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Address of HE Mr. Branimir Gvozdenović
Minister of Spatial Planning and Environment of Montenegro,
The United Nations Conference on Climate Change
Cancun, 29 November - 10 December 2010

Madame Chairlady,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Representatives,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please allow me, on behalf of the Government of Montenegro, to state once again that Montenegro agrees with the conclusions passed in Copenhagen that climate change is one of the biggest global challenges of our time and that stabilization of emissions of greenhouse gases is one of the most important tasks that must be globally achieved with the participation of all countries regardless of their contribution to global warming in accordance with their needs and opportunities, current scientific findings and warnings through the mechanisms of international support and cooperation.

Stabilization of global temperature increase at less than 2°C on the basis of equality and in the context of sustainable development is an essential prerequisite for long-term strengthening of international cooperation in combating the adverse effects of climate change.

Montenegro is a Mediterranean country whose contribution to global pollution is almost negligible; however, it belongs to the region which was identified by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change. Therefore, we believe that the next global action, the efficacy of overcoming the challenges we face, can best be achieved through regional connectivity. Montenegro recently joined the Mediterranean Initiative on Climate Change, which is an additional forum for the exchange of experiences and good practices, setting priorities, requirements and appropriate measures in the search for sustainable solutions to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and adapt to altered climatic conditions.

Montenegro recognizes that these objectives cannot be achieved without the development of new, sustainable, clean technologies. Promotion of technologies with low emissions of greenhouse gases and support to developing countries to adapt these technologies to local conditions should be a key element in efforts made to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change. Therefore, we welcome the idea for the development and promotion of clean technologies to advance through a special global mechanism.

Also, we express our readiness, in addition to the participation in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), to actively participate in other mechanisms achieving access to the emission market, enabling the so-called "cleaner" (low-carbon) investments and a flourishing green economy, while fully respecting the principles of sustainable development.

Montenegro also expresses its willingness to accept new responsibilities and new binding periods after 2012. Let us hope that by building on all the agreements, guidelines and conclusions reached so far some consistent and precise rules and procedures will be established for an effective implementation of the goals aligned with needs and capabilities of the signatory countries. In this context, it is necessary to emphasize the need to strengthen the financial mechanisms of the Convention through the agreed climate funds (Copenhagen Green Climate Fund).

Finally, but not as least important, I would like to point out the necessity of accurate, precise and consistent reporting to the Secretariat of the Convention on emissions of greenhouse gases by all Member States. On this occasion I would like to share with you the positive international reaction to the first National Communication on Climate Change which was submitted to the Secretariat by Montenegro, in October of the current year, which encouraged us further to prepare the second national communication, which is already in progress.