

**H.E.COP President Mr. Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Attiyah,**  
**Excellencies,**  
**Distinguished delegates,**

On behalf of the Lebanese Government, allow me first to express my gratitude to the Government and people of Qatar for their warm welcome, their known hospitality, as well as their excellent organization of this 18<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties.

As you all know, we are carrying in Doha a big responsibility for our people, our communities, our youth and our children and we owe it to them to give them answers regarding their future and that of the humanity as a whole. Time is running out, it is urgent that we deliver. **Doha has to deliver.**

**Mr. President,**

The battle against climate change will require an undivided determination. From a policymaker's perspective, it is imperative for us to take this environmental and economical threat more seriously and start integrating climate change in our national planning.

Therefore, we believe that the formulation and implementation of low emission and climate resilient development strategies and plans is an act of a shared responsibility and collective solidarity. It would also serve in closing the knowledge gap and unlock each country's respective mitigation potential as well as identify the needs of adaptation to the adverse effect of climate change. However, it is only fair for developing countries to be provided with the appropriate technical, financial and capacity-building support to develop and keep their economy green and sustainable.

In consistence with the concept of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities that we all signed under the Convention, Lebanon is already taking bold actions in mitigation and adaptation activities and is willing to do more, in its modest and limited yet determined capacities.

As a responsible global citizen, Lebanon will do its part by reducing its emissions, without jeopardizing its economical and social growth. Efforts to reduce our long-

term emissions will be challenging. Nonetheless, we will enhance our efforts and aim to develop a low carbon economy to overcome constraints. In this respect, *Lebanon would like to recall its voluntary goal of 12% renewable energy in its energy mix by the year 2020* as part of its Copenhagen Declaration during COP-15, and upholding the nature of this measure being *voluntary and implemented in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention*, including benefiting from the market mechanisms.

Therefore, we call upon the world to take strong and ambitious targets to match their responsibilities in a way that encompasses historical emissions and is reactive to our changing world. Ladies and gentlemen, *if a small country like Lebanon is ready to fight climate change, imagine what developed countries can do.*

Mr. President,

We would like to reaffirm our commitment to work together within the UNFCCC process in a positive, proactive and constructive manner to secure an ambitious, comprehensive, fair, balanced and legally-binding agreement on climate change.

However, we need to be reassured that there is commitment to *a fair post-2020 legally binding agreement* that takes into account the national circumstances of all Parties.

Finally Mr. President, since the COP is being held for the first time in an Arab country, our responsibility to make Doha a success is two-fold, and we must make it a reference point in our collective fight against climate change. *We must get the job done and put our words into action* as the Lebanese world renowned writer Joubran Khalil Joubran said: *a little knowledge that acts is worth infinitely more than much knowledge that is idle.*

Thank you.