

Statement

by

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National Development and Reform Commission of P.R. China**

at

**the Joint High-level Segment of 13th Session of the Conference of
the Parties to the Convention**

and

**the 3rd Session of the Conference of the Parties Serving as the
Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

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Bali, Indonesia

Honourable Mr. President, Honourable Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the outset, on behalf of the Government of China, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Indonesia for its excellent arrangements for this conference on the beautiful island of Bali. The Chinese Delegation fully supports the speech delivered by the Pakistani representative on behalf of G 77 and China.

Climate change is an issue concerning the common development of all countries and the future of mankind. It is a common and huge challenge faced by the international community. The 4th Assessment Report recently released by the IPCC indicates that climate change is happening, it is very likely caused by human activities, and addressing climate change is an urgent task. Developing countries are innocent in terms of their responsibilities to the cause of climate change, but they are most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. Given the unprecedented broadness, gravity and depth of the impacts of climate change, the issue of climate change cannot be solved by the sole efforts of developed countries which bear the main responsibilities for climate change. To combat climate change, we must rely on sincere cooperation and joint efforts among all countries under the principal of “common but differentiated responsibilities”.

Mr. President,

To fundamentally solve the issue of climate change, the key is to keep harmony and strike balance among several aspects. Firstly, we shall keep the harmonious coexistence of man and the nature and strike the balance between economic development and environmental protection. Secondly, we shall keep the harmony among people and strike the balance between the rich and the poor. Thirdly, we shall keep the harmony among generations and strike the balance among the past, the present and the future. And fourthly, we shall keep the harmony among the countries and strike the balance among various interests. Facing the challenge of climate change, should we halt economic development and endure the sufferings from climate change or should we proactively tackle climate change through sustainable, clean and harmonious development? The answer is quite clear. Although the responsibilities for climate change and economic capacities to tackle it

vary from country to country, to combat climate change, each of us shall make corresponding contributions and sacrifices for the common goods of the mankind, and the protection of the climate system to which we owe our existence. This is what the principles and provisions established by the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol, which provides effective guidance for international cooperation on addressing climate change, tells us to do.

How to strengthen international cooperation on climate change beyond 2012 is the common concern of the international community as well as the focus of this Conference. On this issue, I would like to share with you the following three points:

Firstly, the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol are the legal basis for international cooperation to address climate change and we must adhere to the objectives, principles and model of cooperation established therein in the long run. The Conference of Parties of the Convention and its Protocol are the most orthodox and effective forum to discuss and coordinate actions and measures to address climate change. The future arrangement on international cooperation to address climate change beyond 2012 should continue to be built upon the two-track approach decided by the Conference in Montreal in 2005.

Secondly, Annex I Parties to the Convention should show their greatest political sincerity in pushing forward the negotiations of the Ad hoc Working Group on Article 3, Paragraph 9 of the Kyoto Protocol, to complete the analysis of their mitigation potentials and the identification of possible ranges of their reduction objectives, to make a timetable for the AWG to ensure the completion of its work by 2009 at the latest to avoid a gap between the first and second commitment periods.

Thirdly, the Convention Dialogue had facilitated the exchanges of views among Parties. We need to further strengthen implementation of the Convention, and put the provisions of the Convention on mitigation, adaptation, provision of financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building to concrete actions and make them effective. On the one hand, Annex I countries' need to further strengthen their mitigation policies and measure, on the other hand, an effective mechanism needs to be established to provide financial resources and technology transfer to developing countries, so as to enable developing countries to make greater contributions to address climate change. The process to strengthen implementation of the

Convention should make progress as early as possible, and to achieve concrete results in 2010 at the latest.

Mr. President,

The Government of China attaches great importance to the issue of climate change. In pursuing its economic development, China has been undertaking a series of policies and measures to address climate change and to protect the environment in accordance with our sustainable development strategy, and has achieved tremendous achievements. Simply by restructuring its economy and improving energy efficiency, china has saved 800 million tons of coal equivalent energy in the period from 1990 to 2005 and avoided 1.8 billion tons of CO₂ emissions. China's 11th Five-year Plan for the Economic and Social Development also clearly sets the targets of making achievements in controlling GHG emissions and reducing its per unit GDP energy consumption by 20 % by 2010 over that of 2005. China also formulated its National Climate Change Programme, further elaborating the guidelines, basic principles, detailed objectives and key areas of mitigation and adaptation. This fully shows the sincerity and determination of China to actively address climate change and participate in related international cooperation.

Mr. President,

Conserving resources and protecting the environment are China basic national policies. The Government of China has established the National Leading Group on Climate Change headed by Premier Wen Jiabao, in order to strengthen leadership and to effectively address climate change. On the recently-concluded 17th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party, Party Secretary-General Mr. Hu Jintao pointed out that China will further pursue its Scientific Think of Development, stick to a human-orientated, comprehensively harmonious and sustainable development path, and build a resource-conserving and environmentally-friendly society so as to reach a balance between economic development, resource, environment and population and realize a harmonious development between mankind and nature. China will endeavour to construct an eco-civilization, and will remarkably increase the proportion of renewable energy, effectively control the emissions of major pollutants, obviously improve the quality of eco-environment. China will also enhance its capacity building on addressing climate change and make new

contributions to the protection of global climate. All of these efforts clearly indicate that the Government of China will be trying its best to make positive efforts to address climate change in a responsible manner.

Finally, I would like to assure you that the Chinese Delegation will, as always, actively, practically and constructively participate in the discussions and consultations of this Conference in the spirit of cooperation, and contribute to the success of this Conference.

Thank you. Mr. President