

## **UN climate change talks to hold in Accra**

by Mildred Mulenga - PANAPRESS

Lusaka, Zambia (PANA) - The next round of the UN climate change negotiations is set to be held in Accra, Ghana, from 21 to 27 August, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat in Bonn, Germany, announced in a statement made available to PANA here Monday.

The Accra climate change talks will take to the front burner, work on a strengthened and effective international climate change deal under the UNFCCC, as well as work on emission-reduction rules and tools under the Kyoto Protocol.

Over a thousand participants, including government representatives, participants from business and industry, environmental organisations and research institutions are expected to attend the Accra gathering, which is part of the UN negotiating process that will be concluded in Copenhagen at the end of 2009.

The process of global climate change negotiations will culminate in 2009 in the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznan, Poland, in December.

“At the UN Climate Change Conference in Bali in 2007, the international community embarked on a two-year negotiating process which is both critically important and under severe time pressure,” UNFCCC executive secretary Yvo de Boer explained . .

“We are now eight months into these negotiations and while progress has been made, there is no doubt that we need to move forward quickly,” he added.

Within the context of negotiations under the Kyoto Protocol, work is scheduled to be concluded on analysing the means available to developed countries to reach their emission reduction targets.

The crucial Accra talks comprise the third session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA 3) and the first part of the sixth session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP 6, part I).

In the context of the negotiation process on strengthened international action against climate change, workshops will be held on policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, the statement said.

Lusaka - 11/08/2008

## **Accra climate change talks to plot emission-reduction strategies**

by Mildred Mulenga

Lusaka, Zambia (Zambia) - The United Nations climate change negotiations are planning measures to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, among other issues, to be debated for a week in Accra, Ghana, beginning 21 August.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) executive secretary Yvo de Boer told PANA that the meeting would look at a number of issues to tackle climate change such as mitigation, finance and new technologies as well as infrastructure needed to achieve emission reductions.

The Accra climate change meeting is expected to take forward work on a strengthened and effective international climate change deal under UNFCCC as well as work on emission reduction rules and tools under the Kyoto protocol.

The meeting is part of the UN negotiating process that was launched and will be concluded in Copenhagen, Denmark, at the end of 2009 and the process of global negotiations will culminate in the UN Climate Change conference in Poznan, Poland,

this December.

“Many African countries are frustrated seeing the climate change happening today because the instruments put in the past are not helping and they feel that they are missing out on opportunities,” de Boer said in a telephone interview from Bonn, Germany.

Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries and approaches to stimulate action was first introduced in Montreal in December 2005 and it was two years later, in Bali, that governments adopted a major decision on the issue, which provides a mandate for governments, relevant organisations and stakeholders to stimulate actions on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries

Over a thousand participants are expected to attend the Accra meeting, which is the third major UNFCCC gathering this year.

Lusaka - 15/08/2008