

ADDRESS BY

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**TO THE  
SIXTH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES  
OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE  
(UNFCCC)**

The Hague, November 20, 2000

Mr. Le President  
Excellences Mesdames et Messieurs les Chefs de delegation,  
Distingues participants  
Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le Programme des Nations Unies pour le Developpement est heureuse de constater, que la communaute internationale s'est enfin resolue, a prendre tres au serieux, la delicate question des changements climatiques. Cette conference des parties en est une preuve supplementaire, survenant apres celle de Bonn en 1999, dans le droit fil des grands rendez vous commence a Rio.

Nous souhaitons desormais que cette question cruciale des changements climatiques soit traitee, dans le contexte plus vaste de la lutte contre la pauvreté, et en ayant d'abord a l'esprit les premieres victimes, c'est a dire les pauvres.

Ceux la qui n'ont ni avoir, ni savoir et ni pouvoir, tout en portant la plus faible des responsabilites dans la pollution , les changements climatiques et les problemes environnementaux, sont helas ceux qui payent le plus lourd tribut aux inondations, a la desertification et aux catastrophes naturelles.

Certes, le cri de ccoeur que nous lancons ici a les airs dune chanson largement fredonnee. Mais comme tout message de detresse, il ne saurait y avoir de lassitude a le repeter.

Presque une decennie sest ecoulee, depuis notre rencontre historique de Rio, ou la communaute des nations semblait avoir enfin compris, que les objectifs ambitieux que nous nous sommes fixes en matiere denvironnement, de changement climatiques, et deradication de la pauvrete peuvent et doivent etre poursuivis ensemble.

Il est salulaire que les pays industrialises aient reconnu leur responsabilites pleine et entiere dans la situation actuelle, en ratifiant la Convention Cadre sur les Changements climatiques, et en acceptant ladoption du Protocole de Kyoto.

Mais comme la si bien souligne le Secretaire General des Nations Unies dans son important message a cette conference, faisant ainsi echo a l'appel pressent lance dans ce sens par le recent Sommet du Millenaire a lance, tout doit etre mis en oeuvre, pour que le protocole puisse rentrer en vigueur en 2002.

Il ya urgence. En cette phase du developpement de l'humanite, marquee par le gaspillage et la distribution inegalitaire de l'energie, la communaute internationale doit inscrire en tete de ses priorites, de faciliter aux deux milliards de pauvres vivant dans les pays en developpement, un acces durable aux sources denegie efficaces.

UNDP is deeply committed to helping countries find ways to meet their needs for energy services while protecting the local and global environment. Fortunately, these goals are not incompatible as shown in the World Energy Assessment. Mr. Chairman, there are enormous opportunities for reconciling climate change mitigation with sustainable development through greater energy efficiency, increased use of renewable energy, and new, clean technologies for fossil fuels.

But such a change will not happen on its own. Sustainable futures depend on ambitious policy measures and support for technological innovation. That is why, as part of UNDP's sharpened focus on policy and advocacy in all our work, we remain firmly committed to intensifying our efforts in the environment and sustainable energy areas.

It is in this context that we at UNDP are ready and willing to respond to any decision taken at COP 6 to implement the capacity building framework through our extensive country network. UNDP is committed to supporting the developing countries in their efforts to build capacity to achieve sustainable development while meeting the objectives of the Climate Change Convention.

Under Agenda 21 UNDP serves as the lead agency in coordinating UN system efforts towards capacity building for sustainable development. And as one of the three implementing agencies of the Global Environment Facility, our climate change portfolio is nearly \$800 million for climate change activities. UNDP has now undertaken capacity building for national communications and other support in more than 100 countries. We are prepared to further leverage the diverse portfolio of climate change activities in our country offices to assist the developing countries in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

UNDP looks forward to keep on contributing to meeting the objectives of the Climate Change Convention and Kyoto Protocol through the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), knowledge sharing and technology transfer. We are keen to engage with a full range of partners, including our sister UN agencies, the World Bank and the Regional development banks and the private sector to make CDM an effective and non-exclusionary mechanism for fostering development and climate protection, particularly for least developed countries.

Creating adequate means to address adaptation including establishing an adaptation fund would be a significant contribution of COP6. UNDP also looks forward to further

integrate adaptation activities in to sustainable development efforts in close cooperation with its participating countries.

The future is very much a matter of choice rather than destiny. But without renewed advocacy and a concerted push on creating policies and transparent regulatory regimes that encourage sustainable development through partnerships and alliances between various stakeholders -- public and private sector, rich and poor -- we risk losing this battle. To win it, governments, businesses and the civil society need to act now -- and have the courage to take far-sighted decisions to confront this common challenge through bold policies and actions to create a more equitable, environmentally sound and economically viable world.

Thank you.