

***Responding to new policy realities:
Africa's role and position in UN climate
change negotiations***

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Overview

- Africa and climate change
- Shared priorities for Europe and Africa
- African common position for the UN climate talks
- Recent developments
- Cooperation towards success in Durban

Africa and climate change

- According to the IPCC
 - “Africa is one of the most vulnerable continents to climate change”
 - “All of Africa is very likely to warm during this century. The warming is very likely to be larger than the global, annual mean warming throughout the continent and in all seasons”
 - In all four regions and in all seasons, the median temperature increase lies “roughly 1.5 times the global mean response” (IPCC 4AR)
- Africa already faces numerous severe negative impacts
 - Drought in the Horn of Africa
 - Desiccation of Lake Chad
 - Other rapidly advancing adverse effects on ecosystems, food production, social and economic development in Africa

African Common Position on Climate Change

- Common Position confirmed by Ministers at 4th special session of AMCEN
- Key outcomes relating to climate change:
 - Bamako Declaration on Consolidating the African Common Position on Climate Change and on Preparing for Rio+20
 - AMCEN decision and Key Messages for COP17/CMP7
- AMCEN agreed African common position and roadmap for Durban

EU-Africa shared priorities

- Shared commitment to the multilateral system and the rule of international law
- Shared commitment to the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol
- Shared commitment to build on and strengthen the international climate regime
- Shared commitment to human rights, development and to EU-African relations
- Shared commitment to science and science-based approaches

Africa and UN climate negotiations

- UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol constitute the **fundamental global legal framework** on climate change
- All measures must be in **full conformity** with the principles and provisions of the Convention, including equity and CBDR
- Climate negotiations must produce **two outcomes** in line with the Bali Roadmap
 - An agreed outcome to ensure the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention
 - Second period of mitigation commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol
- Two tracks of negotiations must continue as **separate tracks**
- Balanced outcomes based on **science, equity and the rule of law** reflecting the latest information

Kyoto Protocol

- Urge Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to commit to **second and subsequent** commitment periods
- Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by at least:
 - **40% during the second commitment period** from 2013 to 2017
 - 95% by 2050, compared to 1990 levels
- Annex I Parties to ensure that the **environmental integrity** of their emission reduction commitments by:
 - Closing loopholes
 - Limiting the use of carbon markets and project-based mechanisms to ten per cent of their commitments
 - Ensuring carbon credits reflect genuinely additional emission reductions
- Ensure **equitable and appropriate contribution** to achieving the objective of the UNFCCC
- Agreeing a second commitment period is the priority for Durban, as well as measures to **avoid a gap** between commitment periods

Shared vision

- Need to limit temperature increase to **well below 1.5°C**
- Avoid dangerous interference with the climate system in a **time frame** that protects ecosystems, food production and sustainable development in Africa
- Right to **equitable sharing of atmospheric space** and resources reflecting:
 - Cumulative historical responsibility and use by Annex I Parties
 - Cumulative emissions in Africa remain extremely low
- Long-term **global goal must include:**
 - Ambitious short, medium and long-term mitigation commitments by Annex I Parties reflecting their historical responsibilities and an equitable and appropriate contribution
 - Provision of adequate means of implementation - finance, technology and capacity building - to enable non-Annex I Parties to address mitigation and adaptation
- Sustainable **development and poverty eradication** are the priorities to Africa

Mitigation

- **Annex I Kyoto Parties** undertake commitments under Kyoto Protocol
- **Annex I non-Kyoto Parties**
 - Undertake legally binding commitments under the Convention
 - Comparable in magnitude and effort
 - Measurable, reportable and verifiable through an agreed set of common accounting rules and compliance framework
- **Non-Annex I Parties**
 - Undertake ambitious nationally appropriate mitigation actions
 - A firewall must be maintained between mitigation Annex I commitments that are legally binding, and voluntary NAMAs by non-Annex I Parties.
 - Extent of action by non-Annex I Parties depends on implementation by developed countries of commitments relating to finance, technology and capacity
- **Market mechanisms** are to be maintained under the Kyoto Protocol, and are not available to non-Kyoto Parties

Adaptation

- Urgent and immediate need to **avoid further loss and damage** arising from the adverse effects of climate change on Africa
- Urgently need to scale up **financial resources and technology transfer** for:
 - Adaptation measures and plans, particularly through the Adaptation Framework and Nairobi Work Programme
 - Strengthening or establishing regional centres and networks for adaptation
 - Work to understand, reduce and compensate loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts on agriculture
- Adaptation activities should be funded through a **country-driven approach** through **direct and simplified access funding** that is:
 - Full costs
 - Adequate
 - New and additional
 - Public
 - Grant-based

Finance

- Concerned insufficient **transparency** and slow disbursement of “fast-start” financing approaching \$30 billion (2010-2012) and that the bulk are neither “new nor additional”. Call for enhanced transparency and a common reporting formal.
- **Short-term finance.** Agreement in Durban on the scale of public resources to be provided commencing in 2013, and a scale adequate to meet needs in 2020 and beyond. Stress the importance of
 - Ensuring direct access for all non-Annex I Parties
 - Equitable allocation through geographical and needs based criteria
 - Balance between adaptation and mitigation
 - Grant-based funding for adaptation activities.
- **Long-term sources and scale.** Noted the pledge to mobilize jointly \$100 billion per year by 2020, and reiterated Africa’s position that developed countries should by the year 2020 provide scaled up financial support based on an assessed scale of contributions that constitutes at least 1.5 per cent of the GDP
- Operationalize **Green Climate Fund** that under effective guidance of and accountable to COP, and **Standing Committee on Finance**

Technology, capacity and institutions

- Urgent need to address the issue of **technology transfer**
 - Adaptation supported by environmentally sound technologies and capacity building in a predictable and prompt manner as part of a balanced package on all issues
 - identification and removal of all barriers preventing access to climate-related technologies and the appropriate treatment of intellectual property rights, including the removal of patents on climate-related technologies for non-Annex I Parties
- **Capacity building** should be treated as a crosscutting issue and be clearly reflected on other thematic areas.
 - Acknowledge the creation of performance indicators for monitoring and review of capacity building is paramount.
 - Stress that capacity building activities should not be left to the private sector.
- Operationalization of effective and accountable **institutions under the COP** in relation to, *inter alia*, adaptation, technology and finance in accordance with the relevant principles and provisions of the Convention, the Bali Action Plan and the Cancun decisions

Durban outcome

- Durban must deliver a **major step forward** in international climate negotiations
- Africa looks to **EU as a leader** among developing countries
- Significant opportunities for **collaboration** to:
 - Implement Kyoto Protocol and promote comparable commitments by all Annex I Parties
 - Enhance environmental integrity of Kyoto Protocol
 - Support scaled up mitigation actions by non-Annex I Parties
 - Strengthen climate architecture through Green Climate Fund and other institutions
- Cooperate to promote **second and subsequent commitment periods** to implement the Kyoto Protocol (under AWG-KP)
- Cooperate to **strengthen the climate architecture** to around the “pillar” of the Kyoto Protocol to implement the Convention (under AWG-LCA)
- Africa looks forward to a successful **outcomes under both tracks** of negotiations to implement the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol

Thank you