

Beijing High-level Conference on Climate Change:
Technology Development and Technology Transfer

STATEMENT OF
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THE NETHERLANDS

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Distinguished Chair,

Dear guests and colleagues,

It is truly an honor to be invited to this important climate change conference, organized in this impressive Great Hall of the People. The climate crisis presents us with one of the most fundamental challenges of our generation we have a historic obligation to address it, not only for ourselves but also for generations that follow. As I have said on many occasions, the developed countries have caused the main part of the climate problem; therefore it is up to us to show leadership and contribute the main part of the solution. We should, and we will.

A long-term, global solution to address climate change requires a shared understanding of how we need to shape our common future, as a world community, on the basis of solidarity, fairness and our different capabilities. Technology is a key component of such a shared vision and essential in order to realize sustainable, low-carbon and climate resilient development. A successful Copenhagen outcome next year should therefore stimulate:

- An urgent scale-up of research into new and emerging technologies;
- A fundamental shift in the scale and pace of global development and deployment of technologies for mitigation and adaptation;
- International cooperation, and ambitious initiatives to build capacities for technologies in developing countries. The Netherlands stands fully ready to contribute to and participate in this international effort;

This, of course, will require a solid financial basis. As I have done over the last months, I continue to stress the urgent need to develop, and include in the Copenhagen outcome next year, a financial architecture that can deliver the results we need to effectively address the issue of climate change.

I trust that already in Poznan, at the upcoming climate summit in December, we can make real progress on both issues: technology transfer and cooperation, and the international financial architecture.

First, with respect to technology, I think we need to start identifying the key components of a technology framework, in particular in relation to

- capacity building,
- means to remove barriers to technology development and diffusion,
- innovative ways to encourage technology action by developing countries, and
- meaningful ways to build and expand technology cooperation.

Second, we have to make progress on the elaboration of a solid international financial architecture for financing the fight against climate change. I trust that we share many of the fundamental underlying principles of such an architecture. Allow me to briefly summarize some of these core principles.

Equity and fairness the financial architecture should meet the needs of all different regions and types of countries, from emerging economies to the least developed countries and small island developing states;

Effectiveness the financial architecture should generate and mobilize predictable and stable financial flows and investment from both public and private sources, with the carbon market as an important driver;

Efficiency the financial architecture should promote actual implementation and link finance to country driven strategies and plans;

Solid and transparent governance the UNFCCC process should play a key role in the governance of the financial architecture, with solid accountability and governing bodies reflecting a balanced representation of constituencies, and also building upon the comparative advantages of the various international institutions;

So let us come to Poznan next month to discuss these principles and continue to build a financial architecture as the foundation for a comprehensive, effective and successful Copenhagen agreement in 2009.