

## **African Group of Negotiators**

### **Chair Opening Speech on Durban Platform for Enhanced Action**

Co-Chairs,

The African Group associate with the statement by Fiji on behalf of the G77 and China, and recognize the statement made by Nauru on behalf of AOSIS and that by Nepal on behalf of the LDCs.

We wish to express our appreciation to the Government of Germany and city of Bonn for the hospitality and the Secretariat for the excellent arrangements. We also thank those countries that have made contributions, which have enabled us to participate at these SBs sessions.

I take this opportunity to thank you for how you have guided the work of the ADP so far, and further thank you Co-Chairs for convening part 2 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the ADP. The Africa Group pledges its support to you as we enter a more focused mode of work, building on the plan of work we agreed on in Doha and advancing the discussions from the first part of the second session we had in April/May.

Co-Chairs, the Africa Group generally supports the proposals made in your information note of the 24th of May 2013, particularly in regards to the organization of work where this June session is being resumed, having been adjourned in May. We view this June session as important in further deepening our focused work through workshops and roundtables. Further, in the interests of advancing the discussion and making progress, we view the June session as building blocks towards taking some decisions at COP19 In November.

From the outset, Co-Chairs, let me reiterate that in respect of the 2015 agreement, it is the Group's view that all the principles and provisions of the Convention apply. As such, the ADP is not a renegotiation of the Convention and its Annexes. Further, the Africa Group views the work of the ADP as a realization of a balanced package from Durban in respect of and agreement to negotiate an agreement that will guide the implementation of the Convention beyond 2020.

Co-Chairs, given Africa's situation, sustainable development and poverty eradication remain the priorities for the continent; therefore the agreement should reinforce a fair, multilateral rules based regime that brings to effect the right to equitable access to sustainable development. In this respect, we would like to emphasise that adaptation is a key issue for the African continent. As such, the Group welcomes the workshop on enhancing adaptation through the 2015 agreement and calls for discussions to consider a global adaptation goal that is linked to a global temperature goal.

Co-Chairs, in respect to Workstream II, we welcome the discussion on enhanced actions but urge that these be expanded to incorporate issues of compliance with scientifically-determined targets and the MRV of the means of implementation. In this respect, Co-Chairs, the Africa Group calls for leadership from developed countries in raising ambitions as a basis of building trust.

In relation to linkages with other bodies of the Convention, We note the briefing sessions from other Convention related bodies and further call for discussion on how the established bodies of the Convention will relate to the work of the ADP.

Co-Chairs, it is the Africa Group's position that to facilitate fairness in the contributions by various Parties towards the achievement of the global goals, as well as towards operationalisation of equity rather than its definition, a non-binding, principle-based Equity Reference Framework that reflects relative fair efforts by Parties in responding to mitigation and adaptation is necessary. The relative efforts should consider the combined mitigation, adaptation, finance and technology responsibility of a Party, against which nationally derived commitments can be assessed.

Co-Chairs, we recognize the timelines between now and the expected draft text next year and call for a September session. The September session should deepen the discussion on the ADP and produce a report that the new Co-Chairs can use for continuity. The Africa Group calls for

progress towards establishing a contact group, and in particular to clarify how many contact groups should be established. The September meeting could give us the opportunity to discuss this and avoid further delays on contact groups.

Co-Chairs, Africa stands ready to work constructively during these two weeks and the next ones in November and to engage meaningfully in identifying means and ways respecting both national circumstances, voluntary essence of mitigations actions for developing countries, in the context of relevant principles and provisions of the Convention.

Co-Chairs, I thank You

