

Remarks
by
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At the "Climate Vulnerable Forum",
Via Online Video Conference
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- *Her Excellency, Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh,*
- *His Excellency Antonio Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations,*
- *Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!*

Today, I am delighted to join this important **Climate Vulnerable Forum** via online video conference. The year 2020 is a difficult period for socio-economic development as COVID-19 pandemic has caused devastating effects on the economy and society as well as creating uncertainties on the development for both now and the future.

Certainly, similar to COVID-19, climate change is another worrying problem that would render severe and unpredictable consequences on societies, economies and security in the region and the world. In recent years, series of disasters worldwide have become more severe and intense than we have ever experienced before.

In this context, although we need to shift policy and resource priorities to combat the COVID-19, we should all work hard to prioritize and ensure continuity of the implementation of climate change mitigation measures, which is a core agenda for our sustainable socio-economic development.

- *Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!*

Cambodia is a small country with limited resources, but we have strived to fulfill our obligations as stated in COP21; that is we have taken climate change mitigation as an important component of the national development policies. At the same time, the legal, institutional and technical frameworks for the program on **Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation Plus (REDD+)** is on a rapid track and is expected to be fully completed by the end of the year. We have also actively involved in global climate change response efforts by updating "**Nationally Determined Contributions Update (NDC Update)**", which will be submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat at the end of the year. Although Cambodia has less greenhouse gas emissions, we would like to demonstrate our commitment to combat climate change according to our capacity and available resources.

At the global level, I am of the view that climate change is a cross-cutting issue that needs to be addressed through a comprehensive policy with the balance on social, economic and environmental aspects. At the same time, I would like to encourage all countries to finalize and submit their Nationally Determined Contributions reports so as to ambitiously address the issues on climate change. In addition, I believe that we have to expand the financial resources, especially climate-change financing for adaptations pledged by developed countries, and the transfer of technologies to developing countries in order to effectively respond to climate change, including mechanisms to manage and promote private investment in research on renewable energy, energy efficiency, forest conservation, adaptation technology infrastructure etc.

Overall, in the present context, advancing and adhering to regionalism and multilateralism are key principles for addressing emerging challenges in all aspects, especially the challenges caused by climate change. Despite limited resources and capabilities, Cambodia is highly committed, with political will, to contributing to global efforts in addressing climate change according to key principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, especially the principle of **"Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities"**.

Thank You!