Implementing the Paris Agreement,

Consolidating Mutual Trust,

Making Greater Contribution to Global Green and Low-carbon Development.

--Statement by Mr. Xie Zhenhua, Special Representative on Climate Change Affairs of China at the HLS of Marrakech Conference on Climate Change

16th November 2016, Marrakech, Morocco

Distinguished colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

China associates itself with the statement made by Thailand on behalf of the G77 and China. We thank our host, the Government and people of Morocco for their work in preparing this Conference. The Paris Agreement is a mile-stone achievement in the multilateral process on climate change. The Marrakech Conference is an important occasion to celebrate the entry into force of the Agreement, as well as a crucial starting point in the implementation of the package outcome of the Paris Conference. China stands ready to join all parties in making this conference a success.

First, implementing the Paris Agreement and planning the future. Thanks to our collective efforts, the Paris Agreement enters into force as of the 4th of November. The speed with which the Agreement enters into force is not only a miracle in the global governance, but also a reflection of the overwhelming global trend towards green and low-carbon transition. We must take advantage of this positive momentum, scale up our actions, strengthen our cooperation, and contribute to the well-being of the whole mankind and of the future generations. China is ready to join all parties in drawing the plan for and following through various negotiations under the Paris Agreement in accordance with the principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. At the same time, we call

on States Parties that have not done so to accelerate their ratification of the Paris Agreement to make it a climate change regime with wide global participation.

Second, honouring commitment and consolidating mutual trust. All parties should speed up the delivery of their pre-2020 commitments in order to build mutual trust as the basis for the post-2020 implementation of the Agreement and enhanced actions. Parties concerned must accelerate the ratification of the Doha Amendment on the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. The developed countries must revisit and increase their emission reduction ambitions under the Convention or in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. They must deliver on their commitments towards the developing countries in the areas of finance, technology and capacity building. China hopes that the Facilitative Dialogue on the pre-2020 actions can achieve substantive outcomes which will provide pragmatic and effective solutions to the pre-2020 enhanced actions on emission reduction, adaptation, finance, and technology.

Third, increasing support and improving capacity. The developed countries must truly honour the commitment of providing 100 billion US dollars per year to the developing countries by 2020. They should further improve the roadmap on finance, and using the target of 100 billion US dollar per year as the basis, submit as soon as possible their post-2020 financial contribution and targets. Technological innovation will be the key to offset any future gap in the emission reduction ambitions. It is important to strengthen joint R&D and technology demonstration work. The developed countries should speed up the transfer of relevant technologies to the developing countries. This conference must arrive at a package outcome on capacity building aimed at improving the developing countries' capacities in the areas of early-warning, disaster prevention and reduction, infrastructure, policy management, statistics and accounting, and access to finance, etc.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Chinese government considers it an inherent requirement under China's own sustainable development to address the climate change and shoulders its share of responsibility for the common destiny of the human race. By 2015, the per unit CO_2 emissions of China's GDP had declined by about 38% over 2005, representing an equivalent reduction in CO_2 emission of 4.1 billion tons. Non-fossil energy accounted for as much as 12% of primary energy and forest stocks had increased in volume by over 2.1 billion cubic metres.

In order to implement its nationally determined contributions (NDCs), China has set itself the binding target of 18% reduction of CO_2 emission per unit of GDP for the period of 2015-2020 and will strive to exceed the target of 45% reduction in CO_2 emissions per unit of GDP by 2020 against 2005, in preparation for the peaking of CO_2 emissions around 2030 or earlier. By 2020, aggregate energy consumption will be limited to 5 billion tons of standard coal equivalent or less, energy consumption per unit of GDP will decline by 15% over 2015 and non-fossil energy will account for 15%. Efforts will be made towards installing a capacity of 340 million kilowatts of conventional hydropower, 200 million kilowatts of wind power, 100 million kilowatts of photovoltaic power and as much as 58 million kilowatts of nuclear power in addition to over 30 million kilowatts of nuclear power capacity under construction. A carbon emission trading market will be launched in China in 2017. China has launched the China Fund for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change. In developing countries, China is implementing 10 low-carbon demonstration zones, 100 mitigation and adaptation projects on climate change and a cooperation project of 1000 places in training courses on addressing climate change.

Ladies and gentlemen,

China is ready to work with other parties in creating a fair, effective and win-win global climate governance regime and in promoting global green and low-carbon transition and innovative paths to development and is ready to make greater contributions to this end.

Thank you for your attention.