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COP15

COP PRESIDENT: HUANG RUNQIU,
ENVIRONMENT MINISTER OF CHINA

Summit Kickoff:

The Copenhagen conference culminated two years of intense negotiations launched with the 2007 Bali Action Plan and drew a level of political attention well beyond that of any previous climate meetings. By its closing days, the summit had drawn well over 100 heads of states and governments.

World leaders struck a new political accord to address climate change, and it is the Copenhagen Accord. The accord provided for explicit emission pledges by all major economies -including, for the first time, China and other major developing countries- but charted no clear path toward a treaty with binding commitments.



The basic terms of the Copenhagen Accord were brokered directly by President Obama and a handful of key developing country leaders on the final day of the conference, capping two weeks of harsh rhetoric and pitched procedural battles that made the prospect of any agreement highly uncertain. It then took nearly another full day of tense negotiations to arrive at a procedural compromise allowing the leaders' deal to be formalized over the bitter objections of a few governments.

Summit Conclusions and Recommendations:

- The main elements of The Copenhagen Accord include: an aspirational goal of limiting global temperature increase to 2 degrees Celsius, a process for countries to enter their specific mitigation pledges by January 31, 2010 and broad terms for the reporting and verification of countries' actions.
- A collective commitment by developed countries for USD 30 billion in 2010-2012 to help developing countries, a goal of mobilizing USD 100 billion a year in public and private finance by 2020, and the establishment of a New Green Climate Fund.
- Parties adopted parallel decisions under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol that "take note" of the political accord and pave the way for governments to individually sign on.
- In separate decisions, parties extended Ad Hoc Working Groups under both the Convention and the Protocol to continue negotiating toward a fuller agreement in late 2010 in Mexico.

