



## **Submission on Ways of Enhancing the Implementation of Training, Public Awareness, Public Participation and Public Access to Information so as to Enhance Actions under the Paris Agreement**

Sustainable Environmental Development Watch (SUSWATCH) Kenya welcomes the opportunity to submit its view on *Ways of enhancing the implementation of training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance actions under the Paris Agreement.*

### **Context**

SUSWATCH notes the Subsidiary Body of Implementation (SBI) agenda on Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings (AIM) in-session workshop held in Bonn on May 9, 2017 to discuss opportunities to further enhance the engagement of non-Party stakeholders and contribute toward strengthening the implementation of decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 83. SBI identified the following ways to enhance openness, transparency and inclusiveness in engaging non-Party stakeholders:

- Inviting presiding officers of the subsidiary bodies and constituted bodies to increase opportunities for admitted observer organisations to make interventions and to make greater use of inputs by non-Party stakeholders in workshops, technical meetings and through submissions
- Encouraging future Presidencies to enable non-Party constituencies have an open dialogue with Parties, contribute toward the agenda and programming, exchange information on best practices, gaps and challenges to public participation and public access to the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and National Adaptation Plans (NAP)
- Inviting the Secretariat to support the engagement of non-Party stakeholders to promote transparency and inclusiveness in the UNFCCC process and further enhance Parties' access to non-Party submissions

Article 12 of the Agreement states that *Parties shall cooperate in taking measures, as appropriate, to enhance climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information, recognizing the importance of these steps with respect to enhancing actions under this Agreement.*

Further, decision 17/CP.22 paragraph 2 encourages *Parties to continue to promote the systematic integration of gender-sensitive and participatory education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access of information into all mitigation and adaptation activities implemented under the Convention, as well as, under the Paris Agreement...*

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat collaborated in preparing guidelines for Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) that may contribute toward the implementation of decision 17/CP.22.

## **Recommendations**

### **Public Participation and Public Access**

SUSWATCH recommends that Parties undertake climate change planning processes related to the Agreement's implementation, in a manner that facilitates inter-generational public participation and public access to information as well as multi-disciplinary expertise.

### **Education**

We believe it would be useful to incorporate *education* when undertaking activities to achieve ACE through training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information. An example is Kenya's implementation of its Climate Change Act 2016 through the Institute of Curriculum Development to integrate climate change into various disciplines and subjects of national education.

### **Transparency Framework for Action and Support**

We urge that consideration be made in utilising input from non-Party stakeholders in the development of modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs).

### **Global Stocktake (GST)**

Guided by decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 99, we call for the consideration of non-Party stakeholder engagement in developing GST modalities, operationalisation of equity and input.

SUSWATCH looks forward to the SBI47 deliberations on this agenda.