



**Permanent Mission of the Republic of
Angola to the United Nations**

**STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY
MANUEL DOMINGOS VICENTE,
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA AT
THE CLIMATE SUMMIT**

**SEPTEMBER 23rd
NEW YORK**

Your Excellency Mr. President

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of His Excellency the President José Eduardo dos Santos and the Angolan People, I would like to thank His Excellency the Secretary General of the United Nations for the initiative to organize this important event.

This topic of paramount importance for sustainable development is an instrument of innovation, opportunities and challenges, but also of increasingly more global action, collaboration and cooperation, for it reaffirms the common interests that Unite us for the Sustainability and the Life of Our Planet.

Our commitment to fighting poverty and achieve sustainable development is embodied in the Long-Term Development Strategy until 2025, within which we approved the National Development Program for 2013-2017 in 2012.

Inclusive development propels us to transform our needs, challenges and commitments to current and future generations by building an increasingly more sustainable and responsible economy.

Climate Change is by its nature a phenomenon that deserves our special attention, dynamism, and dedication. Accordingly, it is for my government a privilege to be engaged in the negotiation of a new global climate agreement, since this process gives humanity the opportunity to build a fair climate regime, ensuring the reduction of disparities in the quality of life of all people, and to protect the climate system for present and future generations.

Excellencies,

We have a unique window of opportunity to safeguard the global climate system on which sustainable development and sustained economic growth depend.

We recognize that all parties will have to make some mitigation efforts in light of the need to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius until the end of the century.

We therefore defend that the global response to climate change should respect the principles of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, especially the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in accordance with respective national capabilities and circumstances.

The African continent, the Least Developed Countries and Island Developing States are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and therefore deserve our special attention.

The latest report of the United Nations Environment Programme on the need for adaptation to the effects that we can no longer avoid estimate that in 2020, the African continent will need to disburse approximately 15 billion dollars annually in the transformation and recovery of damages and losses caused by climate change. Such needs could represent \$35 billion in 2050.

In our country, we have in recent years witnessed the advance of desertification and drought in some regions, with torrential rains and other calamities which affected populations and displaced more than 48,000 families, triggering an emergency program by the government. We believe that we need to be

compensated with bilateral and multilateral funding to improve our outcomes and development projections.

The Republic of Angola has approved a National Programme of Action for adaptation. This important planning tool is overseen by a multidisciplinary committee that ensures the integration and coordination of policies related to climate change in sectoral development strategies.

We need to improve mechanisms and give continuity to the responsibilities assumed under the Kyoto Protocol, which motivated Africans to engage in mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Protecting Tropical Forests, such as the Mayombe Forest, and financing programs that allow to compensate for the lack of funds to offset the efforts of African countries, as well as assessing the benefits of preserving ecosystems is vitally important.

Regarding the carbon market, the drop in sales prices does not allow the development of negotiations we believe to be useful and which incentivize the establishment of low-carbon economies. Similarly, it is urgent to accelerate the capitalization and operationalization of the Green Climate Fund, adapt it to our realities and to the need to contribute to poverty reduction and to the implementation of adaptation programs.

Excellencies,

Finally, our ability to achieve a New Global Climate Deal is intimately related to our ability to share the tools that enable the building of global low-carbon

economies and societies. In our view, these tools are the strengthening of human and institutional capacity, as well as access to technology and the associated financial means.

This summit provides policy direction to boost dialogue and set clear objectives for COP 20, a key factor for the adoption of a fair, inclusive and ambitious agreement in Paris in March 2015.

Thank You.