



**STATEMENT**

**OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

**to the**

*Eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC  
Eight session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of  
the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol*

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**Presented by**

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Mr President, Excellences,  
Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to thank the Government and people of Qatar, for hosting these prominent Conferences.

It is my pleasure to be here and represent Croatia.

Let me point out that Republic of Croatia, and I personally, welcome and support the adoption of the internationally legally binding document to succeed Kyoto protocol.

And we strongly support the goal to define the second commitment period until 2020 as a transition period towards a new, legally binding agreement. Legally binding documents are daily guidance for us, legislators, to keep us focused on achieving the noble goal to create and preserve sustainable living environment for generations to come.

Croatia, similar as other Central European and Mediterranean countries, is faced with various challenges, all under the spotlight of the main priority – the challenge how to transform our economies in order to encourage so much needed “growth and new jobs”.

However, we must never leave out of sight how important it is for our future to ensure the economical growth in such a balanced way that it goes hand in hand with environmental protection.

Because this is the essence of what we do and why – to preserve natural resources for future generations not only in Croatia but also globally.

And this truly is a problem of us all, all our countries, big and small, developed and developing.

We all need to think about it and strive how to introduce new, green, more efficient, environmentally friendly technologies.

Yes, this will engage more of everything, more funds, more creativity, more efforts.

But there is no other option.

Green economy demands better technologies and innovations, higher investments. There is no doubt about that. And that's why if there are no standards globally binding for all, we are faced with less readiness to implement adequate measures, to invest in technologies and innovations which in the end has a global impact. It hurts quality of life globally and locally.

Mr President,

In this regard Croatia has already undertaken steps to fight greenhouse emissions.

As the 28<sup>th</sup> country of the EU mid next year, we have adopted relevant legislation based on EU strategies and legislation. We have developed Strategic framework aiming to green development, environmental protection, efficient and sustainable utilisation of natural resources and efficient management in all segments of economy.

At the same time, Croatia is developing utilization of renewable energy sources and investing in energy efficiency increase. With these investments, and in particular by investing into cleaner production and consumption, Croatia is on the way to develop a „green economy“, which we deem to be a long-term basis for further development.

This is never an easy task, and in Croatia it calls for a very determinant governance and very strong collaboration between sectors, both governmental and with various industries.

This also calls for public support so much needed to commercialize green industries.

Mr President, distinguished delegates,

I hope that in the course of these Conferences, with our joint efforts, we will develop quality decisions by which a long-term reduction of greenhouse gas emissions will be achieved and our joint goal, the protection of global climate, that is, will be successfully achieved.

Thank you.