In reply please quote

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Ministry of Environment
& Sustainable Development
10th Floor, Ken Lee Tower
Barracks Street
Port Louis
Mauritius

16 June 2010

The Executive Secretary
UNFCCC Secretariat
P.O Box 260 124 D- 53153
Bonn
Germany

Dear Madam,

Communication of information relating to the Copenhagen Accord

The Ministry of Environment & Sustainable Development of Mauritius presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and has the honour to refer to the notification letter ref- YDB/DBO/drl dated 18 January 2010 on the above-mentioned issue.

After consulting the major stakeholders on the accord, the Government of Mauritius has decided to associate itself with the Copenhagen Accord, subject to the understanding that this is without prejudice to ongoing negotiations at the UNFCCC level to come up with an ambitious and internationally legally binding outcome at COP 16 at latest.

The Government of Mauritius considers the accord as a political document to facilitate negotiation and therefore reaffirms its position that the UNFCCC remains the primary instrument to address climate change, and in this regard supports the continuation of the two track negotiation process under the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action (AWG – LCA) and the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Kyoto Protocol (AWG – KP) under the Bali Action Programme (BAP).

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius would like to further stress that

(i) a legally binding agreement should be reached at the 16th Meetings of the Conference of Parties in Cancun;

(ii) a second commitment shall have to be taken by the Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol for a determined period beyond 2012;

(iii) The financial assistance of 30 billion US dollar for the period 2010-2012 promised in the Copenhagen Accord should be in the form of grants and not loan;

(iv) the quick-start funding to be made available forthwith and be monitored to ensure that same is not a repackaged fund which should otherwise be granted as traditional overseas development assistance;

(v) The Copenhagen Green Fund proposed in the accord should be set up and made operational without any further delay; and

(vi) Priority for funding should be given to the most vulnerable countries such as Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDC) and Africa.

Moreover, major economies through the G20 block should favourably consider the ground and basis on which the most vulnerable countries including Mauritius are associating with the Accord and the urgency to have a legal agreement for firm commitments to further reduce Green House Gas emissions in line with IPCC projections and to strengthen adaptation support.

Mauritius has already embarked in a comprehensive Sustainable Development programme as part of the "Maurice Ile Durable" initiative wherein renewable energy and energy efficiency rank high. Mauritius intends to enhance mitigation efforts subject to financial, technical and capacity building supports are provided.

With the above understanding, Mauritius may be listed in the chapeau of the Copenhagen Accord. We will continue to work with you and other parties for a fruitful outcome in Mexico and beyond COP 16.

The Government of Mauritius avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the UNFCCC the assurances of its highest consideration.

S.Seebaluck
Supervising Officer and
UNFCCC Focal Point