United States of America National Statement

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- The momentum created in Paris is powerful, broad, and deep.

- We have seen continued global momentum since Paris, including the Paris Agreement entering into force earlier than many parties had believed was possible.

- **Countries are moving.** Parties all around the world are deeply invested in seeing this work bear real fruit. Countries all around the world, from major economies like China to African countries like the Zambia and Kenya, have begun the substantial work of translating their pre-Paris climate goals into operational policy on the ground.

- For our part, President Obama and our Administration have made climate change a top priority for the last eight years. We have made significant strides to cut carbon pollution at home, help bolster our resilience to the impacts of climate change, and work with all of you to combat this global challenge.

- I am very happy to tell you that, with policies in place **today**, the United States is on track to meet its targets under Cancun and well positioned to meet its targets under Paris.

- The United States is rapidly transitioning to a clean energy economy. In the electricity sector – our largest emitter of carbon dioxide – wind generation has tripled and solar generation has increased 30-fold due to dramatic decreases in costs. This is in large part the result of market-based changes that cannot be reversed.

- **Markets are moving.** Prices for renewable energy are continuing their dramatic fall all around the world, and in many cases renewables are now cheaper than fossil fuels. Banks and finance agencies are doing the needed work to allow private finance to where it can meet growing demand for low-carbon solutions.

- **Businesses are moving**. U.S. business leaders are nearly unanimous in their view that the transition to clean energy provides vast economic growth potential and the transition to clean energy is inevitable. The clean energy industry in the U.S. now employs 2.5 million people, and in 2014 clean energy investment more than 5 times greater growth than the rest of the U.S. economy. U.S. businesses and investors see the potential, and are leading this global transition.

- **States and cities are moving**. From California to New England, from Miami to Portland, we are seeing the commitment of sub-national entities to do what they can to address this global challenge.

- It's not up to us to work with each other and build this momentum. Let's move forward, and ensure that none of us fall behind.

- I would like to end on a personal note. I started working in this process in 1989, when the United States hosted the first preparatory meeting for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. I have worked in the negotiations and implementation in various capacities over the last twenty seven years. I have seen ebbs and flows in progress on this issue over the years. I can tell you that I truly believe that, while we have many truly profound challenges to wrestle with, the momentum is now insurmountable. There is no stopping now.