



**Statement by Prof. Judi Wakhungu, Cabinet Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources,
Kenya at the High Level Segment of COP 19/CMP9 in
Warsaw, Poland – 21st November, 2013**

**Your Excellency , Mr. Marcin Korolec, President of COP
19/CMP9,
Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

At the outset allow me to congratulate you and thank the Government and People of Poland for the gracious hospitality and facilities put at our disposal during this Conference.

Our sincere sympathy and condolences to the Government and People of the Philippines for the devastation, loss of lives and property as a result of typhoon Haiyan.

The global community must act decisively and urgently to respond to climate change, this being a global crisis. COP 19/ CMP 9 gives us another opportunity to collectively work together and raise our ambition to urgently respond to climate change before it is too late.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

For countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, like many other vulnerable developing countries, trends recently presented by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) AR 5 report highlight a catastrophic future, a threat to survival of human kind. And so we ask ourselves, why is it that we, as a community of nations continue to fail to take required action at the necessary scope and depth and within in time to tackle climate change for a safer future?.

Excellencies, ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the past few years, through the UNFCCC process, we have made significant progress and agreed on decisions to create and strengthen a

comprehensive and responsive multilateral climate change regime. We need to build on this and aim for greater heights in line with what is required by science and equity.

We must take comprehensive and balanced decisions here in Warsaw to set the right conditions to avoid dangerous climate change impacts. This is achievable with honest and pragmatic negotiations under the prevailing political willingness among all leaders from both developed and developing countries. .

COP 19 must therefore deliver ambitious outcome on the following:

First: Commitment by developed countries to provide enhanced financial resources especially with the view of addressing the potential finance gap for the period 2013-2020 to support enhanced mitigation and adaptation actions by developing countries.

Second: full Operationalisation of the Green Climate Fund with clear timetable for its speedy capitalization to support ambitious climate action in developing countries

Third: Clear and ambitious time-bound programme to address the significant mitigation gap between the levels required by science to cap the global temperature increases and that of emissions reductions currently on the table. And this requires that developed country Parties agree on pre2020 mitigation targets by the 2014.

Fourth: Establish an international mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change in developing countries

Fifth:Set the right pace for the negotiations on the 2015 Agreement under the Adhoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action(ADP). COP 19 should agree on scope and elements as well further clarify roadmap to reaching an ambitious and legally binding global agreement to be adopted in Paris in 2015.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Climate Change is one of the key priorities of the Government of Kenya as part of the national sustainable development agenda. There are deliberate efforts to mainstream climate change into our national

development planning processes to ensure that we are on track for low emission - climate resilient development. We remain fully committed to establishing the right institutional, policy and legal frameworks to enable and facilitate ambitious national climate change management programs.

We have developed National Climate Change Response Strategy in 2010 and a comprehensive National Climate Change Action Plan 2013-2017 with participation of all stakeholders. There is clear process underway to put in place a comprehensive national legal framework on climate change. The country has prioritized transition to green economy, resource use efficiency and cleaner production. We have ambitious programmes for increasing our forest cover and we remain on track for 70 % clean and renewable energy target by 2030. Kenya's ratification of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol is underway and now at the final stages of approval. Our Adaptation and Mitigation Needs Assessments, Capacity Needs assessments are all in place. Further, Kenya has initiated a process to create a national climate fund. Kenya is prepared to tackle climate change. International Cooperation is urgently needed.

Excellencies

Our ambitious national actions and programme remain insignificant without an ambitious global solution. The Multilateral rules- based system under the UNFCCC plays a fundamental role in moving us towards a clear global action.

Kenya remains committed and ready to engage constructively towards comprehensive and ambitious global climate change response.

For Kenya, it is clear that any outcomes of COP 19, Warsaw must be ambitious, scientifically sound and be in line with all principles and provisions of the Convention.

Thank you.