

**STATEMENT BY MR. MENSUR SEHAGIC, HEAD OF BOSNIA  
AND HERZEGOVINA DELEGATION, AT THE HIGH LEVEL  
SEGMENT OF THE COP9, 11 DECEMBER 2003, MILAN, ITALY**

Mister President,  
Madam Chair/Mister Chairman,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First, allow me on behalf of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to extend my best wishes and gratitude to the Government of Italy for the hospitality and extremely well organized Ninth Session of the Conference of the Parties and Nineteenth Session of the Subsidiary Bodies of the UN Convention on Climate Change.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is aware of the significance of the actions taken up by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change regarding the protection of global climate and we are ready to take an active part in the actions on a national, regional and international levels.

I would like to use this opportunity to point out, that in the relatively short period of time after ratifying the Convention, Bosnia and Herzegovina established mechanisms necessary for implementation of its commitments. In addition to this, in a spirit of sustainable development, climate change as a main priorities issues have been included in the National Environment Action Plan, as well as in the National Medium-Term Development Strategy and Poverty Reduction Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina which are in the phase of adopting.

We would like to highlight that Bosnia and Herzegovina as a part of South European Region, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, is very sensitive to climate changes. Also, as a developing country, Bosnia and Herzegovina faced with numerous economic difficulties. Therefore, for our further steps we need adequate assistance in order to ensure an effective implementation of our Convention and reduced negative impact on climate change. In this context, all concrete action and initiatives aimed to financial support to developing countries, especially in the fields of capacity-building, know-how and clean technologies transfer, are of particular importance to our country.

**Thank you.**