

Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor to address all of you at a moment when the eyes of the world are upon us.

We gathered to address a global problem which threatens every common development goal we are trying to achieve.

This is an occasion that should foster the political will to conclude an ambitious new climate agreement—an agreement that will ensure sustained growth and prosperity, for the benefit of all nations, and to secure our common future.

For there is no doubt, climate change is reality.

That is why all of us should make a significant effort to contribute to emission reduction and sustainable, environmentally-friendly, economic growth. That is why we need a fair and balanced emissions reduction scheme.

We strongly believe that “every action counts” and that we all have our roles to play—in line with our own responsibilities, capabilities and national circumstances.

That is why we believe developed countries should take a leading role by having quantified emission reduction targets. This, in our view, has to be recognized under the new climate agreement.

We also believe this new agreement should recognize limitations of emissions growth by all developing countries, **through appropriate mitigation actions**, and in accordance with their respective capabilities and capacities. Such actions by developing countries should take into full account the legitimate priority needs for the achievement of sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty.

The implementation of such actions will need to be supported by technology transfer, financing and capacity building. We support a new climate agreement that will secure investments, stimulate innovation and facilitate the global spread of technologies, knowledge and experiences.

Mr. Secretary-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The time to act is now.

We need new climate agreement in 2009 with clear long-term goals and mid-term targets, that will not only ensure continuity after 2012, but also put the world on pathway towards a cleaner, greener and more sustainable global economy.

Excellencies,

To conclude, allow me to express my strong belief that the on-going deliberations on a new climate agreement will be successful in their endeavors to answer the global threat to climate system and mankind, **for the benefit of global society and all Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.**

I thank you very much for your attention.