17

Statement by

H.E. Mr. Suwit Khunkitti

Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Kingdom of Thailand

at the High Level Segment of the Sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol.

9 December 2010, Cancun, Mexico

Madam President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me to congratulate you on your election as the President of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol.

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government and the people of Mexico for hosting this important meeting and for their warm hospitality extended to me and my delegation.

I would also like to express my great appreciation to the Secretariat for the excellent work they are doing.

Madam President,

The recent flash floods all over Thailand affected regions from the high plateau in the Northeast of the country that is home to over 20 million people, or one third of the Thai population, to river ravine in the Central Plain, and to the Southern Peninsular. 215 lives were lost and over 1.7 million households were affected. It is estimated that over 7 million acres of agricultural land areas had been flooded. Land slide and unusual storms in the South destroyed homes and took lives. This was the worst flash flood over the past 60 years in Thailand. While we grapple with "numbers", a private research house put the modest damage figure at USD 1.8 billion. This is about 30% of the annual budget of Thailand in 2010.

It is also predicted that the flooding would slash estimated 2010 economic growth by 6.8-6.9%, from the previous prediction of 7.1 %. The inflationary impacts on people could easily be expected in this regard. This problem adds more

stress to the already exhausted people, whose lives are difficult.

Madam President,

In this context, I would like to stress that it is time to secure an outcome to fulfill the mandate of the Bali Action Plan as we agreed in December 2007. The form of outcome must be sufficient to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention. The agreed outcome must address all elements required by the Bali mandate in a balanced manner and enable actions commencing "now, up to and beyond 2012".

Importantly, balanced outcome between the two negotiating tracks of AWG-KP and AWG-LCA must be maintained in the degree of details of decisions within each track in an open, transparent and inclusive multilateral negotiation process. I do believe that whatever outcome we reach in Cancun, it must not compromise or prejudge the overall objective of reaching a comprehensive, fair, ambitious and legally binding outcome in the future.

Madam President,

I would like to draw your attention for the need for a greater mobilization and a political will to adopt a set of decisions in the following elements,

A. **Under the Kyoto Protocol track**, it is vital that developed countries who are Parties to the KP urgently commit to the second commitment period of the KP and ensure the continuity of this legally-binding agreement that addresses the mitigation commitments of developed countries.

B. **Under the Ad-hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action**, action is needed for the following decisions -

1. The establishment of an Adaptation Committee to implement the Adaptation Framework and an international mechanism to address loss and damage caused by climate change.
2. The establishment of a comprehensive Technology Mechanism under the Convention which will really enable the transfer of technology to developing countries. In order to ensure the transfer of

environmentally sound technologies, a decision is also make sure that intellectual property rights are not a barrier.

3. The immediate implementation of a new Climate Fund under the UNFCCC which must ensure new, additional and scaled up financing for developing countries to meet the challenges of mitigation and adaptation.
4. Developed countries who are not party to the KP, should take mitigation commitments which is comparable to the efforts of those Parties under the KP.
5. A long term global goal for emission reductions which is consistent with the science as well as equity in ensuring the acknowledgement of historical responsibilities and an equitable sharing of atmospheric space.
6. Our shared vision to address the challenges of climate change must ensure respect for the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities.

Madam President,

I do wish that Cancun will deliver those agreed outcomes mentioned in an open, transparent and inclusive process.

I would like to assure you that Thailand will cooperate with all Parties to make Cancun a success.

I thank you.