Statement by:

H.E.M.J. Mohammadi Zadeh

Vice President and Head of Department of Environment

Islamic Republic of Iran

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In the Name of God, the Compassionate the Merciful

Madam President,

Honorable Ministers

Excellencies and Distinguished Heads of Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the people and the government of Mexico for hosting this important and well organized conference for which hard work has been put since the Copenhagen conference. I would also like to thank the UNFCCC Secretariat for excellent organization of this conference and its continuous efforts to advance the objectives of the Convention.

Madam President,

Although it is now almost 16 years since the United Nations Convention on Climate Change has come into effect, the global community has not yet reached a general, fair and complete consensus of how to mitigate climate change and how to adapt to the impacts of climate change, and the appropriate financial and technology mechanisms are not in place yet.

Climate change is an issue which should be dealt with beyond our mere national interests. Changes in our lifestyle, re-definition of personal and social welfare, to be compatible with the environment and reasonable exploitation of non-renewable and even renewable sources of energy, are among the actions that we can take. Our own religious beliefs as well as those of other theological beliefs and our national culture all lead us to this direction.

It is surprising to witness during the recent years' intensive negotiations under AWG-KP and AWG-LCA that certain countries, which claim for human rights and conservation of the environment, either those that have not only joined the Kyoto Protocol or have joined the Kyoto Protocol but have not fulfilled their commitments, but are even pushing for its termination after the first commitment period. The Kyoto Protocol is the only legally binding agreement under the UNFCCC and we strongly support its effectiveness and continuation for the second and subsequent 5-year commitment periods according to its Article 3.9. Those Annex I countries that are not Parties to the Kyoto Protocol should fulfill their commitments under AWG-LCA.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Due to the development priorities such as poverty eradication, food security, infrastructure development and social welfare, developing countries may only voluntarily participate in greenhouse gas mitigation actions in return for the full financial and technological support of Annex I Parties under MRV. Consequently, national adaptation and mitigation action plans may be expected.

The Islamic Republic of Iran shares the visions with developing countries of G77 & China in the following issues:

- The historical responsibility of Annex I countries in GHG emissions as well as justifiable allocation of the global atmospheric space to developing countries.
- Establishment of the necessary mechanisms for adaptation to climate change such as adaptation committee.
- Refraining from imposing unilateral trade restrictions on developing countries.
- Consideration of the "*impacts of response measures*" on economies that are highly dependent on the production and export of oil and gas.
- Establishment of the financial and technological mechanisms under the direct supervision and management of the COP, with an intergovernmental oversight body.
- Institutional relationship between financial mechanism under the Convention and mitigation, adaptation, technology development and transfer as well as capacity building.
- The needs for controlling the growth rate of GHG emissions by energy conservation and efficiency to limit the global temperature rise.

Madam President,

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has established a new and extensive program for energy pricing policy to lift the subsidies of energy which will affect the energy sector significantly through conservation of energy in all sectors.

Iran is a country which is highly vulnerable to climate change. Almost two third of our land, including 16 of our provinces, are prone to continuous drought and a few of our provinces have had very little precipitation in the past 7-8 years and drought is persisting this year. In 2008 alone, we have spent approx 5 billion dollars to compensate for the agricultural damages to farmers and import of the food.

In recent years most western and southern provinces of Iran are suffering from the heavy and thick dust storms with significant damage to human health as well as agricultural and industrial sectors.

I am pleased to announce that by the end of our next 5-Year Development Plan starting March 2011, we plan to reduce the exploitation of our forests to zero and to increase the rain-fed tree planting by one million hectares.

In conclusions, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are looking for complete implementation of the Convention and enhancement of the Kyoto Protocol so that all of the global efforts made in the past two decades become fruitful. In this regard besides what already stated, the following specific proposals are submitted:

1- For smooth and effective implementation of adaptation and mitigation measures, publically sponsored and funded technologies are to be diffused and transferred by the developed countries on preferential terms.

2- Allocation of appropriate percentage of developed countries GDP's in the form of grants, proportionate to adaptation and mitigation needs of developing countries to address challenges of climate change.

3- In line with Article 1.1 of the Convention, the initiative taken by the relevant international organizations to address human health and welfare in the work program of the Conference should receive all inclusive support.

Finally, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its readiness for close collaboration with the international community through an inclusive inter-governmental process to implement the Convention.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A bright Future is being made today by all of us here. I thank you very much.