

**STATEMENT NO. 15: INDIA**

Loud applause and accolade for your tremendous efforts Mr. President. May I also acknowledge the optimism and the very constructive endeavours by various delegations, and the great support provided by Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar and his secretariat. Iran has already spoken on behalf of my delegation, but I must acknowledge the tremendous ability of articulation of Ambassador Asadi, my dear friend Mr. Salamat, and all the other members of the Iranian delegation. I have sought the floor also to bring out the tremendous feeling of fulfilment which my delegation feels in being able to participate in this historical moment, so very poignant, and moving also, and so very demonstrative of the tremendous strength of the UN multilateral system.

Mr. President, you did not let the moment pass - you seized it; you did not let it slip - you held us with both hands and made us work. Many initiatives - the listing, the options - they were exercises in great negotiations, management and innovativeness. The arriving tide you recognized, and on this tide we are now afloat.

On behalf of my delegation, I wish you all the best, all our felicitations in your future endeavours, and personally I would be conscious also that all COPs have a number, this COP has a number, the ones before it and the ones after it, but I shall remember this as the "Pronk COP".