

Mr. President, Your Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Government of Uganda, I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Government of Japan for hosting this historic conference and for the hospitality accorded to my delegation.

We have a lot of expectations from this conference because climate change makes us in developing countries very vulnerable. Among other important measures, COP3 was expected to adopt a protocol or another legal instrument containing stronger commitments by developed country parties as we march into the 21st century.

Mr. President the UN framework convention on climate change is very clear. Developed country parties are expected to take the lead in combatting climate change by reducing their greenhouse gas emissions to their 1990 levels by the year 2000. A review of Annex 1 communications reveals that only 5 out of 32 will be able to meet their obligations of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to the 1990 levels by the year 2000. Information available indicates that greenhouse gases of some annex 1 parties are continuing to increase contrary to the provisions of the convention. Indeed some annex 1 parties hope to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to the 1990 levels well after the year 2000. By so doing such parties are not demonstrating leadership and commitment to the global warming problem.

Furthermore annex 1 parties have so far failed to provide new and additional financial resources in a predictable manner to developing country parties to implement their obligations under the convention.

Under Article 4.5 of the Convention developed country Parties are expected to transfer environmentally sound technologies and know-how to Parties and particularly to developing country Parties to enable them mitigate climate change but this has not been the case so far. Environmentally sound technologies and know-how ^{offer} excellent opportunities to reduce GHG emissions in developing countries without compromising their development and poverty reduction goals.

Most if not all socio-economic activities depend heavily on climate and in this regard developing country Parties take global warming very seriously and are therefore committed to fulfilling their commitments under the Convention. In this regard

developing country Parties have taken steps to minimise GHG emissions through measures such as conservation of energy and energy efficiency improvements. Uganda is fully committed to environmental protection and has set up a national environment management authority to oversee management of the environment. Also relevant policies and measures have been put in place. On the climate change Convention Uganda has already carried out its inventory of sources and sinks of greenhouse gases. We have also assessed our vulnerability to climate change and we are now in the process of formulating policies and measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Uganda has also taken measures to develop and expand its hydropower to meet its energy demands. These efforts will lead to a reduction in the increase of GHG emissions.

In conclusion, we would like to call upon the developed country parties to accept meaningful quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives. These targets must primarily (not less than 80%) be achieved in a developed country Party territory. Uganda does not support the introduction of new commitments to developing country Parties until the developed country Parties have clearly demonstrated leadership in the implementation of their commitments under the Convention and the Protocol.

Mr. President, Uganda recognises the role played by UN agencies, Intergovernmental organisations and NGOs and we call upon these institutions to continue playing their role in the implementation of the Convention and any protocol(s) that may be adopted.

I thank you.