STATEMENT NO. 7: BULGARIA
(on behalf of Central Group 11)

I wish to express our very great gratitude and appreciation to you, Mr. President, for leading this process to a successful end. When we came to Bonn our hopes, frankly speaking, were not too high. But as the week went by, in spite of all the highs and lows in the negotiations, we were heartened by the good spirit that prevailed and the predominant desire among practically all Parties for a successful outcome.

Mr President, you yourself took on a tremendous burden of responsibility, not only through proposing the "Prong package," but also by conducting all negotiations practically exclusively on a bilateral basis. It was a risky method, but this makes you merit even more our acknowledgement for your role and perseverance.

What happened an hour ago, and was formally gavelled down just now, is a great step forward in the area of sustainable development for the whole of humanity. We all realize that before us lies the difficult process of ratification, which hopefully will allow the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol by the year 2002. We, on our side, promise to do our best to do our part of the job, and immediately when we return home, maybe after resting for a minute, we will concern ourselves with the ratification procedures. We also hope that all those of who today are sceptical about the Kyoto Protocol will be in a position to join this global endeavour in the very near future. We need them and we don't think we can be entirely successful without them.

In conclusion, I would like to express our gratitude to Mr. Zammit Cutajar and the secretariat for the excellent work and support during these long and difficult negotiations.

STATEMENT NO. 8: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA⁴

The United States came to this global Conference on climate change to work constructively to enhance international cooperation on an important environmental challenge. We welcome the cooperative spirit present throughout this Conference and, in particular, we thank you, Mr. President, and the Executive Secretary and staff, for your tireless efforts. In fact, after several sleepless nights, I recognize how hard all of you have worked over the past few years to achieve this outcome.

We believe progress has been made on several important matters. We have identified areas for cooperation among developed and developing countries under the Framework Convention on Climate Change. Actions in these areas can increase the capacity of developing countries to respond to climate change, help facilitate exports of advanced clean energy technologies and stimulate other actions that will help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions abroad. The United States looks forward to partnering with developing countries through bilateral and regional programs, as well as pre-existing multilateral financial mechanisms. The United States has a strong tradition of assisting developing countries with their climate change priorities, and we intend to maintain our leadership in this area.

Beyond issues relating to the Framework Convention, countries viewed this Conference as an opportunity to complete the rules for the Kyoto Protocol. We note that the Conference recognized that all its conclusions on funding issues were adopted in the context of moving forward on the Kyoto Protocol. As a result, there is a complete segregation of funds called for under the Kyoto Protocol from funds used to implement the Framework Convention. Given the expanded Convention funding mandate, it is also recognized that the United States will not be expected to make financial contributions beyond its pre-existing commitments as set forth in the Framework Convention. In furtherance of the Framework Convention's objectives, we welcome input from developing countries as we explore creative international initiatives during our climate change policy review.

Regarding the adoption of rules elaborating the Kyoto Protocol, although the United States does not intend to ratify that agreement, we have not sought to stop others from moving ahead, so long as legitimate U.S. interests were protected.

At the same time, the United States must emphasize that our not blocking consensus on the adoption of these Kyoto Protocol rules does not change our view that the Protocol is not sound policy. Among other things, the emissions targets are not scientifically based or environmentally effective, given the global nature of greenhouse gas emissions and the Protocol's exclusion of developing countries from its emissions limitation requirements and its failure to address black soot and tropospheric ozone. The decisions made today with respect to the Protocol, in addition, reinforce our conclusion that the treaty is not workable for the United States.

Moreover, there are many areas in which the Kyoto Protocol and the rules elaborating it contain elements that would not be acceptable if proposed in another negotiating context in

⁴ Based on the text provided to the secretariat.

which the United States participates. Those elements which we do not support include, for example: an institution to assess compliance with emissions targets that is dominated by developing country members without targets; more favorable treatment for Parties operating within a regional economic integration organization relative to other Parties; and rules that purport to change treaty commitments through decisions of the Parties rather than through the proper amendment procedure.

The United States came to this Conference to engage with other governments on the pressing global climate change problem. We have benefited from the opportunities to explain the Bush Administration's approach, to listen to the views of others, and to better understand different perspectives. Many other governments share some of the priorities we have identified, including an interest in: developing and promoting the use of innovative energy technologies; advancing climate science and modeling; promoting carbon sequestration and developing market-friendly approaches to environmental protection. We look forward to continuing productive discussions on these and other related topics at future COP meetings. The Bush Administration takes the issue of climate change very seriously and we will not abdicate our responsibilities.

Mr. President, thank you again for your many contributions to this process.

STATEMENT NO. 9: INDONESIA

Mr. President let me take this opportunity to extend our sincere and warm congratulations to you on behalf of my delegation. I personally admire your energy and perseverance in the past few days that enabled us to come to this point. We would also like extend our thanks and congratulations to the UNFCCC secretariat and staff for their hard work to make this possible. Our delegation would like to convey our congratulations to, and associate with, the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China for the leadership given during this process. We feel there are many things that he found very difficult during the negotiations, but we also note the sense of humour that he has expressed with the Group. We really appreciate the fact that the process has been very accommodative to all the members of the Group. We would especially like to thank the distinguished delegate from South Africa, in relation to the compliance issue that have been very difficult in the past few hours and I think that we publicly have to announce our congratulations to Ms. Sandea de Wet for leading our group through this difficult process.

Overnight Mr. President, our delegation has been watching two interesting processes, both here and at home, and we would like to echo our chairman's statement that our hope has been renewed - our hope to be able to solve global problems has been renewed. We are going to leave here with our heads held up high and we would also hope that what is happening at home will share in the bright future. We do expect that we will be able to host the ministerial level summit to prepare for work in Johannesburg, to provide a good forum for the success of the World Summit in South Africa.

STATEMENT NO. 10: GRENADA

(on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries)

Mr. President, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean countries would like to thank you for the strong leadership which you have displayed over the last few months, and especially over the last few days here in Bonn, and we would like to congratulate you for a job well done. The Group would also like to thank all Parties to this Convention for having demonstrated to the people of the world that the international community is serious about climate change and willing to begin the process of responding to it in a serious and constructive manner. Because, as we all know, climate change is not necessarily only about targets and formulae and those kinds of things. For many of us in the developing world, it is about survival; it is about what we live for; it is about our children who are coming after us.

In this context, the members of my Group would like to reiterate our commitment to making our best efforts to implement the Convention and participate in the Kyoto Protocol. As you are aware we have limitations in this regard and we look forward to working constructively with our developed country partners in implementing the agreements on vulnerability and adaptation, capacity building, technology transfer and the clean development mechanism which we have made in the last few days. In this regard we welcome the political declarations just made by the European Union and Japan, and look forward to working constructively with them in all the areas identified. We know that there is still a lot of work ahead of us, but we know that we are all committed to getting it done and we are confident that together we will successfully achieve all of our goals.

STATEMENT NO. 11: RUSSIAN FEDERATION⁵

On behalf of the delegation of the Russian Federation, I should like to congratulate the participants in the negotiations, and to congratulate you, Mr. President, on the great achievement, which you have managed to bring about as a result of our intensive and difficult work. I am grateful to the secretariat for the help of its very experienced and efficient staff, without whose assistance it would not have been possible to achieve these politically significant results in such a short period of time.

I think that, although today there is a regular plenary session of the Conference of the Parties, we are in fact all in a celebratory mood, because today we have overcome the differences of opinion which for quite some time have prevented us from moving forward in the design of flexibility mechanisms and, in the final analysis, from moving towards the entry into force and implementation of the Kyoto Protocol. The negotiations were not easy, and the fragile balance that was achieved is a result of the good will and efforts of all participants in the negotiations who strived to reach positive results in order to facilitate moving forward as quickly as possible towards the entry into force of the Protocol and implementation of its provisions.

But there is a great deal of work ahead of us. Important political decisions have been taken, but many technical questions and parameters, which will have an influence on the implementation of the mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol, still have to be clarified and discussed. For this reason, Mr. President, I would like to express the hope that the final versions of the documents, which will be issued in all official languages of the United Nations, will reflect the elements, which you have referred to in your statement today. I think that there are a lot of figures, which have to be looked at, for example, in the forestry sector. I am confident that as a result of the technical negotiations and preparation of the relevant documents, we will be able to find the optimal solutions which will make it possible for countries to implement the undertaken commitments with maximum efficiency.

I should like to welcome the statements we have heard today from the representative of the European Community, the Minister of Belgium, and also of the Minister of Japan, concerning assistance and support to developing countries in their efforts to resolve the problems of climate change. You may recall, Mr. President, that during the negotiations there were lengthy debates aimed at finding stricter and binding wordings related to funding of activities under the Convention and the Protocol. I would like to stress that the good will of countries, their efforts to implement the commitments, including their financial ones, as fully as possible were the main driving force of success. Bureaucratic constructs cannot be compared in strength with the good will of countries determined to persevere in their efforts to minimize the effects of climate change. I would also like to say that at present Russia is not in a position to join in the financial support to the developing countries, but I believe there will be a time when we will be among those countries who actively fulfil their commitments.

⁵ The original statement was delivered in Russian.

I would like to draw your attention to the recent initiative of the President of the Russian Federation, which was supported yesterday at the G-8 summit in Genoa by the leaders of the seven industrialized nations, to hold a World Climate Conference in 2003. I believe this conference will help us better understand the problems of climate change, their influence on the life of people and adaptation options. I believe such a world forum would be a very useful opportunity for a dialogue between researchers, economists, climate and social scientists, which would allow us to further develop and take measures to overcome the effects of climate change.

Just a few days ago while talking to our German colleagues, I expressed our hope that Bonn would become a symbol of the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol in the same way as the city of Kyoto became a symbol of its development and adoption. I am happy that my hope comes true and that indeed today Bonn becomes a symbol of moving forward. Political will and desire of countries to work together to overcome differences of opinion helped to unite our efforts, so that together we could solve global climate problems.

Once again, I would like to express my satisfaction with the results of our work and to wish a fruitful continuation of the negotiations part of the Conference of the Parties which should achieve very important practical results, so that the seventh session of the Conference of Parties in Morocco would be able to adopt a full package of documents bringing about the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and eliminating the remaining barriers to the ratification of the Protocol by many countries.

STATEMENT NO. 12: SAUDI ARABIA⁶

Mr. President, on behalf of Saudi Arabia I would like to express my thanks to you. You have shown in the past, Mr. President, that you are indeed a leader and that you have been directing a vessel which was very difficult to direct. Although we have had certain divergences during the past days and years, nevertheless in spite of all of this we confess and recognize that you have been just and fair in the way in which you have dealt with all Parties, and I am saying that personally. I have a great deal of respect for you and I will continue to have such respect. I should also like to thank the Executive Secretary, Mr. Zammit Cutajar. Unfortunately he will be leaving us at the end of this year. He is a great friend and I am proud to have had his friendship. I should also like to thank all members of the secretariat, the whole team that has been working here with us.

Mr. President, you are the person most familiar with the interests of our peoples. These interests join the interests of this Conference and the topic we are dealing with. You have always sought for them to be taken into consideration to the extent possible. Although we are not entirely in agreement with certain proposals contained in the decision which has just been adopted, we have accepted to join the consensus and have accepted these proposals. We hope that when we begin to discuss details in the future, we will take into total consideration all interests which are sometimes divergent among Parties to this Convention. I can assure you that we will work together with all Parties in order to bring about these common interests which will result in a just sharing of the costs and benefits to all States, so that the developing countries, including Saudi Arabia, will not have to support more than what it is able to and more than would be fair, in order to implement the principle of shared responsibility

I should also like most sincerely to thank the representative of Iran, who has presided over the Group of 77 and China, and who is your rival to the extent that he is chairing a large group, more than 134 countries are in the group he shares, and you Sir, your group of countries is more than 180. I would like to recognize that his direction, his conduct of the work, was excellent in the interests of the developing countries, but also in the joint interests all other countries. Permit me also Mr. President to thank all of those who have worked with us in the Group of 77 and China, the coordinators, and also all of those who have cooperated with you and our colleagues from all countries to make it possible to reach this decision.

⁶ The original statement was delivered in Arabic.

STATEMENT NO. 13: CANADA

Mr. President, Senator Hill has spoken on behalf of the Umbrella Group in which Canada has played an active role, but it would be remiss of me not to congratulate you and all the Parties on these splendid achievements which we are confirming at this session. Canada is pleased to have been an active participant in the negotiations leading to the political agreement we have adopted on the rules to implement the Kyoto Protocol. We are pleased to join in this significant climate change agreement. We continue to be strongly committed to the Kyoto Protocol.

Mr. President, we welcome the political declaration made by the European Union and we are pleased to be associated with it, as it reinforces our ongoing support for developing countries. For us, this means some 35 million dollars per year. You will recall Mr. Chairman, that Canada offered an additional 20 million dollars to top up the GEF in The Hague as part of the deal there. Today, in recognition of the excellent progress made here in Bonn and the special needs of the least developed countries, Canada would like to help meet the immediate adaptation needs of the least developing countries by allocating a portion of this new funding. This would comprise a 10 million dollar contribution to jump-start the Least Developed Countries fund to be established under the GEF for initial least developed countries adaptation work.

STATEMENT NO. 14: BURKINA FASO
(on behalf of the African Group)⁷

Mr. President, Burkina Faso, on behalf of the African Group, would like to join with all delegations, principally the Islamic Republic of Iran, spokesman of the Group of 77 and China, in expressing its deep gratitude to you and to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change for the tenacity and the perseverance of your efforts. My congratulations go also to all Parties who have made tremendous sacrifices and inestimable concessions in order to bring about this agreement, which I would qualify as historic. The African Group would like to refer to the important question of financial assistance to developing countries and to least developed countries to enable them to cope with the effects of climate change. Above all, I would like the Bonn political declaration to be translated into concrete facts. I hope that the countries who are still hesitating will come back among us and contribute to the various funds which are established.

This special day is one which should remain in our memories even if there are still some shortcomings. I have faith that international cooperation will be able to maintain the momentum in order to avoid disappointment and scepticism. Our continent will try to take up the challenge in Marrakesh. It will count on your lengthy experience. The results reached by IPCC on the vulnerability of Africa give a strong signal and call for action by the entire international community for greater assistance.

I would not wish to conclude without thanking members of the Group of 77 and China, who have been able to transcend their differences and diversity which is something that is truly great. This is a stage in the process: this is not the end. Once again, our thanks to you Mr. President, congratulations to our partners, the developed countries, and all my gratitude to the developing countries. We were very worried but reason has prevailed and mankind as a whole is the winner.

⁷ The original statement was delivered in French.

STATEMENT NO. 15: INDIA

Loud applause and accolade for your tremendous efforts Mr. President. May I also acknowledge the optimism and the very constructive endeavours by various delegations, and the great support provided by Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar and his secretariat. Iran has already spoken on behalf of my delegation, but I must acknowledge the tremendous ability of articulation of Ambassador Asadi, my dear friend Mr. Salamat, and all the other members of the Iranian delegation. I have sought the floor also to bring out the tremendous feeling of fulfilment which my delegation feels in being able to participate in this historical moment, so very poignant, and moving also, and so very demonstrative of the tremendous strength of the UN multilateral system.

Mr. President, you did not let the moment pass - you seized it; you did not let it slip - you held us with both hands and made us work. Many initiatives - the listing, the options - they were exercises in great negotiations, management and innovativeness. The arriving tide you recognized, and on this tide we are now afloat.

On behalf of my delegation, I wish you all the best, all our felicitations in your future endeavours, and personally I would be conscious also that all COPs have a number, this COP has a number, the ones before it and the ones after it, but I shall remember this as the "Pronk COP".

STATEMENT NO. 16: MEXICO
(on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group)

I am speaking on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group. Our group is a small group of nations which is nonetheless highly committed to the protection of our environment. Global warming is one of the largest challenges of present and future generations, and because of that we are working here together and taking some steps in the right direction.

The last few days have proved to us that this been has an instance of true international cooperation. We have proved once again that the United Nations is the right setting for countries to work out and appreciate one another's differences, to talk openly and to decide to act together. We want to keep the United Nations, Mr. President.

Today, we feel a sense of fulfilment because we sense that a historic step has been achieved, and this historic step comes from a commitment and a decision to do something for our environment. Mr. President, I will never forget what we witnessed early this morning, between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m. when the Group of 77 and China and the European Union did their utmost to reach out their hands and to work together. That, Mr. President, impressed me and it is a proof of how we can work together. During the past few days we have worked wisely and with passion, and it is with passion that we will attract and inspire those countries which have lost their way and which will necessarily have to come back to Kyoto.

Let me reflect a little bit about my country, Mexico. In Mexico we have already felt the effects of global warming. I have reminded all of my colleagues during the past few days of the effects that Mexico has felt in terms of hurricanes, prolonged droughts, and forest fires that we have never seen before. For this reason, Mexico ratified the Kyoto Protocol in April 2000. For this reason, I am proud to say that tomorrow Mexico will be its presenting its second national communication, as probably the first country under the Kyoto Protocol.

Mr. President, I am very happy to see in our political declarations that we have given special attention to the topic of vulnerability, that we have given special attention to the least developed counties that are in need, and that we have recognized the special needs of small island States.

Thank you Mr. President for your efforts. Thank you Michael Zammit Cutajar for bringing us together. I am going back to Mexico with a sense of hope. I am going back to Mexico with enthusiasm and I will tell my fellow Mexicans that, as the international community, we can work together.

STATEMENT NO. 17: PANAMA⁸

Thank you Mr. President, fellow delegates, particularly delegates from the Group of 77 and China, our dear colleagues from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries, Mr. Asadi, and his team. The delegation of Panama would like to express its optimism and happiness at having success in this dialogue among countries which have grasped the need to adapt human development. Panama has ratified the Convention, and was the eighth country to ratify the Kyoto Protocol because we believe in the need to seek a global solution to a problem which affects us all.

The process underway today marks a milestone. It is the result of the perseverance and flexibility which we firmly believe in. Our national anthem begins with some words which we hope can apply to the whole world: "*Let us achieve victory in the happy fields of union.*" In other words, a victory coupled with union in our understanding of the consequences seeking to attain a balance and in our discussion, and in our understanding of the consequences, not merely the environmental, but also social and economic matters as well.

Mr. President, from the narrow isthmus of the American continent, Panama, a small tropical country, so severely vulnerable to climate change, yet positive and optimistic, calls for compromise with a view to refining what has already been agreed upon, a commitment to fill in the gaps, but also a material commitment from the more developed Parties. We believe in the capacity of mature countries for dialogue, and I would invite all those present to recall the words of Schiller, and put to music by Ludwig van Beethoven, a credit to his country, Germany, that this event be marked with *Freunde* - with happiness!

⁸ The original statement was delivered in Spanish.

STATEMENT NO. 18: BRAZIL

Mr. President, I wish to associate my delegation with the congratulations extended by the distinguished Ambassador of Iran, Chairman of the Group of 77 and China, and by the Chairman of GRULAC to you, and to Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar, the Executive Secretary of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, for your untiring and ongoing efforts to guide us to this historic moment.

Bonn today joins Rio and Kyoto as one of the places acknowledged as landmarks of international environmental diplomacy. A positive atmosphere has prevailed not only in the contacts among delegations, but, I wish to underline, also with representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil society whose role is increasingly relevant in providing us with information and in stimulating governments in a very positive way towards an outcome such as the one that we have achieved today, and in which we take great pride.

Mr. President, Brazil has been actively working for the establishment of a consistent and robust climate change regime since the negotiation of the Framework Convention on Climate Change. I wish to reaffirm the commitment of the Government of Brazil to the Kyoto Protocol and to its full implementation. Protecting our climate is a collective endeavour, and this cooperation should be even more strengthened with a view to achieving universality.

STATEMENT NO. 19: SWITZERLAND

Mr. President, I am pleased to confirm the commitment on the part of Switzerland to provide additional funding, as stated in the political declaration presented by the European Union. This declaration and our commitment are based on your corresponding proposals, as given in your consolidated negotiating text for this Conference of the Parties.

Mr. President, as we have stated previously and consistently at this Conference, we believe that substantial additional funding is needed, and we believe that burden-sharing based on greenhouse gas emissions is appropriate and consistent with the objective of the Convention.

We appreciate this important initiative by the European Union and other countries, and would like to extend our gratitude to all Parties that have decided to join this effort. As stated in the text of this political initiative, there is a standing invitation for other Parties to join as well, and it is our sincere hope that they will do so as soon as possible.

STATEMENT NO. 20: SENEGAL

Mr. President, I would like to associate myself with the representative of the Group of 77 and China, and the coordinator of the African Group, in expressing my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the colossal work, the super-human efforts and the unfailing devotion which you have displayed since COP 6, which are the admiration of all and which have brought us to this historic result, which we are all hailing today. When I talk about superhuman efforts, Sir, I am talking about the long sleepless nights that you have spent, despite which you found the energy to preside over the negotiations.

My delegation would also like to pay very special tribute to Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar, the Executive Secretary for the Convention, for his effectiveness and courtesy.

My delegation would like to thank the Annex I countries which have announced significant financial contributions to help mitigate the effects of climate change. We welcome the establishment of the three funds in particular, the special fund for least developed countries. Mr. President, the basket is not full, but it is not empty either. As has been shown by the IPPC report, the African continent is one of those most vulnerable, and our populations, which are facing poverty, sickness and environmental degradation due in particular to the harmful effects of climate change, are waiting with special concern but with great hope for the results of our work here.

The political agreement arrived at today after long and arduous negotiations is of considerable ramifications, since we trust very much that it will make it possible to achieve speedy ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by all the Parties which may still be hesitating, in order to permit its entry into force in 2002. In conclusion, Sir, I would with all my heart trust that the spirit which is prevailing today in Bonn can be maintained in Marrakesh, so that further significant advances can be made in the negotiating process and in the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol.

STATEMENT NO. 21: MALTA

Mr. President, with all the other delegations we would also like to extend our sincere thanks to you for your remarkable courage and insistence, which has managed to overcome all hurdles in order that a compromise be reached. Your will and dedication to this task was really very impressive and will surely be remembered for a long time.

This delegation would also like to take this occasion to convey on behalf of my Minister, and indeed on behalf of the population of Malta, a special thanks to Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar, whose guiding hand and unfailing dedication has been instrumental in the maturation of this Convention, a process which reached its climax just a few hours ago. The Maltese delegation is very much honoured with Mr. Zammit Cutajar's record of success and we are very confident that everyone in this assembly is in a position to acknowledge this fact.

Our sincere thanks and congratulations to you both.

STATEMENT NO. 22: SUDAN⁹

Delegations who have already taken the floor have expressed their joy at this resounding success. They have expressed congratulations and thanks to you and to your colleagues. These are thanks which you thoroughly deserve, but that doesn't leave me a great deal to add. They have already expressed their joy in the form of a round of applause and a standing ovation which are things that you very much merit. But why do I say that you deserve them, because we are proud of historic leaders, such as you have proven to be. You are a patient man, a wise man and a great diplomat, at the head of this extremely difficult conference. In addition, though, I must mention your qualities of sheer physical endurance. I don't know quite how old you are but I think you must have built up in your youth the endurance and strength which we trust you will maintain, and help us to press on and indeed become one of the leaders of this world.

I very much hope that our brother experts and coordinators can translate what has been agreed today, beginning next week, into terms which will satisfy the aspirations of everyone. And I can only express my respect for our experts, our scientists, individuals of great standing active in the field of environment, who have through their research distilled their wisdom in helping to try and diagnose the dangers of climate change and the adverse impact on our whole globe. It is that which prompted us, the diplomats and the politicians, to sit down together in an attempt to address these dangers and their underlying causes. I feel a very special debt of thanks to them today and we trust that they will persevere, and help to make us aware of these dangers, so we can help to prevent them.

⁹ The original statement was delivered in Arabic.

STATEMENT NO. 23: VANUATU
(on behalf of the least developed countries)

Mr. President, on behalf of the least developed countries I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the leadership, dedication and commitment you have demonstrated to make sure we leave Bonn with a feeling of success and achievement. Your leadership has been highly respected for the efforts you made in keeping the interests of the different groups under careful scrutiny, to make sure we leave this building and Bonn with hope of giving the future generation of this planet earth and in particular, the future generation of the least developed countries, an opportunity to enjoy the privileges which we now enjoy.

Mr. President, the least developed countries welcome the decision of the European Union to assist the least developed countries in the preparation and implementation of NAPAs. We appreciate very much this decision of the European Union to recognize the special needs of the least developed countries and we hope that this support will continue into the future. We would also like to welcome the decision of Canada to provide financial support to adaptation programmes in least developed countries

Mr. President, I would like to express our gratitude to the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China for his leadership in guiding the group, which we are part of, to the achievement of this decision. I would also like to express our gratitude to you, Mr. President, and to the Executive Secretary, and the members of the Bureau, for the dedication and commitment. We the members of the least developed countries would like to urge all Parties at this Conference to put aside their differences and to cooperate and work together to make this planet earth a safe place to live in.

STATEMENT NO. 24: COSTA RICA¹⁰

Mr. President, I would like to begin by endorsing the words of the representative of the Chairman of the Group of G 77 and China, Mr. Asadi, who has been a great leader for our group during these difficult days of negotiations. We also associate ourselves with the words of thanks to the representative of Grenada, who so excellently coordinated the GRULAC.

I would just like to say that Costa Rica shares with the entire group the enthusiasm at the historic document which we have just approved. It provides a basis for regulation and implementation of the Kyoto Protocol which will be sufficiently stringent to give a value to climate in our economies, our societies and the world, but which will also be flexible enough to assist our economies, resulting in genuine globalization of a shared good.

For the first time we are seeing a proper interrelationship between developed and developing countries. We thank you for all the efforts which you have made in this historic achievement, which I think can show us the way towards a new global economy.

¹⁰ This statement was delivered in Spanish.

STATEMENT NO. 25: BELGIUM
(on behalf of the European Community and its Member States)

On behalf of the European Union and its Member States, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the distinguished representative of Japan, Her Excellency Madame Kawaguchi, for responding so promptly to the appeal to all Parties that we made a few moments ago. I am sure all members of the international community welcome her government's political commitment to intensify its efforts to provide financial assistance to non-Annex I Parties, to further the global cooperative endeavour to combat global warming and promote sustainable development. I would also like to thank her personally for her cooperation and determination in these negotiations.

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