Speaking Points of His Excellency Mr. Paulo Lemos Secretary of State for Environment Republic of Portugal

Interactive Dialogue #4 - "Protecting our Planet and Combatting Climate Change"

STRUCTURE - Intervention in three points:

- 1. Climate change: a sustainable development challenge
- 2. Paris in the horizon: looking for global agreement
- 3. Portugal is preparing for the future: going for green growth

Good afternoon.

Greetings to the hosts and to all the participants on behalf of Portugal.

- 1. Climate change: a sustainable development challenge
 - From the policy perspective it's clear that we need to rethink the development processes and to assume a more ambitious agenda focused on the long term.
 - The goal (13th) "taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts" assumes a set of underlying ideas:
 - o Immediate action is needed: today not tomorrow
 - o To build capacities from passive to active resilience
 - o To promote awareness, education and communication
 - o Resources are need more millions to invest
 - But need more than that for being more effective
 - Society engagement
 - Innovation and even technological disruption
 - Political commitment
- 2. Paris in the horizon: looking for global agreement
 - COP Ambition Securing an effective, ambitious, fair and legally binding 2015
 Agreement is our key and mutual challenge a challenge we must meet in order to
 address climate change and limit its impacts effectively, equitably and with a long term perspective.
 - We have to adopt a single global, rules-based, legally binding agreement, preferably in the form of a new Protocol, applicable to all, according to common but differentiated responsibilities, in order to ensure the global temperature increase stays below 2° C.
 - This agreement should foster climate resilience as well as facilitate adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change.
 - Furthermore, it should also address the financial gap and to enhance a global carbon market, linking national, regional and sectorial cap-and-trade schemes.
 - This ambition at the international level is fully in line with our national vision and with the steps we are undertaking at home.