(Informal Translation)

Speech at the High Level Segment of COP16&CMP6

Delivered by Vice Chairman XIE ZHENHUA

National Development and Reform Commission, P.R.China

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Distinguished Madam President, Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Chinese government, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the Mexican government for making great efforts and considerate arrangement for the Cancun Conference.

Climate change is a severe challenge confronted by the humankind in the 21st century and the international community must enhance cooperation to tackle it. As a developing country, China is also a victim to global climate change. As a result, China has strong sympathy for the negative impacts of climate change faced by least developed countries, small islands countries, African countries and other developing countries.

The Chinese government has identified proactive tackling of climate change as a key strategy for economic and social development. It has formulated the National Plan on Addressing Climate Change, and put forward a target in the Eleventh Five-Year Plan period to reduce the energy consumption per unit of GDP by 20% by 2010 on the level of 2005. Notable headway has been made after adopting multiple policy measures and action, which include optimizing industrial structure, eliminating outmoded production capacity, enhancing energy conservation and improving energy efficiency, accelerating development of clean energy and increasing forest carbon sink, etc. It is expected that the 20% energy intensity reduction target can be achieved, which means that CO_2 emission avoided in the process amounted to more than 1.5 billion tons. This is a great contribution to global efforts in tackling climate change and will stand the test of history.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As a developing country with per capita GDP of only 3700 USD and ranks around 100th place globally, China still has a huge population living in poverty and is confronted with multiple challenges of economic development, poverty eradication, improving of people's livelihoods and protection of climate. At the end of last year, Chinese government announced mitigation action, which is to reduce the CO_2 emission per unit of GDP by 40-45% by 2020 from the level of 2005, and will incorporate it as a domestic obligatory target in the medium to long term plan for national economic and social development. This will require arduous efforts accordingly. China will continue to follow a path of sustainable development and will never repeat the old path taken by developed countries in their industrialization process, which emitted greenhouse gases in an unchecked manner. China will adopt comprehensive policies to slow down the speed of emission growth and try to reach emission peak as early as possible.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the course of 20 years of UN climate change international negotiation, we achieved the Convention on Climate Change of the United Nations, Kyoto Protocol, and Bali Road Map, constituting the fundamental legal framework for the global cooperation in response to climate change. The political consensus achieved in the Copenhagen Accord has provided important political drive to the global joint action. These outcomes are not achieved easily and should be cherished carefully. Based on these foundations, representatives from all countries should push Cancun meeting forward and get positive outcomes. To this end, on behalf of the Chinese government, I would like to put forward the following suggestions:

First, we must insist on the Convention and the Protocol as the basis for negotiation. We need to maintain that the negotiation within the United Nations framework is the dominant channel, aiming to realize the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention and the Protocol. We need to follow the mandate of Bali Roadmap and the guidance of common political consensus in the Copenhagen Accord, as well as consolidate consensus achieved so far in order to achieve

balanced and positive outcomes at the Cancun meeting. We look forward to substantial outcomes especially from the issues such as second commitment period of Kyoto Protocol, fast start fund, adaptation, technology transfer and forest, and make positive progress on the issues like mitigation and transparency, etc.

Second, we must insist on achieving common development as the target. The issue of climate change, in nature, is an issue of development. The ultimate solution to climate change can only be achieved through common sustainable development of all countries. Developed countries should take the lead in substantial emission reduction, so as to leave necessary room for the development of developing countries. They also need to provide financial and technology support for developing countries. Developing countries need to make contribution to address climate change within the framework of sustainable development.

Third, we must insist on strengthening cooperation as the approach. Developed countries are expected to provide finance, technology and capacity building support to developing countries through international cooperation, which is in line with the long-term interests of the developed countries and the whole humankind. China will continue to provide assistance within its ability to other developing countries through south-south cooperation, especially to those least developed countries, small islands countries and African countries.

Fourth, we should insist on practical cooperation as the guarantee. At present, the negotiation to materialize the Bali Roadmap has entered into the key stage, all countries should work together to transform the political will in addressing climate change into tangible actions. Developed countries who are Parties to the Kyoto Protocol shall make efforts to accomplish the emission reduction task identified in the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, and make further commitment on substantial and quantified emission reduction targets in the second commitment period. Non-Kyoto Protocol developed Parties shall undertake comparable emission reduction targets under Convention. Developed countries shall fulfill their commitment of providing finance and technology transfer support to developing countries. Developing

countries also need to take effective voluntary adaptation and mitigation actions according to their national conditions and capacity, and join global efforts in tackling climate change.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

China firmly supports the Cancun Conference to reach a broad and balanced outcome according to Bali Roadmap, and is willing to play a positive and constructive role in promoting progress of the negotiation. China believes that as long as we insist on the principles of the Convention and the Protocol, as well as the mandate of the Bali roadmap, and insist on the principles of Party-driven, transparency, inclusiveness and consensus through consultations, the Cancun Conference is sure to achieve positive outcomes.

Thank you!