In the Name of God, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful

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by:

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His Majesty Mohammed VI,

Distinguished Heads of States, Governments,

H.E. Salaheddine Mezouar, the President of COP22,

H.E. Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC,

Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset I wish to express our appreciation to the Government and the people of Morocco for hosting this COP so efficiently as well as the hospitality extended to my delegation. I should also thank the UNFCCC Secretariat for organizing this important Conference and various meetings and negotiations. Indeed Marrakech is a land mark move on combating global warming both for the Kyoto Protocol and the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Mr. President,

1-Islamic Republic of Iran has demonstrated its comprehensive efforts to contribute to the fight against global warming. Our realistic and unconditional offer of 4% reduction of anthropogenic GHGs emissions by 2030 below the business as usual scenario and additional 8% reduction subject to removal of all sanctions and provision of enhanced financial, technological and human resources capacities flowing from developed country Parties, are real proofs of Iran's determination in this regard. Also, I wish to announce that three days ago Iranian Parliament approved the ratification of the Paris Agreement as well as practical measures Iran is pursuing in both adaption and mitigation fields, including adaptation of low carbon economy strategy and major plans to change current agriculture patterns and irrigation methods to conserve water.

Bearing in mind the obstacles Iran is additionally facing for accessing GEF financial resources for environmental projects that are yet suspended.

2-This COP has quite rightfully been named “COP for action and implementation. Taking prompt actions to implement the pre 2020 actions, especially through a clear road map for provision of means of implementation, are the minimum that the global public opinion would be judging the extent of the determination of the Parties, specially the developed country Parties, to abide by the principles and provisions of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol. Thus, an accelerated ratification and implementation of Doha amendment coupled with provision of long term predictable and quantifiable climate finance in particular through mobilizing 100 Billion USD per annum to 2020 out of public resources for climate financing in conjunction with clear and well structured actions on technology development and transfer actions, linked with ambitious emissions cuts by developed country Parties, shall be an assessment of seriousness to fulfill the obligations to address climate change.

3-In the light of the complex nexus between climate change and diversity of social, economic, health and environmental issues, such as the adverse environmental impacts of armed conflicts, women and children, food and fresh water security, disasters such as the dust and sand storms, distortion of attaining sustainable development goals and targets, adaptation priorities of the developing country parties specially the most vulnerable, and climate migration are to be given utmost attention and appropriate means of implementation to address the adaptation, mitigation and related issues to prevent and reduce the scope of challenges, as these issues are on the growth impeding development patterns and offsetting the regional and global endeavors to combat global warming.

Distinguished colleagues,

4- Differentiation is an integral component of our climate change agreements. The principal of Common but Differentiated Responsibility and respective capabilities has been the cornerstone of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto protocol for clarity on commitments and actions by different group of countries in the context of combating climate change and giving direction to the functions of bodies and arrangements under these instruments. The Paris Agreement is also seen under this convention and hence shall be implemented in a manner that fully reflect CBDR and differentiation among commitments of developed countries in all fields of this agreement, particularly mitigation, adaption and provision of Means of Implementation namely financial resources, transfer and development of technology; and contributions and actions by developing country Parties. This principle should be mainstreamed in all areas of actions and their assessment and follow-up, including in the fields of transparency, compliance and procedures, modalities and guidelines of various bodies

acting under the convention as well as the Paris Agreement, the agenda and proceedings of the relevant events such as facilitative dialogues and global stock taking.

5-The climate change should be addressed in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and poverty eradication whilst acknowledging the inter linkages amongst such goals. In this regard sectoral measures are strongly warned to be avoided since such approaches will have serious adverse impacts the foreign trade capacities of the developing countries, crippling their capacities to address various dimensions of Climate Change. Developed country Parties should continue taking the lead by undertaking economy-wide absolute emission reduction targets as reiterated in the Paris Agreement. Undertaking any measure to make to exert pressure on developing country Parties in various fields of international economy and finance shall be detrimental to their ability to meet their NDCs and is against the spirit and commitments of Parties enshrined in UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement. We cannot proceed with the current materialistic consumerist approach in managing global resources. We need through rethink policies to recognize the infinite boundaries of our creator and respect life in all forms.

Mr. President, in conclusion,

6- Developed country Parties obligation under the convention, amongst a few, is to take the lead in reducing their emission of Green House Gases. Compliancy of the Parties to their commitments and contributions is a strong sign of fidelity. No Developed Party, particularly in line with their historical responsibility at this very crucial time, i.e. the entry into force of the Paris Agreement, is to devise non-founded scientific, political or economic issues used as pretexts to back slide on their legal participatory key role in the fight against global warming.

I sincerely thank you for your attention.

Massoumeh Ebtekar,

Vice President of Islamic Republic of Iran

and

Head of Department of Environment