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**FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**CLOSING STATEMENT
BY
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PLENARY P M

I would like to share with you the satisfaction that one feels after having worked hard on a job and seen positive results. I believe that this Conference has given the Convention a strong impulse in the right direction. It has been a significant second step.

This Conference has shown leadership at work in different forms. Developing country Parties have taken the lead in engaging negotiations at this session; developed country Parties have reaffirmed their commitment to take the lead in action under the Convention; and you, Madam President, have given us the leadership that we needed to arrive at a successful end. It has been a pleasure to work with you.

One of the features of this Conference has been its size and its visibility. The final figures on participation show approximately 1,000 delegates, 1,000 observers and 2,000 media representatives.

The journalists have served the Conference well in re-awakening the world to the climate change issue. I would like to thank them for this contribution and I hope that they

are persuaded that this vast diplomatic effort is necessary and worthwhile in order to advance international consensus.

Non-governmental organizations of all colours have demonstrated keen interest in the issues and have helped to move the process along. I would like to underline the positive input received from certain sectors of the business community which helps to balance the views expressed from that sector. Some of the demonstrations of NGO interest have been somewhat too vigorous for my liking; we will have to be more careful in future with our procedures for accreditation. However, I want to assure our friends in the NGO community that today's incident will not divert the secretariat from its path of openness and cooperation with them.

I have already responded in the Committee of the Whole to the decision to place the future of the Convention secretariat in the open arms of the city of Bonn, where it can be assured of the full support of the Government of Germany. I will not repeat today what I said then. What strikes me as we prepare to return from Berlin to Geneva, is the challenge that lies ahead of bridging the transition to a new base, while maintaining the motivation and teamwork of the secretariat and ensuring that its support for the processes launched by this Conference does not flag. I will certainly do my part with my colleagues to build the Geneva end of this bridge; and the construction work on the Bonn side will start very soon.

[Meanwhile, 1995 - xb funding - improvise]

I spoke earlier of teamwork. I have been privileged to head in Berlin a remarkable group of colleagues, not only my colleagues in the interim secretariat, whose dedication is familiar but never taken for granted, but also our colleagues from the Geneva Conference and Security Services and from DPCSD in New York. We have worked marvelously well together under our "Berlin rules". It has been fun - most of the time. My warm thanks go to all.