His Excellency Mr Marcin Korolec, COP19/CMP9 President; His Excellency Mr Manuel Vidal, President designate of COP20/CMP10; Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC Ms Christiana Figueres; Ministers present here today; Heads of Delegations; and distinguished ladies and gentlemen.

We are here today to explore ways to enhance pre-2020 ambition to address the climate change challenge and to share ideas on the road to Lima and Paris and the content of the 2015 agreement. We have been listening with interest to the Minister's interventions so far and I would like to add South Africa's voice to this rich discussion.

The Durban Platform decision stated that the process of developing the 2015 agreement shall raise the level of ambition. Although many here seem focus on limiting greenhouse gas emissions, the global community is facing a much bigger problem. It also suffering from an implementation gap, in all areas, including an adaptation gap, as well as a technology, finance and capacity gap.

Our decision in Durban also mandated us to strengthen the multilateral rules-based system. In our view the fairness of such a system and ambition are necessarily mutually reinforcing. If we can succeed in developing a fair and transparent system, it will mobilise the required levels of trust that is necessary to obtain the most ambitious action from all countries.

In order to build the trust, we need to give effect to the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities. We must respond with urgency to the demands of science, so starkly described in the latest reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in a manner that enables the transition to a low emissions, climate resilient and sustainable development pathway. We must therefore give equal priority to adaptation and mitigation with balanced and strengthened provision of the necessary means of implementation to enable and support climate action in the long-term.

In order to achieve this, rules and procedures for the determination and communication of Parties’ intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) must be multilaterally agreed and applied, rather than each Party domestically determining the rules and procedures which will suit it best. Such rules and procedures must be agreed for mitigation, adaptation, and the means of implementation. This is an essential element to ensure the fairness of the
system. Parties will be part of this process if they know that we are all in one boat and that we all contribute our fair share to the global effort. Without the element of fairness, there will be no impetus for an ambitious response.

The information that will have to be used by Parties to base their intended nationally determined contributions on must be agreed up front and will be an essential building block of the multilateral rules-based system.

Lima must also decide on the communication of Parties’ intended nationally determined contributions, which must be done in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the intended contributions. This information must be agreed to in Lima, Peru at the end of this year.

Information is an essential requirement for an ex ante multilateral assessment process to determine the adequacy and fairness of all contributions. Such a peer review process will add further momentum to our effort to build trust and ensure fairness.

In respect of what elements should be part of the 2015 agreement, it is our view that it is necessary to agree on a set of common global commitments (in a legal instrument) on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation. These common global commitments will then be comprised of differentiated individual commitments by all Parties.

With regard to adaptation, we should agree on a common global commitment to reduce vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change to acceptable levels, given the level of mitigation ambition. A global goal on adaptation will express our understanding that adaptation is a global commitment and that the level of adaptation action and its concomitant support is directly related to the level of mitigation ambition. On adaptation, developed country Parties will be required to contribute to:

• the development of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) for developing country Parties; and

• the costs of implementation of NAPs in developing countries.

With regard to mitigation, it is time that Parties commit themselves in a legal instrument to keeping temperature increase to below 2 degrees Celsius. Individual commitments by all Parties must be more ambitious and at least as stringent in form as the commitments or pledges up to 2020. No backsliding on existing commitments can be allowed.

With regard to the means of implementation, the 2015 agreement must contain common global commitments to:
• mobilise climate finance on the scale necessary to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention;

• achieve the development and transfer of technology to support the implementation of developing country Parties’ individual commitments under this agreement; and

• enhance capacity in all areas of climate change.

Just as the development of the 2015 agreement will need upfront information from Parties and a process of multilaterally assessing intended nationally determined contributions \textit{ex ante}, the 2015 agreement should also provide for a process of \textit{ex post} assessment of implementation of individual commitments, as well as a \textit{review} of the implementation and adequacy of common global commitments, as well as a \textit{compliance mechanism} that is consultative, facilitative and non-threatening.

Once again, the processes of \textit{ex post} assessment, review and compliance should be based on science and equity.

Mr Chair

Parties have reminded us that the time is extremely limited to finalise the 2015 agreement, some even implying that it is less than likely that we will succeed. We however firmly believe that it is possible: Our negotiators are ready to engage on substance in this session, our technical experts are working hard preparing our homework. Let us not get caught up in endless arguments about process and engage constructively and in good faith to find common ground.

Thank you