

**STATEMENT NO. 22: SUDAN<sup>9</sup>**

Delegations who have already taken the floor have expressed their joy at this resounding success. They have expressed congratulations and thanks to you and to your colleagues. These are thanks which you thoroughly deserve, but that doesn't leave me a great deal to add. They have already expressed their joy in the form of a round of applause and a standing ovation which are things that you very much merit. But why do I say that you deserve them, because we are proud of historic leaders, such as you have proven to be. You are a patient man, a wise man and a great diplomat, at the head of this extremely difficult conference. In addition, though, I must mention your qualities of sheer physical endurance. I don't know quite how old you are but I think you must have built up in your youth the endurance and strength which we trust you will maintain, and help us to press on and indeed become one of the leaders of this world.

I very much hope that our brother experts and coordinators can translate what has been agreed today, beginning next week, into terms which will satisfy the aspirations of everyone. And I can only express my respect for our experts, our scientists, individuals of great standing active in the field of environment, who have through their research distilled their wisdom in helping to try and diagnose the dangers of climate change and the adverse impact on our whole globe. It is that which prompted us, the diplomats and the politicians, to sit down together in an attempt to address these dangers and their underlying causes. I feel a very special debt of thanks to them today and we trust that they will persevere, and help to make us aware of these dangers, so we can help to prevent them.

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<sup>9</sup> The original statement was delivered in Arabic.