President of COP 22
Distinguish delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen

1. It is pleasant to join COP22 once again as we continue to take stock and to advance our collective efforts to tackle global climate change.

2. The sights and sounds of the moments that led to the adoption of the momentous Paris Agreement and Sustainable development goal are still fresh in our minds. We held our hands high, we demonstrated our resolve as partners of progress, we showed the rest of the world that with we can make progress together. I am sure after 24 months, a honey moon is over and the hard work start must earnestly.

3. Mr. President, we need to build on the political momentum and good will. We no longer have the luxury of time for debates while the ravages of climate change continue to put lives, societies and economies at risk. To us in Ghana we are convinced that taking climate action head-on makes good economic sense; brings positive financial returns; transform societies; and change lives. The more we delay, the more we will pay in few years to come. We can promote economic growth, eradicate extreme poverty, and improve people's health and well-being by acting today**.**

4. Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, Ghana attaches seriousness to climate change because it poses significant threat to our national interest. That is reason why we are already taken steps to address it decisively. We introduced a number of policy reforms to: (a) tackle deforestation; scaling-up renewable energy; promote climate smart agriculture in vulnerable landscape; promote sustainable transport and waste management in cities, get businesses involved and to educate the Ghanaian people.

5. We have also taken steps to align development policies to sustainable development considerations. In this regard, we undertake regular assessment of their national policies through such structured arrangements such as “strategic environmental impact assessment” (EIAs/SEAs).

6. The implementation of these policy packages are already yielding positive results in enhancing resilience, reducing GHG emissions and at the same time improving standard of living. What we strive to do is to sustain momentum and further increase the scale of these actions in order to put the country on a sustainable development pathway. Ghana’s nationally determined contributions (NDCs) is the vehicle to drive the country’s climate ambition programme.

7. Mr. President, Ghana wishes to reiterate the critical need for all Parties to take ambitious climate action. This is the surest way to undergo the transition and to secure the climate resilient low carbon future we all wish for in sustainable manner.

8. We also call for an effective global support to assist developing countries to assess, the transition and implementation of climate action and their impacts. Although the work of the adhoc technical expert groups has been useful but not sufficient under the scenario on increased ambition over time as dictated by the Paris Agreement.

9. Ladies and Gentlemen, as we put ourselves in readiness to start to implement to our climate action we seek partnerships. The kind of partnerships we seek are in areas of investments and technical cooperation in resilient landscape, scale-up of renewable energy and fuel diversification for electricity supply.