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REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY

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Minister for Coordination of Environmental Affairs

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Cancun, 8th December, 2010

Madame President,

Your Excellencies Heads of State and Government,

Mr. Secretary-General of the United Nations

Honourable Ministers,

Distinguished Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the People and the Government of the Republic of Mozambique, and on my own behalf, I wish to thank the Government and people of Mexico for the hospitality that have accorded to me and my delegation here in this beautiful City of Cancun.

I would like to congratulate you, Madam Minister, on your election as COP 16 President. We are confident that under your guidance we will be able to succeed in this challenge. We would also like to express our appreciation to the outgoing COP 15 President.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mozambique supports the statements made by DRC on behalf of the African Group, by Lesotho on behalf of the LDC and by Yemen on behalf of G77+ China.

We are once again reassembled here in Cancun to find solutions that will avoid a human catastrophe and make future generation live in a healthier world. The only way we can do it is through the adoption of a legal binding international climate change regime.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Excellencies,

Mozambique is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, suffering every year from floods, drought and tropical cyclones. Historical records of the last 50 years show that more than twenty nine millions of people were victimized and more than hundred thousand of them were killed.

As you can see, climate change poses additional challenges to the survival of people, ecosystems and the economy of the country. Therefore, the Government of Mozambique have prepared and approved a number of strategies, plans and programs to enable the implementation of concrete actions to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change.

By also recognizing that climate change affects differently women and men recently the Government

approved the Gender and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

Excellencies,

Our main wish is to transform the approved strategies, plans and programs into a concrete action at communities' level. In this regards we identified two thousand communities most vulnerable that needs urgent actions to secure safe drinking water, food security and energy as well as reduce deforestation, uncontrolled wildfires which lead to land degradation and erosion.

The implementation of these actions requires capacity building, financial support and appropriate technologies.

We are intersected in a multilateral climate change regime which resolves current and future crisis, addresses adaptation as a priority and also support a sustainable economic development and enhance social justice and gender equality

Excellencies,

As a matter of survival for our people we call for urgent adoption of the two legally binding instruments and those under negotiation that will especially those that allow the scaling up of adaptation actions and low carbon growth and REDD+ readiness implementation.