

Your excellencies and Ministers,

I am Nnimmo Bassey, Chair of Friends of the Earth International and a member of Climate Justice Now.

We in Friends of the Earth came here with the hope that developed countries will rise and take leadership to do what has been long overdue to address the climate challenge owing to their historical responsibility in causing the problem.

Real and meaningful solutions if the rich world admits its historical responsibility and climate debt and recognizes that the equitable sharing of the remaining atmospheric is vital to enable the developing countries to address the challenge of sustainable development.

The continued over-occupation by the rich of the remaining atmospheric space and the failure to accept the responsibility for deep emission reductions consistent with science and equity is indeed a travesty of justice. The attempt to bury the Kyoto Protocol in Cancun or anywhere else is legally and morally unacceptable.

The prioritizing of corporate and trade interests over the climate and the poor is unforgiveable.

Many developed countries appear to blame the developing countries for their failure to act and own up to their responsibility.

Since developed countries are responsible for three quarters of the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted historically, the UNFCCC recognises their leading role in emission reduction and their commitment to meet the financial requirements of developing countries and in technology transfer.

There is indeed a need to shift both the developed and developing world to a radical paradigm of transformation of production systems and consumption patterns that respects Mother Earth and is able to addresses the developmental needs of the poor.

This requires large scale international financial and technological support to address both mitigation and adaptation. The slow pace of negotiations by the developed countries in establishing a new Climate Fund under the Convention in Cancun and the insistence on putting this in the hands of the World Bank is not acceptable to us.

The reluctance of developed countries to address the barriers posed by intellectual property rights to enable the diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies is inexcusable and shows clearly the bias of developed countries to their companies in putting profits before the planet and people.

In adaptation, the resistance by developed countries to setting up an international mechanism to address damage and loss from these climate-related events and effects and an Adaptation Committee in Cancun is most disturbing, especially for the poor countries who are not responsible for climate change.

We now know that Cancun can take significant steps forward, but not fulfil all the expectations that the world public has and the science requires of this Conference. The most important thing at this stage is to make the best of the remaining time to achieve whatever is possible, and to strengthen the goodwill among Members on the basis of good substance, and through a democratic, open and inclusive process, so that the global climate talks can continue and intensify, with the needed spirit of cooperation and goodwill next year and after.

We reject efforts by developed countries to launch new market mechanisms here in Cancun or anywhere else as these are false solutions that do not lead to the real emission reductions needed.

It is crucial to find international cooperative ways to address the climate problem. The UNFCCC is the best and sole venue for convening the multilateral process towards the seeking the solutions needed, in an open, democratic, transparent and inclusive process. The multilateral system of the UN can work and has worked but it must respect UN processes. That is our only hope.