

**Introduction by**

**Mr. Mohammed Tawfik MOULINE**

**Director General of the Royal Institute for Strategic Studies**

**Seminar**

**"The international context of climate change: what lessons and what opportunities for Morocco? "**

**Rabat,**

**Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the seminar conducted by IRES within the scope of “international context of climate change: what lessons and what opportunities are there for Morocco?”

International cooperation regarding the fight against the Climate change has witnessed significant developments in recent years. The two major events of the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change, held in Copenhagen in 2009 and Cancun in 2010, were able to achieve some progress in international solidarity and tackle the global issue of climate change but was not, however, able to remove many uncertainties about the long term future of this cooperation.

At the level of such progress, it is necessary to mention four key points:

- Agreement on the objective of maintaining temperatures increase below 2 ° C compared to pre-industrial period, as recommended by the fourth IPCC report and confirmed by the Copenhagen agreement. This objective would also be open to revision depending on the progress of science;
- The inclusion of emerging countries in the global effort to mitigate effects extended for climate change. China, as the first gas emitter greenhouse effect, has become in 2009 the world's leading investor in renewable energy according to the United Nations Environment Program;
- Recognition of the need to support adaptation within the principle of common but differentiated responsibility in respect of climate change. This success was the result of particular mobilizing groups of vulnerable countries such as island states and those in Africa;
- The decision to institute various cooperation mechanisms such as climate fund for managing the funding promises made at Copenhagen, the support of developed countries to deploy and diffuse clean technologies and implement a mechanism in the fight against deforestation.

At the level of uncertainty, we can mention:

- The future of the Kyoto Protocol after 2012 remains the only global agreement on reducing greenhouse effect;
- Types and sources of funding dedicated to adaptation and their linkages with other funding mechanisms as development aids;
- The sustainability of global governance scheme regarding climate change based, and which is based on the consensus of all countries. The balance between legitimacy and efficiency seems to remain fragile despite confidence expressed in Cancun regarding the multilateral cooperation pattern.

Morocco, a country that belongs to one of the worst affected areas by climatic changes, is expected to benefit from support mechanisms of the international cooperation. It worth mentioning at this stage that the issues of climate and development are inseparable in Morocco as evidenced by the dependence of a significant portion of its economy with the climatic hazards.

Moreover, Morocco has always made considerable efforts to strengthen its ability to adapt to hostile climate conditions. Moroccan did mobilize at large its capital and developed a water "Green Morocco" in order to provide the country with an agriculture solidarity and high added value. Morocco will also incorporate the principles of sustainable development in its public policy. The proof therefore is the development of a national charter for the environment and sustainable development and the adoption of a new energy strategy. Such strategy will lead to the implementation, within the horizon of 2020, of a solar and wind production capacity of 2000 MW respectively; as well as several actions for the energy efficiency promotion.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

According to the above findings, the seminar, which is part of the IRES "Climate Change", program will allow us to make a collective reflection about the following questions:

What are the possible scenarios to fulfill the international change climate cooperation in terms of the Copenhagen and Cancun summit conclusions?

What opportunities do this international cooperation offers in terms of support and efforts extended to achieve adaptation and mitigation of climate change?

⊕ In the light of international experiences, how do we integrate the various initiatives undertaken by Morocco in terms of adaptation and mitigation as part of a comprehensive strategy against climate change, especially that such initiative aims to lead to better convergence of public policy in this area and provide visibility suitable for the opportunities offered by the International cooperation?

To address these questions, two sessions are programmed during Seminar: the first will focus on the outlook of climate negotiations post-Cancun through the presentation of Mr. Dominique AUVERLOT, Chief of Research, Technology and Sustainable Development at the Centre for Strategic Analysis (France). The second will be dedicated to the presentation and discussion of the findings concluded by from a study conducted by IRES under the title of

“international benchmarking of the climate change management project”, led by Ms. Marie-Louise CASADEMONT, international consultant of strategy and in sustainable development.

Before giving the floor to Mr. Abdullah MOKSSIT, Director of National Weather Service, vice president and member of the IPCC Scientific Climate Change Program, who moderates the work of this seminar, I want to thank all participants for accepting our invitation.