

Statement by Nadia M. Osman-Counsellor
Representative of the Republic of the Sudan before the
Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (IPM) CSD 15 on Climate
Change

Mr. Chairman:

My delegation would like to align itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegate of Pakistan on behalf of the G77 and China.

Sudan attaches special importance to this session, which is expected to culminate in important concrete policy options pertaining to the four interconnected clusters of; Energy for Sustainable Development, Industrial Development, Air Pollution/Atmosphere and Climate Change.

Sudan is concerned about the issue of climate change and its wide-ranging ramifications. Its vulnerable ecosystem, on which the vast majority of the population depends, suffers from several challenges most importantly is the recurrent drought, which is leading to pressing challenges to address the national priorities of food security, water supply, and public health.

Sudan had signed and ratified the UNFCCC in November 1993, and the Kyoto Protocol in February 2005 thus committing itself to active cooperation with the global community to address the problem of climate change. It had completed its First National Communications under the UNFCCC. Its National Strategy to implement the UNFCCC aims at the integration of action to combat climate change and its impacts, into national development plans. The development of a national GHG inventory and the assessment of mitigation and adaptation measures is in fulfillment of Sudan's commitment to the UNFCCC.

Sudan has established a Climate Change Coordination Unit within the High Council for Environment and Natural Resources, which is entrusted with coordinating the implementation of the national strategy and all climate change activities in the country.

Mr Chairman

We have taken several steps to steer development activities towards a more sustainable path. The country's "Comprehensive National Strategy" identified the pursuit of environmental protection as one of its major pillars. A number of priority actions related to climate change include, the protection and development of rural environment for sustainable development and the rehabilitation/preservation of ecosystem for sustainable renewable energy resources

Given the interconnectedness of the four clusters, we have taken several diverse measures within an integrated national development strategy. In the field of petroleum production, the Ministry of Energy and Mining has developed legislations on "Environmental Protection in Petroleum Industry", which aims at minimizing pollution and encouraging the introduction of efficient appliances and equipment.

By 2002, Sudan had completely phased out the use of leaded fuel. Further Ongoing mitigation efforts include the move away from the use of biomass fuel, which is a significant end-use in Sudanese household, in rural and urban households, to LPG which can help reduce pressure on Sudanese bio-mass stocks that sequester carbon. The Government has implemented a number of policies to encourage the increased use of LPG in household. Prices, for instance, were halved and fees and customs on LPG stoves were decreased substantially.

The Government is encouraging joint venture in the field of storage facilities, manufacturing and distribution of LPG cylinders. Moreover, a

major policy area of the Ministry of Energy and Mining is the dissemination of new renewable energy technologies, particularly in rural areas, which includes the dissemination of solar energy (photovoltaic and thermal applications). Currently the country is making strides in exploring the use of cleaner energy such as ethanol, making use of the country's substantial production of sugar cane.

Sudan, in collaboration with UNEP is currently preparing the country's first "Post-Conflict Environmental Assessment Report" which looks at an array of environmental challenges facing the country, which threatens its prospect for

long term peace, security, and development, and, amongst many objectives, it aims at laying the foundation of an integrated environmental strategy for the country particularly after the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), and also helping the UN in mainstreaming environmental issues into the entire UN program in Sudan.

The country which is now facing the daunting challenges of reconstruction and development on a large expansive scale, a huge undertaking that goes beyond its resources, is in need of the international community's support in the areas of technical assistance, technological transfer, infra structure development, R & D, and capacity building, which will compliment its own efforts at pursuing an environmentally sound sustainable development path.

Thank you.