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REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

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KAZAKHSTAN

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PARTIES TO THE UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON
CLIMATE CHANGE

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Dear Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The successful implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is essential for Kazakhstan. Big deficit of water resources, high degree of desertification and soil degradation determine the dependence of our country on climate change.

On the data of a network of meteorological stations for hundred years of observations the temperature of air in Kazakhstan has increased by 1.3 ° that exceeds average global warming **more than two times**. For the same period the annual sums of atmospheric precipitation have decreased, that in a combination with the increase of air temperature strengthens a droughty climate of the country. The Government of Kazakhstan is concerned by that the present tendencies and even more significant global climate change in the future can result in serious socio-economic consequences not only in Kazakhstan, but also in a larger global scale.

According to the accepted obligations, since 1994 in Kazakhstan vulnerability and adaptation assessment for economy and natural resources to climate change were carried out. Greenhouse gas emission inventory and abatement potential analysis for Kazakhstan have been done. First national communication and main elements of strategy on greenhouse gas emission reduction have been presented.

According to the inventory, 1990 GHG emissions in Kazakhstan were 266 million of CO₂ –equivalent. Due to main fuel in energy balance is coal almost a half of total emissions are the emissions from energy sector.

Because of difficulties of transition economy of Kazakhstan and fall-off in production there was the reduction of emissions as compared to the base year of 1990. We need to stress that emission reduction was accompanied by drop of a living standard, increase of illness and mortality. Now we anticipate economic gross. Analysis based on the scenarios of macro-economic development has shown, that the CO₂ emissions in Kazakhstan **will exceed a level of 1990 by 37 % by the year 2020**, if the limits on greenhouse gas emissions is not be imposed in Kazakhstan.

To prevent negative consequences the main directions of environmental strategy and long-term strategy for social and economic development have been elaborated. It was included into **Long-term Strategy of the Republic of Kazakhstan- 2030**.

In cooperation with some international organisation we elaborate a number of investment projects for greenhouse gas reduction. The projects have been approved by the Government and were included in to the National Strategy.

In April of this year the **Interagency Committee** on the implementation of the provisions of the Framework Convention on Climate Change **was established**. And in August 1998 the Expert Council under the Government of Kazakhstan **decided to sign the Kyoto Protocol**, being aware that it is necessary to join efforts on the prevention of climate change.

That is why Kazakhstan intends to enter into Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol through Annex 1 of the UNFCCC. Our willingness to take obligations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions within the framework of Annex B is based on a long-term strategy of sustainable development for mthe country and it is one of the element of its implementation.

We support an objective and reasonable target for the first budget period, which includes abatement measures for GHG emissions, but which does not create barriers to economic development. That is why Kazakhstan supports both simple and transparent procedures for participation in mechanisms of Kyoto Protocol and the joining by other countries of Annex B. This will allow Kazakhstan to initiate activity to reduce GHG emissions based on reinvestments of financial resources for environmentally sound projects. This has essential importance to the country now when we are sure from the difficulties of an economy in transition. Having a capital deficit and facing serious barriers even to building "win-win" projects.

Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, the importance of the problem of climate change for Kazakhstan and for every country grows year by year. Serious social and economic consequences for our country compel Kazakhstan to take a more active role. We believe that only joint activity and increasing participation by all countries will allow us to prevent further irreversible changes and catastrophic consequences linked to global warming.

Thank you for your attention.