MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION

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Yvo de Boer
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
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by facsimile: **00-49-228-815 1999**

Dear Mr de Boer

Reference is made to your Notification to Parties dated 18 January, concerning the communication of information relating to the *Copenhagen Accord.*

Please be advised that the Republic of Kiribati wishes to associate itself with the Accord. We do so in the understanding that, while far from perfect, the Accord represents an incremental step towards the adoption of an ambitious, comprehensive and legally-binding agreement at the 16th Conference of the Parties (COP16) in Mexico later this year.

With the continued existence of Kiribati, and other low-lying atoll countries, at stake, any agreement reached in Mexico must include binding commitments for mitigation activities that ensure an early peak to global greenhouse gas emissions, with significant overall reductions in global emissions in the medium- to long-term, and the stabilisation of atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations at safe levels. The agreement must also include provision for financing of developing countries' adaptation efforts that is adequate, accessible, timely, transparent and grant-based. Support for small island developing States, and other particularly vulnerable countries, must be a paramount consideration.

It must be emphasised that Kiribati's decision to associate itself with the Accord was taken only after consideration of the consequences of not doing so. It is imperative that substantially increased funding for adaptation to the impacts of climate change be made available as a matter of urgency. Kiribati does not resile from the position taken by the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) at COP15 in Copenhagen. We reiterate our unequivocal support for the principles outlined in the 2009 *AOSIS Declaration on Climate Change*, and we commend, for consideration by the international community, the AOSIS proposal for a legally-binding agreement presented at COP15.

The Government of the Republic of Kiribati avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

Tessie Eria Lambourne
Secretary