

Points of Intervention

**By H.E. Rachmat Witoelar, State Minister of Environment of Indonesia
on the Convention after 10 years : accomplishments and future
challenges**

**Buenos Aires, Argentina
December 15, 2004**

Mr. President,
Honourable Panelists,

1. Let me first of all join others in congratulating through you, all the Panelists for their insightful presentations on the issues related to the accomplishment and future challenges after 10 years of implementation of the UNFCCC.
2. Our deliberation in evaluating the 10th year implementation of the UNFCCC is marked by a historic progress in our global deliberation on climate change to move our concrete action to the next level after the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol next year. On the same vein, it is also my great pleasure to announce our step in submitting the instrument of ratification of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations on December 3, 2004. We are, therefore, stands ready to collectively implement the protocol's provisions.
3. The momentum developed in the past 10 years also provide a concrete evident concerning the international communities' commitment to embark into a possibly the largest experiment in global environmental governance under the mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol. The entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol clearly seed as significant step toward an essential level of implementation in pursuing our collective efforts both in the dialogue and concrete actions regarding the climate change.
4. It is also a growing consensus for the past 10 years that the adverse impacts of climate change required our urgent collective actions both to mitigate and to adapt to climate change. Such actions should no longer be considered as issues of the future but rather as issues require concrete steps in a matter of urgency. The increasingly rapid melting of ice bergs in the arctic, the climate-related natural disasters such as floods and droughts have not only caused the environmental degradation but most importantly also caused

adverse socio and economic impacts to parties particularly the developing countries in their effort to achieve sustainable development objectives.

5. When we are embarking to the first COP/MOP of climate change, we will have a chance to evaluate "demonstrable progress" in the implementation of the UNFCCC. Despite the fact that there are some progress in the whole global debate on climate change, we are, however, still concerned to the fact that the progress up to now in terms of emissions trajectory and in terms of transfer of resources and technology as well as capacity building still fall short of expectation.
6. Furthermore, the need to adapt to climate change has required urgent actions to be undertaken after 10 years of the implementation of UNFCCC. Although we also recognize the work done so far in advancing the adaptation agenda, however, we need to embark to the next level of engagement through promoting concrete activities on this field.
7. On the issue of mitigation, we are also of the view that such activities should not have adverse effect on the socio and economic development of the developing countries and it should therefore promote the achievement of sustainable development.
8. Before concluding, I wish also to underline the need to have a concrete and measurable evidence of the implementation of the UNFCCC after 10 years of its implementation. We need to be reassured that the commitments and promises made in this first commitment period is actually met in accordance to the provisions of the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol. We also need to be reassured that the industrialized countries participate meaningfully in this commitment period by implementing concrete actions.
9. Finally, I hope the commemoration of the UNFCCC should also bring a constructive spirit for all to engage in matters of utmost important for international community. Let's not allow the next 10 years be passed without significant progress and let's utilize this opportunity to strengthen our collective effort to achieve our common goals.

Thank you.

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By H.E. Rachmat Witoelar, State Minister of Environment of
Indonesia
on Adaptation
Buenos Aires, Argentina
December 2004

Mr. Chairman, Honorable Panelists,
Honorable Ministers, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

1. Let me first of all offer my deepest sympathy to the Philippines, which in the last month has experienced two major disasters. Such disasters and other similar climate-related disasters have brought human suffering and socio-economic losses particularly in developing countries.
2. Our meeting which is also marked by the 10th anniversary of the implementation of the UNFCCC and the new era of embarking toward the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol should reinvigorate our collective political commitment and joint efforts in addressing the problems of climate change.
3. The entry into force of the Protocol next year signifies an important victory of all human beings in addressing their collective challenges. It also reaffirms our commitment towards multilateralism. It indicates that more countries acknowledge the problem, and took a positive step through to cooperation and collaboration among each other.
4. Indeed, climate change is no longer an issue of the future. The report by major humanitarian institutions indicate that climate change will make current development efforts in vain and jeopardize our common effort to achieve the objectives of sustainable development and to implement the targets of the Millennium Development Goals.
5. As a country with more than 17 thousand islands and more than 80 thousand kilometers of coastlines and more than 100 million people whose livelihoods and survival depend on climate-influenced agricultural sector, we are concerned with the slow

pace of the negotiation toward achieving a consensus on concrete action in the field of adaptation.

6. As with other developing and least developed countries, we have limited capacity to cope with the impacts of climate change both in term of human capacity and of adequate access to environmentally-sound technologies that are critical in supporting our efforts to adapt to the climate change.
7. A number of proposals on this issue have been brought forward, including insurance scheme to cover at least partially the costs of adaptation. Even the current funds, based almost entirely on voluntary contributions, have not been fully filled, even though there were pledges of some \$600 million at the end of the second session of COP6 in Bonn.
8. Indeed, financial resources to promote the implementation of adaptation program are critical. Funding should be made adequately available and process in acquiring funding through the GEF should be simplified. Funding to assist technology transfer as well as the corresponding diffusion process should cover the fields of research, development, and demonstration project. The use of indigenous knowledge and technologies should be promoted.
9. Indonesia reaffirms the need for effective and result-based adaptation measures, and for capacity-building to facilitate the integration of adaptation concerns into sustainable development strategies. These concerns should be based not only on global but also on national, regional and local scenario-driven assessments. Awareness raising and promoting understanding at all levels are therefore critical.
10. To conclude, let me remind all of us that we have obligations to our people back home to find a solution to the daunting task ahead. Our commitment will be measured through measurable and demonstrable progress. The credibility of this governance and of ourselves are to be tested particularly after 10 years of the implementation of the Convention and in the commencement of the implementation of the Protocol. For that purpose, let us reaffirm our commitment to do our duties in accordance to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and let us not allow ourselves to do nothing while the climate-related

disasters keep on taking their toll. The international community needs our credible leadership and concrete and measurable actions.

Thank you.