



Concept Note

COP27 Presidency Event

What does COP27 mean for Africa – The Presidency’s Perspective

Africa Climate Week, Libreville, Gabon

29 August 2022, 17:00 – 18:30, Plenary Room

The UNFCCC Conference of the Parties is coming back to Africa after six years. With the Paris Rulebook completed in Glasgow, the Presidency’s vision is that now it is time for full, effective accelerated implementation at scale.

COP 27 presents a unique opportunity for Africa to showcase its success stories in addressing climate change and offering ideas that should be scaled up to achieve the needed transformational change to battle to climate change and build elevated levels of resilience. It will also provide an opportunity to focus on the unique challenges that Africa faces as highlighted by the impacts of recent shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic or the ongoing geo-political situation and its impact on food and energy security.

Africa is known to be highly vulnerable to climate change. Accordingly, and in addition to the continued mitigation implementation and ambition, adaptation to climate change and action to address loss and damage from climate change are of crucial importance for countries in the continent.

Africa’s contribution to climate change is negligible with a contribution of just 2-3% of global emissions. However, Africa is also one of the fastest growing regions with rapidly growing demographics and expanding economies in the world and it is important for the region that this growth is sustainable and resilient.

Given this context, the COP 27 Presidency realizes the importance of aligning the climate axis with the development axis, where Long Term Low GHG emission development strategies (LT-LEDS) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) can play a crucial role. The COP 27 Presidency also recognizes the importance of long-term vision in attracting support and helping development of consecutive NDCs as well as short to mid-term development strategies, and energy plans. Already 4 African countries have developed and submitted the LT-LEDS to the UNFCCC and there are others in development, while 15 have submitted their NAPs.

As an incoming Presidency of COP27, Egypt is keen to ensure sustained and reliable support the African countries with further development of these long-term strategies for sustainable development linked with climate aspects in order to systematically implement actions. Access to appropriate climate finance is and will remain a key pillar and an advanced priority for Africa in enabling Africa to meaningfully contribute to the global climate response including by investing in the continent's pathways to transformative adaptation and in the valuable nature-based solutions Africa provides.

African countries continue to struggle to access available resources under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. COP27 should seek to find real working solutions to address this challenge. African countries have accessed the least amount of resources from the GCF for both adaptation and mitigation. This has to be leveraged.

Given these challenges, the COP in Africa should focus on attracting support in finance, capacity and technology for implementation of committed climate actions, while safeguarding the vulnerable communities from the socio-economic impacts of such actions in a systematic manner and through a just transition that ushers in transformative changes in economic development, meanwhile building resilience and adapting to the negative impacts of climate change.

With Africa Climate Week, followed by the Pre-COP in Kinshasa, and eventually with COP itself in Sharm El Sheikh in November, Africa's needs and priorities have an opportunity to be at the center of the global climate conversation.

Guiding questions for the discussion:

1. How can COP 27 contribute to additional collective and equitable progress in action to address climate change for the African continent?
2. What are Africa's major issues and priorities at COP 27?
3. African countries have accessed the least amount of climate finance. How can this be improved?

FORMAT AND PARTICIPANTS

The side event is an informal panel discussion scheduled to take place on **Monday, 29th of August at 17:00 – 18:30 (90 minutes) Libreville, Gabon Local Time (GMT+1)** at the **venue of the Radisson Blu Okoume Palace Hotel, Plenary Room** and hosted by Egypt's COP27 Presidency.

The event will be conducted in a hybrid format, where panelists and attendees will be present in-person while availing access to virtual participation via a teleconference platform through a link to be circulated in due course.

In-person participation is accessible only to individuals who have concluded a full and approved registration process to the Africa Climate Week pursuant to the applicable rules and regulations announced by UNFCCC Secretariat. Interpretation to the French language will be provided.

SPEAKERS*

1. H.E. Ambassador Wael Aboulmagd, Special Representative of the COP27 President.
2. H.E. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, African Union Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development and Blue Economy.
3. H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Mohie El Din, COP27 High Level Climate Champion.
4. A representative from the UNFCCC.
5. A Representative from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (TBC).
6. Mr. Charles Peter Mwang, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA).

The event will be moderated by the Mr. David Kaluba, on behalf of the Chairperson of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN).

**In order of speaking*

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