

## United Republic of Tanzania

**Interventions by Hon. Arcadio D. Ntagazwa (MP), Minister of State, Vice President's Office - Environment , on behalf of Least Developed Countries.**

**UNFCCC COP 9, High Level Roundtable Discussions**

**11 December, 2003-12-11**

**Assessment of Progress made to fulfil the promise and objective enshrined in the Climate Change Agreements, including the scientific, information, policy and financial aspects**

Congratulate the President on his election and the co chairs for the good leadership. Thank the Government of Italy for hosting COP 9 and the Secretariat for the good arrangement for the same.

Various assessments including, in depth reviews and the Third assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicate clearly that emissions of greenhouse gases are generally on the rise and there is no prospect of meeting even the modest targets enshrined in the Kyoto protocol now that the hope for its entry into force, though sure is delayed. Climate Change impacts are already vividly taking toll and the most impacted are and will continue to be the least developed countries which have the least capacity to adapt.

A number of radical measures are needed to address this situation.

1. Reforming the entire UN system: there is an imperative need to put in place enforcement mechanism like in the municipal law conditions. Otherwise how does one explain - the vivid climate change adverse impact realities and the near suicidal inactivity of not doing the doable.
2. We need to talk and focus on humanity – developed or developing. Humanity must be the focus of the international community in addressing climate change.
3. Adaptation to climate change; entails **prevention** of the vivid catastrophes facing humanity particularly in the least developed countries. We need to give utmost regard to this as we face the realities of climate change. Prevention in terms of **mitigation** is extremely important; but the international community is clearly failing to do so. **Cure**, in terms of **adaptation** to climate change, remains the only option to face the reality particularly for Least Developed countries. Therefore true support for the Implementation of Adaptation Programme in least developed countries should remain not only an equity requirement but a moral obligation. Interestingly there is also inertia on this very minimal action by the international community.
4. Insistence on the difference between giving, by the developed segment of humanity and the consequential catastrophes in the developing part of the same only enhances and quickens the pace to the known destiny of inactivity – selfishness but sure self annihilation. What of the Ethical duty and obligation to future generations?.

We have always to keep in mind the irrefutable fact that we – be it man or woman, should realise that we belong not only to families, countries and nations, but also to the whole planetary community. We must all feel ourselves members of this community and take upon ourselves our common but differentiated responsibilities for our actions that threaten the lives of other people, however far from and foreign to ourselves they might be, for the destiny of all mankind. Herein lies the solution and answer to the question to be or not to be.

**I thank you Mr. President**