

## High Level Segment

Statement by Mr. Abdul Hakeem Baloch, Minister of State, Pakistan at the  
19<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP-19) and 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties  
serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP-9),  
Warsaw, Poland

11-22 November 2013

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Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Representatives,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate you and the Government of Poland for assuming the Presidency of the 19<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol.

2. I would also like to express my profound appreciation for the warm hospitality accorded to my delegation and for the excellent arrangements made by your Government.

3. Let me also express our sincerest sympathies and condolences to the people and the Government of Philippines for the massive destruction and the tragic loss of life that has been caused by the Super Typhoon Haiyan. Even after two weeks, the people of Philippines are still far from recovery. Such tragic events remind us that we need to take urgent actions to avert the risks and threats that we face from the Climate Change

**Mr. President,**

4. Pakistan associates itself with the Group of 77 and China. The task before you is challenging. I am confident that under your leadership, we will be able to lay firm the foundation for a climate resilient pathway. You can count on our support and cooperation in this endeavor.

5. The UN Framework Convention provides the basis for answering this question. It contains principles and provisions that make operational the idea that while Climate Change is a global problem and the actions are to be taken by all parties on the basis of equity and in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. The challenge is formidable and beyond the capacity of the developing countries. It is, therefore, important to build a global partnership.

6. There is substantial scientific evidence that suggests that Climate Change has become a reality and if necessary steps are not taken now, the goal of staying below 2 degree temperature increase would become a distant dream. Such an outcome is undesirable to the billions of people across the world especially in the developing countries as they are most vulnerable to climate disasters and at the same time least equipped to deal with them.

**Mr. President,**

7. Pakistan is categorized amongst the highly vulnerable countries to the adverse impacts of Climate Change due to its diverse topographic and demographic settings. Pakistan's 5000 glaciers are in retreat. They are retreating faster than any other part of the world.

8. We are vulnerable to a host of natural hazards particularly of hydro meteorological nature, the frequency and intensity of which has increased due to Climate Change. The recurring extreme events that Pakistan has faced in the last couple of years carried significant climate change footprints. These included flash floods, cyclones, heat waves, droughts, Glacial Lake Outburst Floods and intrusion of saline seawater into the Indus River Delta Region.

9. Pakistan suffered economic losses of more than US\$15 billion during floods of 2010, 11 and 12. The unprecedented floods of 2010 were described by the UN Secretary General as a slow moving Tsunami. More than 20 million people were affected and roughly 300,000 were displaced.

10. Climate change is severely impacting the development aspirations of almost all developing countries. Although the developing countries do not have the historical responsibility for the present day challenges we face from climate change, yet they are taking the brunt of its negative impacts. It even threatens the very survival of the Small Island Developing States.

**Mr. President,**

11. The sustainable development prospects of Pakistan are undermined by the Climate Change in multiple ways which is already entrenched with numerous economic, security and social challenges. While we are working to avert these challenges for Pakistan, Climate Change is serving not only as a threat but also a threat multiplier. Above all, it is seriously undermining the gains achieved in this regard. It is inflicting huge losses to human life and property. It is also causing

additional stress on the sustainability and access to natural resources both for the present and more importantly for the future generations.

12. The actions to address climate change should ensure the sustainable development and sustained economic growth of the developing countries and the universal elimination of poverty, hunger and disease. This makes adaptation and economic diversification to build resilience to climate change, an essential priority for us. In Pakistan alone, we require an additional US \$ 6-14 billion annually to adapt to the climate change adverse impacts.

13. The Government of Pakistan has taken considerable steps at national and sub national levels to evolve a comprehensive national framework for Climate Change which includes policy as well as implementation pathways.

14. Additionally, in order to meet the emerging disaster risks, Pakistan established a proactive disaster management system at national and sub national level to deal with the whole spectrum of disaster management including preparedness, mitigation, rescue & relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction. A National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy has also been formulated which will guide our actions required for disaster risk reduction.

**Mr. President,**

15. We have come to Warsaw with the hope and determination to set the negotiations on an irreversible path. In the past also, we remained engaged in the international negotiations in a very constructive manner. We had endorsed the Durban Platform with a view that it represented methodologies in forging a long-

term cooperative pathway. Our understanding remains clear that we are here to strengthen the Climate Change Convention.

16. The balanced set of agreement reached at Durban was based on several critical understandings among parties. It is to our disappointment that the Durban package is being unraveled by the developed countries due to the low ambition, both in terms of their mitigation commitments as well as in providing the means of implementation to the developing countries, lack of comparability of efforts among the developed countries and absence of road map for mobilizing the US \$ 100 billion pledge.

17. Pakistan will continue to engage in the discussions under the Durban platform and would support all collective efforts in shaping the new international agreement to be agreed by 2015. We are looking forward to a comprehensive agreement in Paris in 2015.

18. To this end, we would like to reiterate that a balanced set of outcome at Warsaw is vital for working towards a robust, participatory, inclusive and universal regime. Such a regime must build on the Bali Plan of Action, Cancun and Durban decisions. Our approach must continue to be guided by the principles and the provisions of the Convention.

**Mr. President,**

19. Pakistan strongly supports the decisions taken at Cancun and Durban which were reinforced at Doha. In our view these were all pragmatic measures to progress on Bali Road Map and chalk down path for future Climate Change Regime. However,

the progress upon these decisions has been slow and this Conference should attempt to fast track their implementation.

20. It is important that the pre-2020 ambition is captured in a holistic manner, covering mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology support. In the context of mitigation, the developed countries must demonstrate urgency in taking actions to raise the ambition and closing the gaps in the pre-2020 period.

21. The nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing countries are to be supported and enabled by finance, technology and capacity-building from developed countries and are to be taken in the context of sustainable development. These actions require enhanced support right from the initial phase of conceptualization to the development and implementation one.

22. The financial mechanism of the Convention is required to be made more robust, with new and additional, scaled up and predictable finance flowing through its operating entities. It is important that the developed countries provide a clear roadmap for public climate financing with specific targets, timelines, and sources. We need to ensure early and substantial capitalization of the Green Climate Fund. In our view, pledges by the developed countries on this account would be a key deliverable at Warsaw.

23. Adaptation is a key priority and has not yet received adequate attention as opposed to mitigation. This orientation has to change and we need to have enhanced action in this area. The National Adaptations Plans of all developing countries must be fully supported. The adaptation institutions under the Convention

must be strengthened and fully financed. It is essential that the Loss and Damage mechanism established in Doha be operationalized at this conference.

24. Pakistan considers technology development and transfer as essential for responding to the climate change challenges. We need work towards removing barriers that impedes diffusion of climate sound technology to developing countries and strengthening of linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism of the Convention and between the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Center and Network.

25. Lastly, it is extremely important for us to enhance the transparency regime that involves particularly the transparency of support to the developing countries, including finance and technology transfer. A mechanism for enhancing MRV of support is needed to be worked upon.

**Mr. President,**

26. I would conclude by saying that we see Warsaw to serve as an important milestone towards our journey for enhancing the implementation of the UN Framework Convention. This is not the end rather a step in the right direction.

27. I would like to reassure you of Pakistan's full support for your Presidency. We appreciate your efforts for keeping the negotiating processes open and transparent. We hope that this would continue for the remaining deliberations and an inclusive and party-driven process would frame the outcome of this conference. Pakistan would contribute constructively to all the formal and informal discussions.

**I thank you Mr. President.**