

**STATEMENT FROM HIS EXCELLENCY GHEORGHE SALARU, MINISTER OF  
ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA AT THE HIGH-LEVEL  
SEGMENT AT THE COP17/CMP7**

Durban, South Africa  
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Distinguished member of the Presidium,  
Minister and Heads of Delegations,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen

The Seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) is held during a significant time for Terra Planet, as its population has reached the number of 7 billion, while at the beginning of XX-th century, it was only 2 billion. According to some realistic scenario, the global population could reach 10-15 billions by 2100. To satisfy population's vital needs is one of the biggest challenges for humanity and for each country's Government. Provision of food, water, health services, housing, other needs have to be done with a minimum impact on environment, as already nowadays the anthropogenic factor adversely affected the environment. The United Nations Climate Change Conference slogan "Working Together Saving Tomorrow Today" is of high relevance for us and also for our future as indeed, only in cooperative mode, together we can save this future today.

Republic of Moldova firmly believes in the post-Kyoto process, as a significant step towards a global policy on greenhouse gases emission reduction, which should be further advanced on the basis of important lessons learnt at all levels to date.

Therefore, I would like to underscore that the Republic of Moldova welcomes and fully supports the adoption of an international legally binding document, as validation of all our efforts in the struggle against the adverse impacts of human activities on climate, as well as, of our efforts to stop global warming.

We also fully support the Adaptation and Green Climate Funds setting-up and become operational as soon as possible, in order to assist developing countries in achieving their future post-Kyoto targets.

It is our firm belief that the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions is only a medium-term challenge, while the long-term solution lies precisely in alternative, “green technologies”. In this respect developed countries should share their expertise in this area with the rest of the world.

As a small state, the Republic of Moldova is aware of the limitations and of the necessity to ensure adequate negotiation capacities. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance for such small countries like ours, that the process is very transparent, taking into account relevant differences with regard to economic circumstances, energy profiles, development capacities, aspirations and social conditions.

In facing today’s climate change challenges, the Republic of Moldova views national commitments under the UNFCCC as crucial.

Therefore, the adoption of a globally binding accord hopefully already here, in Durban, should not be viewed as a burden, but rather as a challenge in terms of technological development. At the same time, we should keep in mind the sustainable development aspirations of all countries in the world. To this end, in the joint combat against increased global warming, it is utmost importance that all countries – both developed and developing – accept the introduction of new, more efficient, environmentally friendly technologies. The Republic of Moldova strongly believes that the only way to solve global warming issues is to invest in developing as opposed to impeding it. Such an approach can revitalize economies, slow down environmental degradation, and ensure a safe environment for future generations to come.

To be noted that the Republic of Moldova has constantly worked to live up to its obligations, as a non-Annex I Party, and as implementing an overall environmental protection policy. In addition, the Republic of Moldova associated itself with the Copenhagen Accord and submitted an emission reduction target, specified in its Appendix II: *“A reduction of **no less than 25%** of the base year (1990) level total national GHG emissions have to be achieved by 2020 through implementation of global economical mechanisms focused on the climate change mitigation, in accordance with the Convention’s principles and provisions.”*

Republic of Moldova is undergoing a comprehensive process of reforms, as result of the process of Euro-integration and EU association agenda and a very ambitious legislation is in process, which takes climate change in consideration.

Our recent developing policies, promotion of renewable energy, systematic forestation activities, promoting environmentally innovative approaches and technologies and exploration of carbon finance mechanisms, all speak of our commitment for a carbon free economy.

It is worth mentioned also, that supporting and contributing to the global imperative to stabilize the concentrations in line with 2 degree temperature increase scenario, the Republic of Moldova decided to make a transition to low emission development path, and as a first step developing a Low-Emission Development Strategy (LEDS). At the same time the approval of such Strategy will allow access to the fast start financing as well as long-term financing committed by developed countries in Copenhagen to support developing countries, inclusive the Republic of Moldova, in implementing LEDSs and National Appropriate Mitigation Measures (NAMAs).

Like other non-Annex I Party, the Republic of Moldova remains much interested in the outcome of ongoing negotiations, specifically on: (i) future of CDM and carbon markets; (ii) link between NAMAs and financial support from developed countries; (iii) rules and regulations on functioning of Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund; (iv) ways of mobilizing the development and transfer of clean technology to boost efforts of developing countries to address climate change, getting it to the right place at the right time and for the best effect; (v) ways of mobilizing and providing scaled-up funds in the short and long term to enable developing countries to take greater and effective action; (vi) developed countries emission targets and the way of how they can be formally advanced in the process; (vii) ensuring the international transparency of the actions taken by countries toward the long-term goal for reducing human-generated greenhouse gas emissions over time to keep the global average temperature rise below two degrees.

Concluding, I have to reiterate the Republic of Moldova's commitment to address climate change issues, to incorporate its principles in our development and environmental policies, and to not fail in our modest contribution towards carbon emission reductions.

Thank you for attention.