

Arab Group Statement

Closing of ADP 13 June 2013

Distinguished Co-Chairs

I have the honor to take the floor on behalf of the Arab Group comprising the 22 member states of the League of Arab States. Let me first start by associating the Arab Group with the statement read out by the distinguished representative of Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

The Arab group extends to you its full appreciation for the effective and cordial manner in which you have led our work for the past year. You have successfully steered our deliberations and promoted a constructive dialogue that will no doubt represent an important basis for the collective efforts to herald a new phase of the international climate regime. We do thank you for your leadership and we welcome the incoming co-chairs and wish them the best and commit to extend to them the same support and cooperation.

Co-Chairs

As we conclude this resumed second session of the ADP, the Arab Group reaffirms that the international climate regime is grounded on the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC and of the KP. Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention represent the basis for international cooperation in the fight against climate change, namely through the principle of CBDR, equity, and the responsibility for historical emissions, and the absolute priority for developing countries to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication in line with their national strategies and priorities. Our work in the ADP should not attempt to reinterpret or renegotiate the Convention principles, provisions, and structure, including its annexes, but instead should be grounded on them and they should be reemphasized in any 2015 outcome we reach.

Co-chairs

Our objective should be the full and sustained implementation of the Convention, through the full implementation of the outcomes emanating from the Bali processes and the Durban and Doha decisions. Our work in the ADP shall be

informed, in particular, of the progress in implementation of the commitments made in Durban and Doha relative to the second commitment period of the KP and the implementation and delivery of commitments in the areas of adaptation, finance, technology transfer, and capacity building. We reaffirm that merely creating new institutions is not enough, but should be translated into concrete time-bound deliverables for adaptation and mitigation.

Co-Chairs

The Arab Group believes that the 2015 outcome should not be mitigation-centered but should integrate all adaptation, finance, technology transfer and capacity building, and transparency of actions and support. There is a need to bridge all the ambition gaps that presently exist with the same level of seriousness. We call for balance between the two ADP work streams, and affirm that success in WS 2 is essential to instill a sense of trust and momentum for the success of WS1. Annex 1 countries members of the KP are called upon to urgently complete their ratification of the second commitment period, and revise their mitigation ambition upward in 2014. Non- KP Annex 1 countries or Annex 1 countries that chose not to be part of the second commitment period of the KP are called upon to exert comparable emission reduction efforts.

We call on Annex 1 countries to take the lead in combating climate change and to fulfill their legal obligations to provide the means of implementation to developing countries. Like other developing countries groupings, the Arab group calls for equal emphasis be given to both mitigation and adaptation. We believe that any contribution by developing countries to the international mitigation effort must be nationally-determined and in the context of national circumstances, be grounded on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and not be to the detriment of their sustainable development priorities.

We also support the request to examine the level of adaptation required for every temperature scenario and of the commensurate levels of finance and technology transfer needed by developing countries. In addition, we urge for swift progress in the operationalization of all the institutions created since Cancun, including in particular the Green Climate Fund. There is indeed an urgent need for a clear road map for achieving the goal of mobilizing 100 billion dollars per year from 2020,

and for clarity on the level of finance between 2013 and 2020. This is a sine qua non for any required commitments from the part of developing countries. The Arab group also calls on all sides to desist from unilateral trade measures in the name of climate change, and to effectively address the socio-economic impact of response measures on developing countries and assist those countries in need to diversify their economies in order to face the repercussions of climate change.

Co Chairs

The Arab Group will no doubt assume its fair share of the global efforts to combat climate change. Much is already taking place in individual Arab countries to delink their economic development strategies from the growth of their emissions and to implement new and renewable energy strategies. However, Arab countries will not agree with attempts to side-step the principles of the convention, or attempts by some to renege on their legal obligation and to shift their responsibilities to others.

In closing, the Arab Group reiterates its commitment to work with all parties towards the success of our collective journey to 2015 so that its outcome responds to the aspirations of the international community, and to realize a shift in the mindset in these international negotiations away from finger pointing to a principled approach grounded on equity and fairness. I thank you.