Statement by H.E. Mr. Manasvi Srisodapol,
Special Representative of the Chair of the Group of 77 and China for Climate Change
On Behalf of the Group of 77 and China
At the Opening plenary of 1st Session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA1)
17 May 2016, Bonn, Germany

Co-chairs,

1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China at the 1st Session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement.

2. At the outset, the Group would like to congratulate both of you on your election as the Co-Chairs of the APA. Having two ladies chair this important working group is a clear indication of the seriousness with which Parties take their undertakings on gender in the Paris Agreement. We trust that, under your guidance and leadership, the meeting will be able to move constructively towards a successful outcome. The Group is ready to work closely with you.

3. In recent years, all Parties have worked collectively and tirelessly, in a constructive manner and a spirit of compromise, to negotiate and adopt the Paris Agreement. Now, as we move into the implementation phase, there is a lot of work ahead to achieve the objectives of the Convention. The APA has a crucial task ahead to

prepare for the entry into force of the Paris Agreement. The Group stands ready to commence our task immediately and to work closely with our partners to fulfill the mandates given to us by the COP. Being mindful of the work that is going on in other subsidiary bodies, we would like to emphasize the need for coherence of our work in APA and those in SBSTA and SBI.

Co-chairs,

4. In Paris, we achieved a balanced Agreement among all elements needed to address the threat of climate change, including the issues of Adaptation and Loss and Damage that are of so much importance to developing country Parties. This successful balanced approach to the Paris outcome needs to feed the spirit of the current discussion on the implementation starting here in Bonn among all Parties. The Group believes that the work of the APA should be undertaken in a well-structured, balanced, comprehensive and coherent manner. We stress that no crucial element to the Paris outcome and their interlinkages with other elements, are left behind. All issues under the APA must be given equal attention, in both time allocation and facilitation support. Moreover, we must ensure that the agenda reflects the clarity of the tasks and reflects faithfully the mandates, as well as the balanced outcome of the Paris Agreement.

5. The Group has submitted our concise surgical amendments to the agenda on Sunday. We recognize the effort made by COP21 and COP22 Presidents and two incoming Co-Chairs in carrying out consultations with all Groups yesterday to find a balanced solution on the agenda. We hope to further engage in the discussion in order to move the process forward.

Co-Chairs,

6. The Group would like to underline again the need to close the emission gap and enhance ambition in the pre-2020 period, particularly by developed countries, consistent with holding the increases in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. Actions shall not be deferred to post-2020 implementation under the Paris Agreement. In the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the Group expects developed countries to continue taking the lead role in addressing climate change.

7. The Group acknowledges the importance of CBDR-RC and of providing developing country Parties with flexibility in the transparency framework for action and support under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, taking into account Parties' different capacities. Support shall be provided to developing countries for the implementation of Article 13 and for the building of transparency-related capacity on a continuous basis. The Group reiterates that modalities, procedures and guidelines under Article 13 should be built on and draw from experiences from existing arrangements related to transparency under the convention and ensure balanced treatment of all areas indicated under the Article.

8. In order to ensure comprehensiveness of the global stocktake, the Group emphasizes that due attention should be given to the discussion on transparency of support to enable clarity of relevant input that will inform the global stocktake process defined in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement. Such clarity will be a crucial basis for ensuring that adequate finance, technology and capacity building supports are provided to developing countries to allow for effective action beyond 2020.

Co-Chairs,

9. Developing countries' efforts towards the achievement of the goals under the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, especially of those that are considered most impacted and vulnerable, are being seriously undermined by the adverse impacts of climate change. Urgent actions are needed, so let's get to work.

10. Thank you.