

COP 25/CMP 15/ CMA 2

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Statement

by

HE Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo

Secretary General

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

Buenos tardes.

Thank you to our hosts for their gracious hospitality and to **Minister Carolina Schmidt** for valiantly managing the **Presidency of COP 25**.

I grew up in **Yola, Adamawa State, Nigeria**. There, even today, **keeping the lights on in our houses, insulating our homes or accessing clean water** – amenities taken for granted by many countries – are beyond the reach of the most vulnerable in our communities.

Sadly, this is a situation experienced in many developing countries.

The almost **one billion** people worldwide who

currently **lack access to electricity** and **the three billion** without modern fuels for cooking are not just statistics on a page. They are real people. Each one is an individual.

Fuel poverty is not an abstract concept; rather it is a profound challenge for **sustainable development**. It is an all-too brutal reality for hungry families living in the cold or dark, for the millions of children currently attending schools without power, and for many hospitals without reliable energy.

Nobody should be left behind by the energy transition. We reject an energy transition from one source to another.

At **OPEC**, we listen extensively to the scientists. We wholeheartedly support the **Paris Agreement** and the ethos of multilateralism that underpins it. The **core elements of the Convention**, particularly **historical responsibility** and **national circumstances** must be adhered to.

We recognize the **complexity** and **magnitude** of climate change we are living in our countries. There is no **panacea** for **global warming**. All

viable **mitigation** and **adaptation** measures are necessary.

Technological innovation, including CCUS, **enhanced investment** for energy access, and **improved energy efficiency** must be part of the solution. The oil industry is committed to all of these.

The oil industry must be part of the solution to the impacts of climate change.

The energy transition must be **holistic, inclusive, fair and equitable** in accordance with the core **UNFCCC** principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

Thank-you.
