

**Remarks by His Excellency Ali Al-Naimi
Minister of Petroleum & Mineral Resources
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**In the 21st session of
the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

Paris, France, 7 December 2015

Mr. Chairman,

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to participate, on behalf of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman ibn Abdulaziz, King of Saudi Arabia, in the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This meeting creates the opportunity to reach decisions that will pave the way for a new agreement for the benefit of all mankind.

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia extends its sincerest thanks to the Government of the Republic of France for its outstanding efforts in the preparation for this conference.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia stresses that the new Paris agreement must take into account the principles and provisions of the current Framework Convention on Climate Change. This includes, especially, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, based on the national priorities and circumstances of each country. In addition, the new agreement must strike a fair balance between greenhouse gas emissions reduction requirements and adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, and must cover all sectors instead of focusing exclusively on the energy sector.

In this context, we call for the adoption of emissions reduction policies that do not discriminate against any of the energy sources, and that these sources be viewed as complementary to each other in a way that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development for all. The new agreement should take into account the necessary steps to deal with the negative impacts of response measures, especially for countries relying on limited sources of income related to the achievement of the Convention's objectives.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to increase the long-term benefits and minimize potential negative effects on the international community, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is willing to participate actively in the promotion and implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In this context, the Kingdom has submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions under the decision reached in the 18th session of the Conference of the Parties in Doha on the economic diversification initiative, through which the Kingdom will take action, adopt plans and implement programs designed to accelerate economic diversification and achieve the common benefits of avoiding greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation to the effects of climate change, and mitigation of the impacts of response measures.

I would like, in conclusion, to point out that the global nature of climate change requires an effective and adequate international response in accordance with our common but differentiated responsibilities, and the success of such response lies in achieving climate goals in a way that makes it possible to proceed with economic development in a sustainable manner. We are confident that the States Parties to the UNFCCC will shoulder their responsibilities and reach an agreement that serves humanity and future generations.

Thank you.