Mr. Chairman

On behalf of Nigeria, I wish to align myself with the statement of the Representative of Pakistan on behalf of the G-77 and China

Mr. Chairman

Africa, of all major regions, contributes the least in greenhouse gas emissions due to its low per capita energy consumption, yet Africa is the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The apparent impacts include loss of biodiversity, rapid deterioration in land cover, depletion of catchments and aquifers, encroaching desertification, etc.

The main challenges facing African population emanate from extreme climate events such as floods, strong winds, drought, etc. Africa defends mostly on farming and farming defends almost entirely on the quality of the rainy season- a situation that makes the continent particularly vulnerable to climate change.

Adaptation measures are available but very costly for African countries to undertake. The existing funding mechanisms of the convention on climate change have so far not invested much on adaptation. In fact, most of the on-going projects are on mitigation which do not favour our continent.

African countries should thereby be assisted in their national efforts through transfer of new technologies, capacity-building and technical knowledge. Focus should also be placed on putting in place early warning system to detect climate fluctuations. Important provision of financial resources to Africa is key to addressing climate change. Innovative mechanisms such as the CDM projects should be distributed evenly and equally to enable Africans to benefit. At present they are the most marginalized.

I thank you.