

Check against delivery



Statement

by

H.E. Mr. Oldemiro Balói
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Republic of Mozambique

at the Climate Summit

New York, September 2014

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentleman's

Through you, Excellency, I would like to congratulate the UN Secretary-General for convening this Climate Summit to give political guidance to the current climate change negotiation on the future climate change regime that will be adopted in Paris in December next year.

Mozambique wants to express its full alignment with the statement made by Bolivia on behalf of G77 and China, by **Sudan/Tanzania** on behalf of the **African Group/CAHOSCC** and by Nepal on behalf of the Least Developed Countries.

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This Summit is taking place at a crucial time in the negotiations of the new climate change agreement. We all agreed that climate change is affecting us all, and that adapting to these changes will require our joint effort so that the most vulnerable communities are able to cope with the impacts they are already facing. At the same time, we must also mitigate our emissions so as to reduce future adaptation costs. Both adaptation and mitigation actions must be implemented taking into account the Convention Principles.

The developed countries must show leadership both in assisting developing countries build their climate resilience and on mitigation by increasing ambition of their emission reduction targets. This can be achieved through the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties such as the Warsaw Framework for REDD, Doha Amendment, Green Climate Fund and Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, and through ensuring that the future climate regime to be adopted in 2015 reflects their historical responsibilities and represents a fair and appropriate contribution to the global effort to tackle climate change.

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Despite the insignificant contributions that Mozambique made to the global greenhouse gas emissions, the country is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the impacts of climate change, being affected by extreme climate events such as droughts, floods, tropical cyclones, storm surges, changes in temperature and precipitation patterns and other phenomena such as sea level rise, saltwater intrusion and increased forest wildfires.

The occurrence of these events has caused the loss of thousands of human lives and significant destruction of public and private property, as well as social infrastructure. These losses have negatively impacted the growth of the country's GDP and the achievement of the Government's national objectives for poverty reduction and wealth creation, and the achievement of international commitments, including the MDGs.

In response to these challenges, the Government of Mozambique approved, in November 2012, the National Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy. This strategy aimed at increasing resilience and reducing climate risk, both at the community and national level, while promoting low-carbon development and green economy through their integration in sectoral and local planning processes. The Strategy has clearly identified adaptation and climate risk reduction as a national priority.

Mozambique's National Climate Change Strategy also identifies the potential for mitigation and low-carbon development in key areas, those which provide an opportunity to promote sustainable development. These areas include:

- Energy, where our goal is to improve access to renewable energy, increase energy efficiency, and promote low-carbon urbanization
- Promotion of an enabling environment that will allow our industries to access climate friendly technology
- Agriculture and forestry, where action targets low-carbon agricultural practices, reduction of deforestation and wildfires, and improved management of biodiversity and coastal ecosystems
- Promotion of sustainable waste management practices

The mitigation and adaptation actions identified in our National Strategy are our contribution to the future climate change regime. This will require significant technological and financial support, but it will also require from Mozambique a tremendous effort in strengthening institutional and technical capacities to effectively address this common challenge. And this we are committed to and prepared to do.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentleman's

Billions of people are watching us and waiting to see our political commitment to this process and to the shaping of an upcoming climate change regime that will secure our future and the future of generations to come. We must give that political guidance to our negotiators so that in Paris we can adopt a sound new international climate regime.