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STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN GROUP BY THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN AT THE
OPENING PLENARY OF THE 40TH SESSION OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE (SBSTA 40)

4-15 JUNE, BONN, GERMANY

The Republic of Sudan has the honour of speaking on behalf of the African Group, and associates itself with the statement made by Bolivia for the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman, It is the African Group's great pleasure to have you as the new SBSTA chair. Let me assure you of the full support from your Group to make progress here in Bonn and beyond. The African Group would like also to thank the Government and people of Germany for hosting us yet again and the UNFCCC secretariat for the excellent preparations.

We appreciate the progress made in Warsaw in some important areas under the SBSTA agenda, such as REDD- plus. However we are very concerned about lack of progress in a number of very important areas such as the methodological issues under the Kyoto Protocol, which is crucial to the implementation of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, also the lack of progress on review of the forum on response measures and technology transfer.

Mr. Chairman,

The group would like to draw your attention to key elements and work areas that require considerable advancement here in Bonn:

- On the development and transfer of technologies and implementation of technology needs, The Africa Group welcomes the operationalization of the Technology Mechanism. However, you may recall that in Warsaw the consideration of the joint report of the TEC and the CTCN could not be successfully completed because of the controversy surrounding participation of the TEC in initiating conversations with WIPO and WTO, on how to handle issues regarding intellectual Property rights as a barrier to access technology. Mr. Chair IPR is important for the development and technology transfer under the Convention, now or in future, we therefore seek your guidance on how it can be conclusively addressed.
- Mr. Chair, many parties have undertaken their Technology Needs Assessment (TNAs), identified and prioritized activities including formulation of Technology Action Plans. TNAs are the basis for addressing technology needs of developing countries. Therefore Africa Group requests that Technology and Financial Mechanisms of the Convention focus their work on the implementation of the outcomes of TNAs including addressing barriers to technology transfer as a priority. The Africa Group calls for mobilization of sufficient resources for the TNAs implementation to enable developing countries efforts

on adaptation and mitigation and those countries that have not yet undertaken their TNAs to be supported.

Mr. Chairman,

- The AGN welcomes the establishment of the Warsaw International Mechanism for loss and damage, which must address the needs of Africa from extreme and slow onset events. We recognize the hard work that Parties put in to get this decision. We are however concerned that we may not have the opportunity at this session to make inputs to the draft workplan that is being developed by the interim Executive Committee. We are hopeful that this issue will be resolved.
- We are also ready to engage in discussing the composition and procedures of the executive committee. We expect a composition with a majority of members from developing countries. Relevant experts in the areas of rehabilitation, insurance, socio-economic impacts, permanent losses, and safety issues should also be incorporated in the Mechanism.

Mr. Chairman,

- On the Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures, the Group welcomed the forum and actively engaged in Warsaw last year. Africa looks forward to engaging on this agenda item in line with Article 2 para 3 and Article 3 para 14 of KP. It is important that this work programme addresses the concerns of the Africa Group, including the consequences of trade and trade-related measures as well as unilateral measures by developed country Parties that negatively impact on the continent's sustainable development agenda. We look forward to a positive engagement during this session to deepen discussions on the importance of continuing the forum and developing a work program on response measures.

Mr. Chairman,

- On the issue of REDDplus, the group is hoping to build on the milestone success of Warsaw by the consideration of non-carbon benefits to ensure the sustainability of the implementation of REDDplus activities. Non-carbon benefits are not only good predictable by-products of REDDplus actions, but by addressing them, they can lead to the reduction of emissions from forest ecosystems. The goal for this year should be the identification of these non-carbon benefits for further consideration on how they can be directly incentivized
- Agriculture is very important to the African continent in context of food security sustainable development and poverty eradication, as such addressing adaptation in this

sector is of high priority to us as indicated by the IPCC Work Group II contribution to Fifth Assessment Report. The Group is open to discuss the results of the report of the in session workshop in a formal mode. We look forward to include additional areas as we advance on this agenda item.

Mr. Chairman,

- Framework for Various Approaches, New Market Mechanisms and Non-market Approaches are very important issues and we should consider their relationship with the 2015 agreement and previous decisions prior to taking decisions on these matters. This includes amendment to the Kyoto Protocol allowing the fungibility of units under the Kyoto's flexible mechanisms and the ones to be developed under the Convention. We hope that this session will provide us an opportunity to make progress on the issues in a balanced manner taking into account the progress made in Warsaw.

Mr. Chairman let me now turn to Matters under the Kyoto Protocol

- During the closing of the SBSTA 39 Africa expressed its disappointment about the way certain Parties derailed in the last minute the conclusion on agenda item on the implementation of decisions taken in Doha pertaining to the rules in terms of which Parties will meet their second commitment period commitments. We are hoping that this matter will be concluded at this session. We also want to make it clear that the Africa group is not prepared to allow opening of previous decisions that were adopted by the CMP. We encourage other Parties to respect the decisions that are taken in this highly important multilateral system.
- Mr Chairman, the Africa Group wants to stress this important fact about respecting the previous decisions. We look forward to presentation of the revised quantified emissions limitation & reduction commitments by Annex I Parties during the coming High-Level Ministerial discussions. Anything less than the presentation of revised QELROs will be a completely lost opportunity.

Finally Mr. Chairman,

We look forward to working constructively with our partners to ensure progress in this session.

I thank you.

