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DOHA, QATAR

COP18

COP PRESIDENT: ABDULLAH BIN HAMAD AL-ATTIYAH,
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF QATAR

Summit Kickoff:

The Eighteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP18) was held in Doha. The conference laid the basis for more ambitious international actions against climate change on the short term, took a modest step towards a new global climate agreement to be finalized in 2015, and enabled a second period of the Kyoto Protocol to start on January 1, 2013.

As requested by the EU, the conference agreed on a workplan for 2013 and beyond under the Durban Platform. The Platform has a dual mandate: to draw up a new global climate agreement with all countries and to be adopted in 2015.



Summit Conclusions and Recommendations:

- Ways to achieve more ambitious global emission reductions for 2020 have to be identified in order to bridge the gap between current emission pledges and what is needed to keep global warming below 2°C.
- The international climate negotiations process has to be streamlined through the successful closure of the parallel working groups on the Kyoto Protocol and on long-term cooperative action under the UN climate change convention.
- The EU has pledged to provide the full EUR 7.2 billion in 'fast start' finance for the period 2010-12 and assured its developing country partners that climate finance will continue after this year. Several EU Member States and other developed countries announced specific finance pledges for 2013 and in some cases up to 2015.
- A package of decisions on finance, adopted by the conference, encourages developed countries to keep climate finance in 2013-15 to at least the average level of their fast-start finance. The decisions also extend a work programme on long-term finance for a year, with the aim of helping developed countries identify pathways for scaling up climate finance to USD 100 billion per year by 2020.
- Doha addressed a key concern of developing countries by agreeing to establish institutional arrangements, such as an international mechanism, to address loss and damage associated with the impacts of climate change in particularly vulnerable developing countries. The arrangements will be established at the UN climate change conference to be held at the end of 2013 in Warsaw.
- The balanced Doha outcome enabled the EU to confirm its commitment to participate in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol starting on 1 January 2013. The conference adopted a ratifiable amendment setting out the rules governing the second period. It will run for eight years, thus, ensuring no gap occurs between its end and the entry into force of the new global agreement in 2020.
- The EU has taken on an emissions reduction commitment in line with its domestic target of cutting emissions by 20% of 1990 levels by 2020, but it has left the door open to stepping up this reduction to 30% if the conditions are right. The reduction commitment will be fulfilled jointly by the EU and its Member States, Croatia and Iceland. The targets of all countries participating in the second period will be revisited by 2014 with a view to considering raising the ambition.