

**SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION HIGH-LEVEL EVENT ON WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER
0900-1200 AT CHINA PAVILLION**

Moderator

Ministers

Participants

Very Good Morning to you all

It is truly a privilege for me to share in this morning's exercise.

Climate change, a global issue of common interest to ALL Parties, has been one of the key areas that the government of Seychelles through the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate change has a broad partnership and strengthening dialogue and cooperation with the People's Republic of China spanning over so many years.

First and foremost I want to acknowledge the excellent partnership of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of the People's Republic of China and MEECC which dated back quite a number of years, and recently we had signed a Memorandum of Understanding through China's south-south corporation program on energy and climate change.

But, without doubt, South-South co-operation is helping countries to shape their own, nationally appropriate paths to sustainable and inclusive development. For example the potential of our ocean to meet sustainable development needs and mitigate climate change is enormous; but only if it can be maintained in, or restored to, a healthy and productive state and received international support through the relevant climate finance.

South-South co-operation is an increasingly important modality for climate action. The South has emerged as a significant producer of low-carbon technologies and innovation. As South-South co-operation scales up, more countries will benefit from the impressive examples of low-carbon, climate resilient development pathway found within the Global South, which can deliver new jobs and reduce both poverty and combat climate change in vulnerable countries.

The UNFCCC process opens up a number of opportunities to strengthen South-South co-operation. The Green Climate Fund could, for example, foster South-South co-operation, to speed up "finance readiness" support. Through South-South co-operation, countries can learn from the early

experiences of others – helping them to lower the costs and improve the process.

An important component of the China's south-south corporation program on energy and climate change, is to contribute to the mitigation and adaptation of climate change by reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases in recipient countries and helps adapt to the adverse impacts of Climate Change.

It aims to combine positive results made in different pilot projects within the recipient country.

An example of this is an MOU recently signed in May of this year between the Seychelles and the People's Republic of China, which is a significant milestone in our ongoing fruitful collaboration and nowhere is this clearer than in energy and climate Change fields, which further deepen the friendly relations between the two countries.

This agreement serves as a key to unlock at least 30 Million Chinese Yuan as a grant from the Chinese Government to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy, through the **South-South climate change cooperation framework** and as such, Seychelles is proud to play a key role to further extend this relationship. We believe that there will be several other opportunities in the future to further strengthen and consolidate it. We thank the Chinese Government deeply for this worthwhile partnership.

The Seychelles Government is keen to promote the use of renewable energy resources for energy production and implement energy efficiency measures as a way to reduce the country's reliance on imported fuel and meet our Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) commitment to the UNFCCC. The Seychelles is also pushing the concept of the Blue Economy and Marine Spatial Planning through environmental protection, as the tourism industry and the economy in general depends on preserving the natural beauty of the country.

COP23- NEGOTIATION

COP23 in Bonn is the next step for governments to implement the Paris Climate Change Agreement and accelerate the transformation to sustainable, resilient and climate-safe development. The Paris Agreement entered into force last November and the era of implementation has begun. We expect that the conference will further clarify the enabling frameworks that will make the agreement fully operational and the support needed for all nations to achieve their climate change goals. Seychelles is ready to work together with all Parties to accelerate implementation and take the crucial next steps towards transformative change. To meet the climate change and sustainable development challenge, everyone must be empowered to contribute. We all have a role to play, and Seychelles as a SIDS will be looking upon both developed and developing countries once again to show the Leadership for stronger global climate action.

Conclusion

Unless urgent and dramatic action is taken to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions** in the next few years, well before 2020, the opportunity to avoid global warming in excess of 2 degrees Celsius, let alone 1.5 degrees, above pre-industrial levels, and the cascade of catastrophes that would follow, including the loss of an entire nation of SIDS like Seychelles, could be forever lost.