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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE TEREZYA PIUS LUOGA HUVISA, MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, AT THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, CANCÚN- MEXICO, 29TH NOVEMBER – 10TH DECEMBER 2010

Your Excellency Madam Patricia Espinosa,

Excellencies Heads of State and Governments,

Your Excellency Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations,

Honorable Ministers,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is indeed a great honour and privilege for me to address the 16th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC. Let me take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to the people and the

Government of Mexico for organizing this august conference and a warm welcome accorded to us since our arrival in this beautiful city of Cancún. I also wish to recognize the hard work of the UNFCCC Secretariat that has brought us thus far.

Madam President,

The United Republic of Tanzania associates herself with the statements made by Yemen on behalf of Group of 77 and China, Lesotho on behalf of Least Developed Countries, and H.E Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of Ethiopia on behalf of Africa.

Madam President,

The world is watching and millions of voiceless communities are waiting to see and hear how this gathering, will rise up to the challenges of climate change, and provide a promising solution based on the convention principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities. Cancun, this week, provides another opportunity for humanity to address a problem of its own making, which threatens to lead to its own destruction. We deserve no excuse for further delay in reaching a legally binding agreement since the impacts accept no excuse in affecting millions of the poor in Africa, LDCs and SIDs. Any further delay in reaching a legally agreement today exacerbates impacts to

millions of livelihoods of the most vulnerable communities in such regions. So, these negotiations are a matter of great concern to us.

Madam President

The emissions of the heat trapping gases is increasing despite the existence of the legally binding Kyoto Protocol to which we all signed. We are concerned with the most recent estimates which have shown that developed country parties emission levels have increased for about 7.9% as compared to 1990 levels. I understand that Copenhagen Accord was a step forward in this process. However, it is disappointing to note that the current pledges averaging 12%-19% under the Accord allows rise of 4^0C-5^0C above the pre-industrial era. For Tanzania and Africa, this is catastrophic. We are also disappointed to note that fast start funds as per the Accord has not been hanoured to the required levels.

Madam President

While all countries are willing to rise to this challenge and are committed to continue cooperative actions, it is our hope that developed countries will take the lead through committing themselves to the second commitment period and availing support to the adoption of a legally binding framework through a two track outcome. Tanzania believes that the success of this

process will be determined by an agreement on the key areas that are enshrined in the science and in the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. In this regard, we wish to stress that:

- The Kyoto Protocol must be sustained beyond 2012. Developed country parties to this important legal instrument should commit to reduce emissions through the second commitment period based on science and realities on ground;
- A clear commitment by developed country parties to reduce their individual and collective emissions by at least 45% below their 1990 level by 2020 so as to limit the temperature rise well below 1.5°C is absolutely necessary to ensure that the world remains a safer place to live; and
- Financial support, capacity building and technologies must be provided unconditionally to developing countries to stimulate nationally appropriate mitigation actions that will allow a transition to greener growth and adaptation to the unavoidable impacts.

Madam President,

Tanzania is willing to participate in such greener sustainable development paths provided technologies, finance and capacities

are predictably and sustainably availed in order to stimulate such actions in the various sectors of the economy.

Madam President,

Adaptation is our highest priority. Therefore, support for adaptation to the already existing and the envisaged impacts of climate change is a prerequisite for any definition of a successful outcome. It is in this context that I wish to stress the need for putting in place a clear institutional arrangement under the COP to oversee issues of adaptation, financing and capacity building. To ensure adequate sustainable and predictable funding, public finance should be the main source consistent with the views and positions expressed by many other African countries. Developed countries should, therefore, set aside 1.5 of the GDP to adaptation funding in order to enhance information communication technology and strength early warning system and disaster preparedness.

Madam President,

The importance of capacity building for developing countries cannot be over-emphasized. While we all agree that adaptation is a priority to developing countries, the need for capacity to enable such countries to implement concrete adaptation activities on the

ground is a prerequisite. Allow me to reiterate the need for a clear institutional arrangement that will oversee the implementation of capacity building including supervising subsequent reviews of the capacity building framework.

Madam President

Forestry sector is of particular importance for developing countries. Despite setting aside about 33.5 million hectares of her land as forest in various forms, including reserves, Tanzania has been planting an average of 1.5 million trees per year per district as part of implementation of her national strategies. In addition, Tanzania is one of the REDD+ piloting countries. It is necessary therefore, for the new climate change regime to address deforestation and forest degradation in the context of sustainable development. This should be done by addressing the drivers of deforestation and the broader national development perspectives by enabling developing countries to address energy needs in both rural and urban areas; improving sustainable agriculture production through irrigation, improved seed variety to increase productivity per unit area; and addressing illegal logging by enhancing the capacity of the relevant sectors.

Madam President

In conclusion, as it is crystal clear, the outcome of these climate change negotiations will still depend on political and geostrategic interests being discussed by the Annex I Parties, which are still expected in the greenhouse gas reduction rates. Time is of essence in protecting our planet, by boosting the introduction and execution of low-carbon sectoral policies and green economy action programmes in the non-Annex I countries and to ensure sustainability of their respective development. The time has come for concrete action alongside negotiations. The Country Parties agree globally to give themselves the technical and financial resources to move in this direction. I sincerely believe that the Cancun Conference will clearly mark a decisive step in moving into action and the negotiations will continue.

I thank you Madame President.