

**Statement By Mr. LIU Jiang, Head of Chinese Delegation
at Ministerial Panel Discussion,
COP-10, UNFCCC**

(On the theme of *The Convention after 10 years: review and future challenges*)

Chairperson/Moderator,

I would like to congratulate you on presiding over the discussion on this theme. At the outset, please allow me, on behalf of the Chinese delegation, to thank the Government and people of Argentina for warmly hosting us again in this beautiful city of Buenos Aires and for the excellent services provided.

Chairperson/Moderator,

I had the honour of attending the 1992 Rio summit on environment and development. It was at that historic conference that the UNFCCC was opened for signature and it entered into force in March 1994.

Chairperson/Moderator,

In the 10 years after its entry into force, the Convention achieved some encouraging progress thanks to the efforts of the international community. In 1995, COP-1 adopted the Berlin Mandate; in 1997, negotiations on the Kyoto Protocol were concluded; the Buenos Aires Plan of Action was born in this beautiful city in 1998 --- it provided a clear direction for the further in-depth negotiations on the Protocol. It was also under the guidance of the plan of action that we accomplished the negotiations on the Bonn agreements and the Marrakesh Accords; In 2002, COP-8 adopted the Delhi Declaration which gives a even clearer guidance to our course of action in the future – that is, to address climate change within the framework of sustainable development.

Chairperson/Moderator,

While recognizing the progress of Convention after 10 years , we should not lose sight of some unsatisfactory aspects. Some important provisions of the Convention are yet to be fully implemented; progress has been slow in negotiations on technology transfer, financial mechanism, capacity-building and some other issues. It is even more disappointing

when it comes to concrete actions. Certain developed country that accounts for 40% of the 1990-level GHG emissions has not ratified the Kyoto Protocol, thus greatly reducing the effectiveness in implementing the Protocol. So far, some developed countries have not made significant progress in cutting their GHG emissions. It is even more worrying that the GHG emissions of a number of developed countries are increasing.

Chairperson/Moderator,

The purpose of reviewing the past is to become better prepared for future actions. The Chinese delegation would like to present the following views on the future course of action on climate change:

First, we must adhere to the Convention and always seek guidance from it. The basic principles of the Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, are the basis for guiding our negotiations on climate change.

Second, actions taken must be consistent with sustainable development. Responding to climate change within the framework of sustainable development is a requirement of the Delhi Declaration. It is a consensus achieved by the international community in its search for effective ways to respond to climate change. It calls upon every country to develop economy, eliminate poverty, change the luxurious and unsustainable way of consumption and, to adopt a mode of development that is compatible with environmental protection.

Third, striking a balance between adaptation and mitigation. Mitigation is an effort to prevent climate change. However, climate has changed already and it has already an adverse impact on the whole world especially on developing countries. Therefore, adaptation is an equally important tool of response to climate change. Mitigation and adaptation are like two wheels that propel the progress of the Convention. Neither of them is dispensable. We appeal that future negotiations focus more on achieving faster progress on adaptation.

Fourth, we must have a strategic and long-term perspective towards the development and transfer of technology. It is indisputable that science and technology are the key to meeting the challenge of climate change. Developing countries are now undertaking large-scale infrastructure development. If advanced and climate-friendly technologies are not applied to these projects and if backward technologies are still to be used, then the feature of high GHG emissions will continue to exist in the next few decades. As pointed out by many delegates, it is not that we don't have the technologies; what we don't have is the mechanism to

disseminate and transfer these technologies. We must not lose this optimum opportunity to protect the climate system. We must adopt innovative ways to promote technology development and transfer.

Fifth, action should be the focus of our future work. We've already had the Convention, the Protocol and numerous decisions and plans of action. However, our actions are lagging behind. We should establish more cooperation mechanisms that are suited to various national circumstances and conducive to mobilizing the enthusiasm of various countries, so that the government and private sector will both be involved in the response to climate change, especially in CDM cooperation.

Chairperson/Moderator,

As a responsible country, China has been earnestly implementing its commitments from the first day of its signature of the Convention. China has formulated a host of concrete policies and measures on sustainable development in the light of its national conditions. These measures have greatly helped China's energy restructuring and conservation, facilitated the use and development of new and renewable sources of energy and, promoted national reforestation and preservation of the ecosystem. All these measures contributed in different ways to the global mitigation of climate change.

China is now in a crucial stage of socioeconomic development. In the next 20 years, The challenges from the population, resources and environment will be more formidable. The Chinese Government has drawn up its overall energy development strategy, which emphasizes *conservation and efficiency, diversity of energy sources, environmental protection and market role*. China is also preparing its national strategy on climate change and national report on climate change assessment. China will adhere to a scientific approach toward development and make continued efforts to achieve an integrated, coordinated and sustainable development so as to make its own contribution to protecting the global climate.

Chairperson/Moderator,

As you said in your opening remarks, this conference is a new milestone leading to actions. Let us make use of this opportunity to start the shift from the negotiations and rules-making towards implementing our commitments and taking concrete actions.

Thank you, Chairperson/Moderator!