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U.S. Expresses Support of "Delhi Declaration" on Climate Change

Under Secretary of State Dobriansky closing statement at COP-8 meeting

In a closing statement November 1 at the end of United Nations-sponsored talks in New Delhi on climate change, the head of the U.S. delegation, Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky, expressed support for the conference declaration.

Following is the prepared text of her statement:

Delegation of the United States of America to the Eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change New Delhi, India, October 23-November 1, 2002

Closing Statement by Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky, Head of the United States Delegation

Final Plenary Session New Delhi, India November 1, 2002

President Baalu, I want to congratulate you and express the United States' full support of the Delhi Declaration. COP-8, as a result of your leadership, hard work and painstaking efforts has reached a balanced consensus and successful outcome. Throughout this process, the flexibility and strong commitment to achieving results demonstrated by all participants has been quite noteworthy and is to be commended.

Significantly, in the Delhi Declaration you have built upon a number of groundbreaking achievements reached at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, held only two months ago. The relationship between sustainable development and climate change is an important one and its reference in the Declaration is most meaningful. We also valued the holding of a roundtable on this topic. It afforded all of us an opportunity to exchange our perspectives and have a full discussion on an issue that is not only relevant but interconnected. Your vision in placing this topic in the proceedings is to be commended.

Again, thank you, Mr. President. India and its people have been most gracious in hosting this conference. The warm hospitality extended to all of us has been greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

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