

African Group

Opening Statement for the Conference of Parties

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 Algeria for the group of 77 and china and also recognises those made by Nauru for OASIS and The Gambia for LDCs.

Mr. President

From the onset, the Group congratulates and thank the state of Qatar as the incoming COP Presidency for the wonderful hospitality and arrangements made to make this conference a success. We pledge our support to the presidency in this regard. We also like to thank the secretariat for the good preparation, facilitation and arrangements of this conference and for any other support made by Parties.

We are coming here in Doha in a time when we have witnessed and experienced the severity of extreme weather events that are more intense with increased frequency. We would like to sympathize and pass our condolences those families who have lost their beloved ones and wish affected Parties strength towards recovery.

The group believes that such severe weather impacts are a clear indication to us all that here in Doha we have to take decisions that implement agreed decisions in Durban in an effort to reduce such catastrophies. In implementing these decisions we are looking forward to a successful closure of the LCA and comprehensive planning of the work of the ADP.

Mr. President it is very important to consider all the elements of the LCA in accordance with decision 1/CP 13 therefore in this gathering:

- we should work towards increasing the level of ambition
- we should agree on global peaking for equitable access to available atmospheric space.
- Operationalize and implement all bodies established by the Cancun-Durban decisions

Mr. President,

We acknowledge the progress made in respect to adaptation as adaptation is key for our survival. However, we need finance and technology for adaptation to be effective in reducing the impacts climate change. We would like to see scaled up publicly driven adaptation finance.

There is need to move pledges under the convention for annex 1 to economy wide reduction targets and a decision on comparability framework and common accounting rules.

On finance we welcome the review of fast start and the programme on long-term finance. However, we would like to have a decision on how to handle finance in the period between 2013 and 2020. We avail ourselves this opportunity President to congratulate the Republic of Korea for its successful bid to host the GCF and we appreciate the outstanding performance of Namibia in representing Africa in this contest.

We welcome the Durban decision that establishes the ADP. We would like to congratulate the two co-chairs from Norway and India who have been nominated to the Bureau. The Africa group hopes that the COP will endorse the co-Chairmanship that was agreed by all parties in Bonn.

The group is looking forward to engage with all parties on the legal outcome of the ADP with the view of raising the level of ambition. In the work plan of the ADP, means of implementation must be equally and be fully addressed.

We see Ambition in ADP as additional commitments under KP and LCA. It is therefore important that we clarify on:

- Application of existing principles and provision of the Convention
- Relevance of future negotiations on the Bali road map
- Quantifications of the level of ambitions that takes into account common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities
- Transition from LCA and KP commitments
- Applications of rules and accounting modalities, to say the list.

On the future agreement, the group believes that such an agreement will be under the convention therefore it should respect the principles of the convention and we also believe that the agreement will not be a mitigation deal but will also include other necessary components of the means of implementation and adaptation.

We look forward to working constructive with all our partners as we move towards the new negotiation forum under the ADP.

I thank you.