STATEMENT BY H.E. PEHIN DATO SUYOI OSMAN,
THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
AT THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENTS OF THE 16TH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC) AND THE 6TH MEETING OF PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL
CANCUN, MEXICO 07-10 DECEMBER 2010

Madam President/Vice President, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

First I would like to extend our appreciation to the Government of Mexico for hosting and for the excellent arrangement of this important event. All of us come to this Conference hoping that it will not be a repeat of the Copenhagen Conference where little had been achieved.

As I speak before you here, many parts of Brunei Darussalam are inundated due to unusual wet weather conditions. This evidently demonstrated that climate change adverse impact is real and happening. At the national level, we are stepping up efforts in implementing flood mitigation measures. We must response to this stark reality of addressing climate change adverse impact. Hence, our global efforts to enhance and sustain the effective implementation of the Convention must give adequate attention and treat adaptation in a balance manner as mitigation.

As a constituent of global community we all share the responsibility to protect mother earth against global warming. Despite only contributing to 0.016% of the global carbon emission level, Brunei Darussalam to the best of its capability has and will implement measures to reduce greenhouse gas. Likewise, we urged developed country parties to commit to an ambitious emission reduction target for Kyoto Protocol 2nd commitment period.

Brunei Darussalam has embarked on an Energy Efficiency Conservation Initiative that aims to reduce energy intensity up to 25% at 2005 level by the year 2030. We have also embarked on a solar energy pilot project capable of producing 1,344 megawatt-hours of electricity per year and reducing carbon emission by 940 tonnes per year. Our progress in this area is very much dependent on our technological, technical and human resource capacity. We very much look forward to seize the benefits and opportunities from the scaling up of development, transfer of technology and capacity building under the LCA of the Convention.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Cognizant of the important and significant contribution of sustainable forest management to the international efforts to mitigate climate change, we have adopted a shift to vertical development land use policy to minimize deforestation. Brunei Darussalam jointly with Malaysia and Indonesia, undertakes a project to conserve 220,000 square kilometers of tropical rainforest, which is a third of the total land area of the Borneo Island. Brunei Darussalam designated 58% of its total land area as conservation area under this initiative. Given the importance of forest conservation in mitigating emissions, we must not delay the operationalisation of REDD Plus agenda. In this regard, it is pertinent that we resolve and reach common ground on the REDD Plus mechanism at this conference.

We would like to see us moving forward in this COP16 and 6th CMP. This can only happen if we all negotiate in good faith, in a transparent and inclusive manner. Until today, we are far from reaching any consensus on many issues on LCA and Post 2012 commitments. We should not leave Cancun empty handed. We must take binding decision on critical issues like the establishment of new climate change fund where convergence of position is apparent. This will facilitate and contribute to move forward future negotiations on LCA and KP after Cancun.

To conclude, we reaffirm our confidence in your leadership Madam President/Vice President to lead the UNFCCC process and would like to assure parties of our full cooperation and support during the session here in Cancun and beyond. Thank you for your attention.