



**Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Swaziland
to the United Nations**

Statement by

H.E. Dr. Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini

The Right Honourable Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Swaziland

At the

**National Action and Ambition Announcements of the
Climate Summit 2014**

23 September 2014

Trusteeship Council Chamber

Mr. President,

On behalf of His Majesty the Ingwenyama, King Mswati III, Her Majesty the Indlovakazi (Queen Mother), the Government and the People of the Kingdom of Eswatini it is a great honour for me to address this Climate Summit. I trust that the Summit will enable us to mobilize the requisite political support for the upcoming Twentieth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP20) to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to be held in Lima, Peru.

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Eswatini considers Climate Change as a serious threat to sustainable development, and thus it is necessary for it to be thoroughly considered in the formulation of the Post 2015 Development Agenda. In order to move forward towards the attainment of the global goals to address Climate Change within a time frame that will allow for Sustainable Development, it is still necessary for Parties of the UNFCCC to provide the means of implementation for developing countries. This will enable them to strengthen their efforts to ensure that the intended Nationally Determined Contributions (iNDC) are realized.

Though actions must be taken to address climate change issues and must come from all nations, it is critical to remember that commitments must be apportioned according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change guiding principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibility" that takes into account varying national circumstances. In particular, the guidance must take into account those principles and objectives that seek to ensure the stabilization of greenhouse gases within a time-frame that is sufficient to allow the natural adaptation of eco-systems thus ensuring that food production is secured and contributes to sustainable economic development.

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Eswatini recognizes the need to champion an ambitious vision, anchored in action that will enable a meaningful global agreement in

2015 as both important and urgent. As ambitious as this ought to be, we are hopeful that the Nations of the world will make far-reaching commitments that are tailored towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Kingdom is prepared to cooperate with the global community in this regards. However, we still need further capacity to undertake assessments that will inform the determination of intended National Determined Contributions (iNDCs).

The meaningful contribution of Annex 1 Countries is fundamental. Capacity building, financial support, the exchange of knowledge and technology transfer are critical in addressing the challenge before us. This will allow developing countries, including the Kingdom of Swaziland, to enhance their ability to deliver according to the intended Nationally Developed Commitments, and move from intention towards reality. This is especially relevant as many states are still recovering from the negative effects of recent global economic and financial challenges.

Mr. President,

As a Country, in formulating initiatives that contribute towards our collective aspiration for sustainable development, we place an emphasis on the threat posed by climate change and factor its effect on all aspects of our development planning. Therefore, we have formulated a national climate change policy. This is supported through a National Climate Change Strategy and an Action Plan. This domestic regulatory framework enables the Kingdom to ensure that we minimize the impact of domestic development initiatives on the environment through monitoring of emissions amongst similar interventions.

In conclusion Mr. President, the Kingdom of Swaziland hereby emphasizes the need for political agreement to be reached and political support to be manifest in a timely and expeditious manner. The impacts of climate change are there for all to see and meaningful action must overtake rhetoric. The negotiations process must not be allowed to hinder progress any further.

I thank you!