Speech

By His Excellency Carlos Agostinho do Rosario
Prime Minister of the Republic of Mozambique
on the occasion of the
Twenty-First Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Paris, 30 November 2015
His Excellency François Holland,
President of France,

His Excellency Laurent Fabius,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
France and President of COP 21,

Your Excellencies Heads of State
and Government
Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Allow me, on behalf of His
Excellency President Filipe
Jacinto Nyusi, the People and
the Government of the
Republic of Mozambique to
reiterate our condolences to the bereaved families and to the people and the Government of France for the loss of human lives, following the recent terrorist attacks that took place in this historic city.

2. Following the previous speakers, we congratulate you, Mr. President for your election to steer the work of COP 21.

3. We also wish to express our appreciation to the President of COP 20, His Excellency Manuel Pulgar Vidal, Minister of Environment of Peru for the manner in which he conducted our work during this past year.
4. We would further wish to thank the Secretariat of the Convention, in particular the Executive Secretary, whose leadership made possible the preparation of this Conference.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Excellencies,

5. Under the recently adopted Agenda 2030 we reaffirmed our determination to protect the planet from degradation through sustainable consumption and production, sustainable management of natural resources...
and urgent action to combat climate change, so we can meet the needs of present and future generations.

6. We also committed ourselves to work collectively to conclude an ambitious and universal climate agreement and to address in a balanced way the concerns in adaptation, mitigation, financing, development and technology transfer, as well as capacity building.
7. This pledge can only be achieved if we commit to ensure:

➢ To maintain the increase of temperature to below 2 degree Celsius, and

➢ To continue to defend the principle of common but differentiated responsibility

Mr. President

8. Developing countries are facing huge challenges as a result of the changes in weather, particularly floods and drought which are
increasing in frequency and intensity.

9. Approximately 175 thousand Mozambicans are currently affected by drought and needing urgent support.

10. In the first quarter of the coming year, 2016, we are expecting floods which will further worsen the situation.

11. These climate phenomena have adversely affected Government's efforts in meeting national priorities, in particular food security, so critical to poverty reduction.
12. To cope with floods and drought phenomena, adequate support for means of implementation for adaptation and climate risk reduction are of paramount importance.

13. The adaptation measures should be complemented with robust mitigation initiatives, including ensuring that the current alternatives continue to mobilize the much need financial and technical support as they have shown a potential to improve the quality of life of communities.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

14. Allow me to highlight some of the initiatives being implemented in Mozambique, under Government’s 2015-2016 emergency contingency plan which require financial and technical support, namely:

i. Renewable energies, an important factor in our efforts to increase access and improve health and education services, as well as promote communities-based business opportunities;

ii. Solid waste management, which will contribute to reduce the
contamination of soils and water;

iii. The REDD+, with benefits both to adaptation and mitigation, it plays an important part in our efforts to empower communities and recognize their role as guardians of forests;

iv. Sustainable transport, an initiative that will contribute to improve mobility and reduce pollution, hence contributing to reduction of diseases in urban centers;

v. Environmentally friendly agriculture, or smart, aiming at
increasing production and productivity and respond to the challenges of food security without clearing to increase agricultural areas;

vi. Digging of boreholes to ensure adequate supply of water for both human and animal consumption; and

vii. Building dams to ensure water conservation and hence supply for water for multi-proposal use.

15. The realization of the potential embedded in these adaptation and mitigation initiatives requires a concerted action and strengthening
of global cooperation at bilateral and multilateral level.

Excellence,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

16. In view of worsening of climate change, this conference presents to us an historic opportunity to make wise, bold and timely decisions in the spirit of solidarity with those who suffer the most from its impacts.

17. Finally, I would like to reaffirm the conviction of Mozambique that the principles and provisions of the Convention provides the basis for achieving a climate international
regime that is beneficial to all of us and indeed for future generations as it will promote fairness between us and between generations.

18. In this regard, it is our hope that we will ensure that the city of Paris becomes the stage for a universal framework on climate change, one that will contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

I THANK YOU!