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STATEMENT BY DR. TIMOTHY U. K. M'MELLA LEADER OF THE KENYA DELEGATION DURING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PREPARATORY MEETING OF THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CSD-15) ON THE THEME

"CLIMATE CHANGE"

ON WEDNESDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 2007 AT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to fully support the statement made by the distinguished representative of Pakistan on behalf of G77 and China.

Climate change is a global threat that represents the most serious environmental development challenge facing developing countries like Kenya today.

The adverse effects of climate change and associated concomitants which include extreme weather events threaten to its very foundation the socio-economic existence of developing countries. The entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol gave hope to developing countries as a practical tool to address all major climate change related problems. In this regard, Kenya fully supports the role and mandate of the CSD process in its follow-up and review of climate change in particular, availability of adequate resources, technology transfer and capacity building as a basis for the firm implementation of Agenda 21 and all related issues.

Mr. Chairman,

The challenge faced by many countries especially developing countries, in addressing climate change and its adverse effects include the following: -

- Inadequate inclusion of climate change issues in development planning process'
- Low level research in capacity on climate change issues,

- Limited linkages between climate change and land degradation including desertification,
- Lack of fulfillment of commitments in the Kyoto protocol,
- Slow development of clean development technology,
- Inadequate and lack of access to adaptation technologies,
- Degradation of natural resources that can increase peoples vulnerability,
- Lack of capacity to predict the timing, frequency, scale of impacts related to climate change and its adverse effects,
- Weak or lack of climate observation systems and networks,
- Insufficient national institutional capacity for participation in clean development mechanism,
- Lack of or inadequate integration of climate change policy and adoption measures in national development strategies,
- Lack of adequate arrangements for joint activities at regional and sub-regional levels.
- Existing long gaps of knowledge relating to climate change amongst countries and regions
- Lack of or inadequate insurance market and arrangements to deal with extreme weather events associated with climate change,
- Lack of action to address needs and concerns arising from implementation of response measures.

Mr. Chairman,

Mitigation goes hand in hand with adaptation. In this regard, Kenya calls upon the international community to do the following: -

- Fully implement the UNFCC Kyoto Protocol,
- Substantial reduction in carbon emissions through the development and use of appropriate technologies on concessionary basis,
- increase community resilience to climate change related disasters through protection of national resources,
- Put in place relevant legislations to encourage use of fossil fuels more efficiently and reduce emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2),
- Develop a comprehensive research and development (R&D) program for the development of appropriate climate change technologies,
- Call upon developed countries to take actions to substantially reduce green house gas emissions.

Mr. Chairman,

Adaptation is the mirror image of mitigation to counter the impacts of climate change and response measures. In view of the fact that adaptation has not been given the due attention and weight it deserves, Kenya calls upon the international community to do as follows: -

- Strengthen funding mechanisms for adaptation activities including through the GEF and others,
- Increase community resilience to climate change related disasters through protection of natural resources,
- Facilitate access to adaptation options and technologies with a view to ensuring access, especially for dry countries,
- Develop capacity to enable predictions of the timing, frequency, scale of impacts by promoting studies on predictability, climate variability and its socio-economic impacts,
- Strengthen climate observation systems and networks by enhancing research in climate observation systems.

Mr. Chairman,

On Means and Implementation, Kenya wishes to recommend the following policy options for consideration: -

- Education and training in observation and prediction of earth system,
- Monitoring, assessment and regulating of climate change variables,
- Research, development and dissemination (RD&D) in the area of climate change,
- · Institutional strengthening,
- Promotion and facilitation of appropriate technology transfer,
- Promotion of international cooperation and partnerships in climate change related fields,
- Availability of new and additional sources of funds
- Encourage investment of private-public sector partnerships in addressing climate change at national, regional and global levels,
- Encourage sharing of best practices by countries through research, development and dissemination.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, Kenya is optimist that the outcomes of IPM which eventually will feed into CD-15 will help facilitate the implementation of policy options to combat the adverse effects of climate change.

I thank you.