



**STATEMENT BY HONOURABLE STANISLAS KAMANZI  
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REPUBLIC OF RWANDA  
COP18/CMP 8**

DOHA, QATAR, 6 December 2012

**Mr President  
Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegations,  
Excellencies,  
Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC,  
Distinguished Delegates, and People of the World who are  
depending on us for action here at COP 18, in Doha,**

I am honoured to address you on behalf of the Republic of Rwanda.

It gives me pleasure to add my voice to those of who have spoken before me to congratulate you Mr President for the excellent facilitation of this Conference.

Allow me also to express my sincere appreciation to the people and the Government of Qatar for the warm hospitality accorded to my delegation since our arrival in this beautiful City of Doha.

Rwanda extends her support and confidence in you, Mr President, and to Madam Christiana Figueres, The Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, as you conduct our deliberations towards quickly achieving a collective and sustainable response to the global climate change challenge.

**Mr President,**

We are here to follow the path we took at the very successful COP 17 which among other commendable achievements agreed on the Durban Platform on Enhanced Action. We are afforded another opportunity to decide on the appropriate headway, if we are to save our Planet from the evident catastrophe it is faced with. We must breathe life into our words of Durban and before Durban.

**Mr President,**

Concerned with the extreme climate change impacts our Countries are experiencing, we wish to take this opportunity to reiterate that a practical and realistic length of five years for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, addressing all outstanding issues including increasing the level of ambition with no carry-over of assigned amount of units, as well as submission of commitment on QELROs with the aim of stabilising the global average temperature below 2 °C above the pre- industrial level, as an absolute maximum. We need to take bold steps in this connection, keeping in mind the people in our countries subjected to constant vulnerability, which compromises the descent livelihoods they deserve, as a basic human right.

**Mr President,**

It is regrettable to hear that as we are gathered here in Doha, some developed Parties are not willing to join the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, while an increasing number among the most vulnerable countries are decisively embarking on the green growth and climate resilient development pathway. Rwanda is of the view that this is serious backslide we should prevent from happening. There is instead need to commit to increased cooperation, including through financial support, technology transfer and capacity building.

**Mr President,**

At this juncture, let us be mindful that we are just a few before the termination of the 1 st commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol on 31st December 2012. We are at a critical moment in the international negotiations. The stake at play is very high, for our own sake but more importantly for the sake of future generations. Doha should leave us with a balanced outcome, a package of decisions that are legally binding for all our Nations, including the approval of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.

**Mr President,**

To conclude, I wish to reaffirm Rwanda's unwavering resolve to colaborate with other Parties at this defining moment. Let us make sure that when we leave Doha, we go with enough substance for next year's COP in Warsaw to build on, increasing our momentum from there.

**You may "Count us in"!**

**Shukran!**