

Proposal to include the special needs and special circumstances of Africa in the Provisional Agenda for COP 24

The African Group wishes to present its compliments to the President-Designate of COP 24.

At COP 21, on the final day of the negotiations leading to the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the Minister of the Environment of Egypt, in his capacity as the Chairman of the Committee of African Heads of States on Climate Change and Minister of Sudan, in his capacity as the Chair of the African Group of Negotiators made a clear request for the recognition of the special needs and circumstances of Africa, considering its vulnerability. The request was driven by the lack of recognition of the special needs and special circumstances of Africa and its omission in the Paris Agreement, despite these needs and circumstances being recognised in the Convention Article 4.1 (e), and previous COP decisions attached below.

Unfortunately, the concerns of Africa could not be taken on board at the COP, however the French Presidency informed Parties that open-ended informal consultations would be conducted at COP 22 and beyond, if needed, on the issue of the vulnerability of Africa with the view to taking a decision on the request.

Open ended informal consultations were conducted by the COP 22 Presidency, but the matter could not be concluded. Again, at COP 23, further consultations were conducted but no consensus could be reached, and it was decided that the consultations should continue at COP 24, with the hope that agreement would be reached to bring the matter of the special needs and circumstances of Africa under the Paris Agreement to a close.

It is of serious concern to the members of the African Group that despite 3 years of negotiations since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, no progress has been made on the recognition of the special needs and special circumstances of Africa. While the African Group recognizes the efforts by previous COP Presidents to resolve this issue, we realize that there has not been any significant progress and as such we wish to propose that it is time to include the special needs and circumstances of Africa as a specific item on the COP 24 Agenda.

The African Group, therefore, is proposing the inclusion of the special needs and special circumstances under the Paris Agreement in the supplementary provisional agenda of the COP24, in accordance with Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedures of the Conference of the Parties. As the request of the Africa Group was the recognition of the special needs and special circumstances of Africa in the Paris Agreement, the African Group is also proposing the inclusion of the issue in the provisional agenda of the CMA 2.

The African Group reaffirms its continued support and cooperation to the COP Presidency for ensuring a successful outcome in Katowice.

### **Relevant Documents**

Article 4.1 (e), of Convention	
FCCC/CP/2016/10	Report of COP 22, paras. 154-155
FCCC/CP/2017/11	Report of COP 23, paras. 33-34
FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1	Decision 1/CP.13, The Bali Action Plan
FCCC/CP/2008/7/Add.1	Decision 4/CP.14, Additional guidance to the GEF
FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1	Decision 1/CP.16, The Cancun Agreements
FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1	Decision 3/CP.17, Launching the GCF
FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.21	Decisions 7/CP.20, Report of the GCF to the COP
FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.2	Decision 8/CP.20, Report of the GEF to the COP
FCCC/CP/2016/10/Add.2	Decision 17/CP.22, Improving the effectiveness of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention