

**STATEMENT NO. 14: BURKINA FASO**  
(on behalf of the African Group)<sup>7</sup>

Mr. President, Burkina Faso, on behalf of the African Group, would like to join with all delegations, principally the Islamic Republic of Iran, spokesman of the Group of 77 and China, in expressing its deep gratitude to you and to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change for the tenacity and the perseverance of your efforts. My congratulations go also to all Parties who have made tremendous sacrifices and inestimable concessions in order to bring about this agreement, which I would qualify as historic. The African Group would like to refer to the important question of financial assistance to developing countries and to least developed countries to enable them to cope with the effects of climate change. Above all, I would like the Bonn political declaration to be translated into concrete facts. I hope that the countries who are still hesitating will come back among us and contribute to the various funds which are established.

This special day is one which should remain in our memories even if there are still some shortcomings. I have faith that international cooperation will be able to maintain the momentum in order to avoid disappointment and scepticism. Our continent will try to take up the challenge in Marrakesh. It will count on your lengthy experience. The results reached by IPCC on the vulnerability of Africa give a strong signal and call for action by the entire international community for greater assistance.

I would not wish to conclude without thanking members of the Group of 77 and China, who have been able to transcend their differences and diversity which is something that is truly great. This is a stage in the process: this is not the end. Once again, our thanks to you Mr. President, congratulations to our partners, the developed countries, and all my gratitude to the developing countries. We were very worried but reason has prevailed and mankind as a whole is the winner.

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<sup>7</sup> The original statement was delivered in French.