

**Formal Proposal by the Government of Mongolia to All Nations at COP6:  
Religious/Secular Partnerships on Climate Change**

**Sixth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework  
Convention on Climate Change, The Hague.**

**Tuesday 21 November 2000  
Statement from the Minister of Mongolia.**

**The Nation of Mongolia has** ratified the Kyoto Protocol. Mongolia also recognises the role of the large constituencies represented by the main faith groups both in our own country and worldwide - tens of thousands of places of worship and buildings, major religious events, tens of thousands of personnel in organisations and educational establishments. The main Faiths, such as Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Sikhism, Taoism and the Zoroastrians have over 3 billion followers world-wide and their spheres of influence also reach into civilian life through local communities, families and individuals. In the light of this, the main faiths have agreed to organise significant cuts in line with the Kyoto Protocol in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy use and the promotion of green energy as a contribution of substance to the need of every nation to abide by the Kyoto Protocol.

Mongolia is now leading by example by entering formally into Partnership with the Faith leaders in our country, primarily the Buddhists, to work together implementing the Kyoto Protocol and therefore **advocates and proposes** :

- that the Conference of the Parties formally recognise the contribution already being made worldwide by the major faith groups to environmental conservation through advocacy, education and practical projects and welcomes the serious potential for increased action by the faiths;
- to welcome the fact that as a sign of their concern at the widespread problems caused by Climate Change, leaders from the world's main faith groups have signed the Religious/Secular Partnerships on Climate Change Initiative;
- that the national governments at COP6 accept the invitation of the faith groups to work in Partnership with them to achieve emissions targets;
- that the Conference of the Parties formally approve the Religious/Secular Partnerships on Climate Change Initiative during this session;
- that the UNFCCC Secretariat facilitate the initial Partnership meeting (in February 2001 in Geneva) between senior government representatives from each nation and the faith leaders of that nation via the representative body of the faiths for this initiative, the Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC);

**SIXTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE  
OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**13-24 November 2000, The Hague, Netherlands**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. ULAMBAYAR BARSBOLD,  
MINISTER FOR NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
OF MONGOLIA**

**21 November 2000, The Hague**

Mr. President,  
Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you Mr. Jan Pronk, President of the Sixth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC on your election. I hope that we can make a significant step at this world climate forum under your leadership in implementation of the targets that we have already set.

It is my honour to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to the Government and people of the Netherlands for kind invitation to host this Session in the beautiful and historic city of the Hague and for the excellent arrangements made.

Mr. President,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, the Parties to the Convention, have our common, but differentiated responsibilities and commitments to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In accordance with the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, the developed country Parties should take a leading role in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof. Developed country Parties, have to undertake response actions to mitigate their greenhouse gases emissions and to assist the developing country Parties to address the impacts of climate change.

Developing countries have double concerns. They need to solve their own socio-economic development problems. At the same time, developing country Parties have to take actions to address adverse effects of global climate change. The high priority issues related to climate change for developing countries are finance and framework for technology transfer and capacity building to address direct adverse affects of climate change and impacts of response measures.

Implementation of any response actions of developing countries will depend on the effective implementation by developed country Parties of their commitments with regard to the financial resources and transfer of technology. The commitments under Article 4 of Convention cover the provision of new and additional financial resources to developing countries for meeting the costs of adaptation as well as to promote, facilitate and finance the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and know-how. Therefore, Mongolia as other developing countries calls the developed country Parties to implement their commitments related to financial and technical assistance under the UNFCCC.

Mr. President,

Developed country Parties have focused their attention mainly on mitigation of greenhouse gases. The operating entity of the financial mechanism, the Global Environmental facility (GEF), is also used almost for this purpose. Therefore, new financing mechanisms for technology transfer, vulnerability and adaptation should be established. I hope that a decision on concrete actions related to funding, insurance and the transfer of technology should be made at this Conference.

For developing country Parties the most important climate change issues are the actions to meet the specific needs and concerns that reflected in Article 4.8 and 4.9 of the Convention. My delegation underlines the importance of the adaptation issues in developing country Parties. Mongolia is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world due to its geographical location, specific socio-economic situation and poverty caused by extreme weather conditions like drought and dzud (severe winter). Mongolia has very limited capacity for adaptation. Therefore, financial resource availability would play a crucial role in successful implementation of response measures against global climate change. The results of the impact assessments of climate change on the natural base resources and economic sectors development demonstrate that Mongolia would have serious problems and concerns related to climate change. For example, permafrost area melting and snow cover changes will lead to reconsider the current practice of the agriculture and infrastructure sectors management. Vector borne diseases caused by climate change might have negative impact on human health and social welfare.

In this regard, the Government of Mongolia gives special attention to the climate change issues. Mongolia was one the first countries which ratified both Climate Change Convention and its Kyoto Protocol. Mongolia is participating in multilateral and bilateral climate change programmes and initiatives to estimate the potential impacts of climate change on socio-economic life of the country in order to formulate the framework of its national policies and strategies on climate change.

Mongolia has developed its Action Programme on Climate Change, in which main strategies and policies to address climate change have been formulated. In order to implement the actions and measures identified in the Action Programme, it needs financial and technological assistance of developed countries and international organizations.

Mongolia is now leading by example by entering formally into partnership with Faith leaders in our country to work together implementing the Kyoto Protocol through advocacy, education and practical projects. Proposal of this Partnership activity will be distributed to the delegates separately. Therefore, I would like to ask the Conference of the Parties to support this proposal.

Mr. President,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, I would like to express my deep hopes that this world climate conference can make important action-oriented decisions to be implemented to address the adverse effects of climate change in developing countries.

Thank you for your kind attention.