

**African Group Opening of ADP Session
Warsaw, Poland, 12 November 2013**

Swaziland has the honour to speak on behalf of the African Group and its 54 member states and associate itself with the statement made by Fiji for the group of 77 and China and also recognises those made by Nauru for OASIS and The Nepal for LDCs.

Co-Chairs, first we would like to extend our message of congratulations on your selection as the new Co-Chairs of the ADP. We would like to pledge our commitment to supporting you achieve the objectives of the Convention and the ADP at this critical time.

We thanks the Polish Government and its people for the wonderful hospitality, facilitation and arrangements made to make this conference a success. We also like to thank the secretariat for their support.

Co-Chairs, let me reiterate the inclusiveness of the Durban agreement and call for our approach to be balanced as we move forward. Particularly, we would like to see a balanced approach to workstream I and II. In our view, agreements reached under workstream II provides confidence and trust building measures for workstream I.

The Africa Group recognizes the need to start engaging more robustly, as we have a deadline for December 2014 for elements of the draft negotiating text.

We also need to build our technical understanding on very important issues such the Global Goal for Adaptation, as well as the science and equity considerations in the 2015 Agreement

We call for adaptation to be central to the agreement, with clear commitments for Annex II Parties towards adaptation, reflected in an Adaptation Goal

We support the Co-Chairs proposal for Parties to start engaging with each other, and the Africa Group submit that there 5 areas of negotiation that can help us in structuring the negotiation,

- i. General Commitments, based on the temperature goal to define the required global action
- ii. Specific commitments, differentiated for Parties, covering mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology
- iii. Transparency and accountability provisions, building on Bali Action Plan and KP mechanisms
- iv. Definition of the role of operational mechanisms already established under the Convention,
- v. Matching of science to the country driven approach of pledges.

In Warsaw, we must take decisions that concretise elements that have been agreed, so as to facilitate implementation of climate action pre 2020.

- b. As a Group we are cautious about initiatives that take attention away from Annex I raising their ambition pre 2020, by emphasizing processes for post 2020 numbers;
- c. Commitments by proponents of international cooperative initiatives need clear rules, finance provisions and recognition of the objective of the Convention.
- d. The need for an adequacy discussion prior to inscription of commitments, with such a discussion including mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation,

We also look forward to supporting you and engaging on some of the outputs currently on the table such as the Adaptation Technical Paper and the review of operational mechanisms and institutions under the Convention

Co-Chairs, I thank you.

