



# MÉXICO

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Statement by

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at the High-Level segment of the 15th Session  
of the Commission on Sustainable  
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The new administration of the President of Mexico, Mr. Felipe Calderón, has reaffirmed his commitment to sustainable development, placing the environment as one of his top five priorities in his government. We are in the process of integrating environmental policies within the plans of all other government sectors.

We recognize climate change as one of the main challenges faced by mankind. As a contribution to address this challenge, Mexico has duplicated this year its budget for the forestry sector, allocating 400 million dollars in order to expand the "Pro-Árbol" initiative, which is designed to preserve, restore and reforest large extensions of our territory and, at the same time, aiming to reduce the poverty levels of the people living in forestry areas.

Mexico will fulfill its voluntary commitment to plant 250 million trees in a year, which constitutes a quarter of the global goal set by the United Nations Environment Programme on its campaign "Plant for the Planet: Billion Tree Campaign".

Among our conservation measures undertaken, we would like to highlight the payment to land owners by environmental services provided by forest ecosystems. This programme covers nearly 700 thousand hectares.

It is not possible to control the emissions of greenhouse gases without developing robust inventories. Mexico is the first non-Annex I country that has submitted three National Communications to the UN Convention on Climate Change, and we are one of the four countries with the largest number of projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism, with approved projects in fields such as livestock waste management, methane recovery from landfill sites and wind power generation.

Within the next few weeks we will be presenting our National Strategy for Climate Change, which will establish the mitigation and adaptation measures to be carry out at the federal level.

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Regarding energy efficiency, Mexico has developed programs for standardization and labeling of industrial and domestic electrical equipment. We have also promoted and financed programmes for equipment replacing. Our efforts are focused to promote market transformations towards the use of high energy-efficient equipments, as well as to promote energy savings among consumers.

Our main pillars for energy policy are: security and quality of energy supply; energy efficiency; and the diversification of technologies and primary sources of energy. To increase the diversification of energy mix, our country aims to increase substantially renewable sources of energy.

In spite of a significant improvement in recent years, quality air in our cities and in rural households is still a major concern. Air pollution automatic monitor networks operate today in 25 cities, covering more than 40 million people. At the end of 2006, low sulfur gasoline was introduced in the Metropolitan area of Mexico City. This measure will enable a swift adoption of stringent emissions standards of pollutants in new cars.

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to express our confidence on the role that the CSD will continue to play in helping us move towards sustainable development. It is necessary to develop indicators to monitor progress on implementation of policies adopted at CSD cycles. The CSD should be the main point of reference to our societies, and an incentive for collective action.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.