Establishment of this Centre of Excellence for Climate Change in West Africa, Germany, through the Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) for the immense support towards the
want to extend the gratitude of the Government and people of Ghana to the Government of the Federal Republic of
I am very delighted to be here to deliver the Keynote for this important gathering this morning. I would first of all

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Executive Management of WASCAL, Friends from the Media,

Board Members,

Representatives from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany, WASCAL Governing

Your Excellency, The German Ambassador to Ghana,

11th Governing Board Meeting of WASCAL on 19th October, 2012, Of the Republic of Ghana, Honorable Prof. Kwabenya Prampong-Boateng At The Keynote By The Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation
Sustaining temperature deviations and prolonged drought render fertile areas for growing crops. If a region in the world’s supply of fresh water, our source of life, is a region in the world food supply, so it is a region to which people are feeling the impacts of climate change.

Live in a community, every community, and every citizen is affected by climate change. It is an all-encompassing issue that is happening now.

Leaders and Change

Leaders and Change are the most vulnerable and the most impacted by climate change. Indeed, the impacts of climate change are likely to be overwhelming and inevitable and that developing countries agree that the impacts of climate change are likely to be overwhelming and inevitable and that developing countries will vary across regions and over different timescales. Most scientists agree that the impacts of climate change in different parts of the world will vary across regions and over different timescales.

The type and extent of different impacts will vary across regions and over different timescales. Most scientists agree that the impacts of climate change in different parts of the world will vary across regions and over different timescales.

I also want to congratulate the Board, Management, and Staff of WASCAL for the various roles in bringing...
opportunity to interact with strategic players like you who bring on board diverse solutions to combat climate change.

Ladies and Gentlemen, anytime I get the platform to dialogue or speak on occasions like this, I recognize the

Above and Terna are located along the coast.

of the world’s largest cities and industrial felshives are located on the coast. China’s foremost industrial cities of

Metropolitan Area. Cape Coast, Sekondi-Takoradi and Accra. More are expected to move to coastal areas. Many

in Ghana more than 25% of the population now resides along the coastal belt. Ge the main cities of Greater Accra

within 100 km distance and 100 m elevation of the coastline.

ecosystems. Humans are also vulnerable to coastal zone changes as one-quarter of the world’s population resides

flooding, salt contamination of freshwater resources, and climate-related changes to marine and terrestrial

These include sea level rise, higher risks of exposure to extreme events (such as intense storms, storm surges, and

Reframing, physical and biophysical climate-related impacts.

Coastal zones are particularly susceptible to climate change as they are subject to several different and often

depend on natural conditions. Agriculture contributes to nearly 50% of the GDP in most West Africa countries.

In our sub-region, almost 80% of our population live on agriculture, and exploitation of natural resources which
Dear Governing Board Members,

I am glad that one of the foremost documents that H.E. the President of the Republic of our people, of our rivers, lakes and streams which are the source of livelihood for our people, popularly known as “Galamsey”. We are determined to fight a well-thought battle to restore the purity and productivity, the environment of thes people, particularly our water bodies, which have been polluted through illegal mining.

Research and Capacity Building:

I commend WASCAL for the pivotal role it is playing in this effort through its three key focus areas: Climate Services.

As a result of its unrelenting adverse impact on people's source of livelihood and survival, and I will therefore, the high against climate change -- mainly attributed to man-made activities -- is progressively becoming more intense.
Together to establish WASCAL.

Is therefore only right that with the support of the Government of Germany, TEN (10) countries in West Africa came

that: "While the problems might manifest themselves at the local level, the solutions will only work if they are global."

Also Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, The President of Liberia, said during the 2012 Summit for Sustainability in Africa

solidarity.

"...you are rich and poor, small and big. Therefore, this is when we call global challenges, which require global

UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon once said; "Climate change does not respect borders. It does not respect who

and those climate services are precisely what WASCAL is providing the governments of West Africa.

research and building capacities of people to be able to identify the causes, effects and solutions from the grassroots.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we know that climate change cannot be tackled from the periphery. It demands thorough

Innovation through intensified awareness creation, collaboration and partnerships.

driven Research and Development for Sound Environmental Governance, Science, Technology and

continue promoting sustainable development as a Government machinery, by deepening and strengthening market

We believe that our support to this worthy cause will even be more conspicuous in the coming years, as we seek to
Thank you and I wish you fruitful deliberations!

Acknowledging, welcoming;

partnerships with you. I wish you a fruitful planning session, and to those coming from outside Ghana, I say
change agenda. Your services are paramount to us as a Ministry, and we surely look forward to building stronger
you on how we can complement each other to foster a consensual relationship towards the achievement of climate
operations in Ghana, is hereby provided. My doors are permanently opened and I look forward to a deeper dialogue with
The Government of Ghana will collaborate with you to ensure that any support that WASCAL needs to have smooth
WASCAL to make our countries and the world a better place.

WASCAL to our German friends that we not only appreciate their assistance but are also committed to utilise the output from
their financial obligations. I don’t think our contributions can sustain WASCAL but they give a strong signal
financial assistance, and with food aid should be possible to do so. I wish to urge the 10 countries to continue the
rely on a single donor. Five (5) years after establishment as an institution is enough for us to diversify the sources of
I urge Governing Board members to deliberate on the sustainability of WASCAL as we cannot continue to only

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