



Ministry of Environment

Tuesday the 29th May, 2007

**Workshop on “Climate Change and Natural Resource Management in Pakistan”
29th May to 1st June 2007, Best Western Hotel, Islamabad.**

KEY NOTE ADDRESS BY HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT

Use of conventional fossil- fuels to meet growing energy demands has tremendously increased the Greenhouse Gas emissions in the atmosphere that is resulting into rapid changes in our climatic system. This change is a major concern among masses and has been regarded as “Greatest Challenge being face by making on the planet”. Dealing with climate change is key issue of the century and far-reaching measures are needed to address it.

Pakistan is blessed with wealth of natural resources, and being an agriculture based economy we are heavily relying on them Combating climate exchange and adaptating to it is also a matter of survival in order to safeguard our ecological integrity and social and economic well- being.

The Government of Pakistan is actively participating in the international efforts to mitigate climate change and its impacts. Pakistan is a Part to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and also got accession to the Kyoto Protocol in 2005 and is taking all necessary measures to formulate policies to address this issue. Pakistan is also actively participating in global carbon market though instrument like Clean Development Mechanism. The country offers the best technical, financial and administrative opportunities together with political

stability that creates a highly conducive environment to attract investors in the carbon finance. We hope that these favorable conditions will facilitate the growth of this highly profitable business in Pakistan. The Ministry of Environment has now a fully equipped CDM Secretariat with qualified experts to facilitate private and public sector in this business. We have also developed a draft CDM policy for facilitating the private and public sectors investors in this business.

I am greatly encouraged to see the active participation large number of private sector representatives in this workshop. I am confident that the two days workshop deliberations will further enhance understanding about the carbon finance and motivate the private and corporate sector to come forward and invest in this win-win activity by initiating CDM projects unilaterally, bilaterally and multilaterally. I see a great potential for CDM projects in various sectors of our economy - including energy efficiency, alternate and renewable energy production, cleaner technologies in industrial processes, and improvements in agriculture and forestry practices. I assure Government's strong commitment to support all initiatives under this portfolio.

At the end let me thank the World Bank resource persons for helping us in introducing this topic to you. This is the first such grand event organized on a wide scale bringing together public and private sector partners. We may think of some more similar capacity building activities for CDM. Thank you.

We are also thankful to the participants for their active participation in this workshop.