

## **Submission by Swaziland on behalf of the African Group on adaptation in the 2015 Agreement**

1. The African Group welcomes the opportunity to submit its views towards the first version of a technical paper on adaptation under the ADP negotiations, pursuant to paragraph 36(b) of document FCCC/ADP/2013/2, the technical paper being a contribution to the negotiation of the scope and structure of the 2015 Agreement
2. The African Group reaffirms its view that, negotiations under the ADP should culminate in a fair and effective multilateral rules-based regime that fulfills the overall objective of the Convention, within a context where temperature increases by end of the century do not exceed 1.5 °C
3. It is further our view that, for the 2015 Agreement to be fair and effective, it must be based on science and equity, with adaptation commitments being central to the required global effort towards achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention, and consistent with the agreed temperature goal
4. This submission reflects the rationale, definition and approach to integrating an adaptation goal in the 2015 Agreement; proposes an approach for the quantification of a Global Goal for Adaptation (GGA); and concrete steps for addressing adaptation elements in the 2015 Agreement, as such responding to paragraph 9 of ADP.2013.14.Informal Note

### **A Global Goal for Adaptation in the 2015 Agreement**

5. Multilateral climate change action is premised on Article 2, the ultimate objective of the Convention, where 'dangerous anthropogenic interference' is defined on the basis of climate impacts (adaptation), including the ability for ecosystems to naturally adapt, protection of food security and sustainable economic development
6. The African Group recalls Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 4, where Parties committed to urgent action towards a long-term goal of holding the increase in global average

temperature to below 2°C above preindustrial, with provisions for reviewing that goal, including towards 1.5°C, as such Parties defined unacceptable anthropogenic interference

7. Further recalling Article 4.4, 4.3 and 4.5, developed countries including those in Annex II have the obligation to assist developing countries in meeting costs of adaptation, including transfer and access to environmentally sound technologies; such adaptation support should be commensurate with an agreed temperature goal
8. The Convention therefore provides for clear basis for adaptation obligations that should underlie commitments by Parties, according to their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, where developed countries including those in Annex II should provide support commensurate with science and the temperature goal
9. The African Group proposes a Global Goal for Adaptation (GGA) recognising that, the agreed temperature goal has a concomitant level of climate impacts and costs; further that the resultant temperature scenario depends of the level of mitigation effort by Parties for each commitment period under the 2015 Agreement
10. The adaptation costs associated with the long-term goal shall constitute the GGA, where there will be an *ex ante* determination of such costs based on the long-term goal, envisaged climate impacts and the required finance and technology support
11. With Parties having submitted initial commitments for mitigation, finance and technology support, an adjustment based on the realisable temperature scenario, where ring-fenced finance and technology support for adaptation will be decided for a commitment period, with the process forming part of the periodic Review agreed to in Decision 1.CP/16 for subsequent commitment periods

#### **A methodological Approach to the Global Goal for Adaptation**

12. The African Group recognises advances in scientific understanding to deal with the complexity in the computation of adaptation costs, due to the spatial dimensions of adaptation (local, sub-regional, national, regional), as well as a number of options in responding to climate change, however does not condone inaction due complexity

13. It is in that context that the quantification of adaptation needs and costs require a science-based and objective basis upon which the global obligation for adaptation, and full operationalisation of the ultimate objective of the Convention can be achieved, considering multiple methodologies
14. The African Groups presents a 4 - step methodological approach<sup>1</sup> for the determination of adaptation needs and costs for any commitment cycle as follows,
- a. Based on an ensemble of Regionally Downscaled Models, project the probability of incidence of climate impacts, consistent with a RCP scenario for 0°C, 1°C, 2°C, 3°C in the developing country regions of the world
  - b. Computation of probability density curves for the impacts under each of the temperature scenarios for the duration of the commitment period, as such reflecting the median magnitude of impacts during the period
  - c. From records establish an average costs per disaster for specific regions, which in association with the probability density curves presents a cost curve, of which the sum of costs for the impacts for a region/country during a commitment cycle reflect incremental adaptation needs
  - d. The difference in median costs from the 0°C for the resultant temperature scenarios based on commitments for a commitment period therefore reflect the GGA for the commitment period, which is a global obligation in respect of supporting developing country adaptation action
15. Several studies have been undertaken to estimate the costs of adaptation, with some of the methodologies reflected in the document titled 'The costs of adaptation to climate change in Africa' October 2011, African Development Bank, and others that the group is exploring for presentation in the UNFCCC negotiations.

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Ngwadla, X., Engelbrecht, F., LAndman, W., Bopape, M. & Muckandal, J. 2013. A Conceptual and Methodological Approach to a Global Goal for Adaptation. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research of South Africa. Technical Working Paper in progress.

## **Operationalisation of the Global Goal for Adaptation**

16. The African proposes a Ministerial Roundtable to examine the operationalisation of the Global Goal for Adaptation in the 2015 Agreement at CoP 19 in Warsaw; as well as the implementation of adaptation action going to 2020
17. The African Group further proposes an agenda item under SBSTA to evaluate methodological approaches to the quantification of adaptation costs with a view of arriving at a Global Goal for Adaptation