

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

P. O. Box 3243

Telephone: 5517 700

Fax: 5517844

Website: www.Africa-union.org

ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION
Twentieth Ordinary Session
27 - 28 January 2013
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

Assembly/AU/6(XX)

**REPORT OF THE COORDINATOR OF THE COMMITTEE OF AFRICAN
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE
(CAHOSCC) ON THE CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS AT
THE 18TH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES OF THE
UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
ON CLIMATE CHANGE
(UNFCCC) (COP 18)**

REPORT OF THE COORDINATOR OF THE COMMITTEE OF AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE (CAHOSCC) ON THE CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS AT THE 18TH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES OF THE UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC) (COP 18)

A. Introduction

1. This report is prepared pursuant to AU Assembly Decision (**Assembly/AU/Dec.448(XIX)**) on Africa's preparation for the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (**COP18/CMP8**), held from 26th November to 8th December 2012 in Doha, Qatar. The Assembly, through this Decision, requested CAHOSCC to convene a meeting to consider and take forward the updated African common position on climate change to COP 18/CMP 8, which the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) will have considered and endorsed at its 14th Ordinary Session held in September 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania.

2. The Report covers the outcomes of the CAHOSCC meeting held on the margins of the Climate Change Conference that took place in Doha, Qatar as well as the major outcomes of the Doha United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP18/CMP8) and proposes a Draft Decision for Assembly's consideration.

B. Outcomes of the CAHOSCC Meeting

3. The Committee of the African Heads of State and Government (CAHOSCC) held its meeting on 3 December 2012 in Meeting Room 4 at the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) in Doha, Qatar on the margins of COP 18 / CMP 8 and deliberated on the reports presented by the Commission, Algeria and Swaziland.

- a) Members of CAHOSCC expressed their profound sense of grief following the demise of H.E. Ato Meles Zenawi, the late Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, who coordinated CAHOSCC with exemplary leadership, vision and determination, such that Africa was unified and was able to speak with one voice in advancing the cause of Africa in the climate change negotiations.
- b) The Commission reported on the activities undertaken in implementing two previous Assembly Decisions on United Nations Conference on Climate Change (Assembly/AU/Dec.399 (XVIII) and Africa's Preparation for the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP 18 / CMP 8) Assembly/AU/Dec.448(XIX) including progress made in updating the African Common Position by the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and the adoption at the 14th session of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) in Arusha, Tanzania; nominations to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Committee and the Standing Committee

on Finance; expectations from Doha Climate Negotiations and proposed a coordination mechanism for a period of two (2) years for the next 2 COPs.

- c) Algeria reported on the current issues surrounding climate change negotiations such as the benefit from technology transfer, underscored the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibility' (CBDR) and pledged as the chair of the Group of 77 and China to do everything to ensure success in Doha.
 - d) Swaziland reported on the up-to-date information and status of play at the Doha Climate Change Conference, particularly on length of the extension of the Kyoto Protocol and options on the way forward, the decision of the Board of the Green Climate Fund for Songdo, Incheon City, Republic of Korea to be the host city of the Secretariat and the progress made on the Durban Platform with a draft decision produced by the Experts that took care of Africa's interest to be presented to the ministerial session etc.
- 4.** CAHOSCC deliberated on these reports and provided key strategic guidance on areas the African negotiators should intensify in the negotiations in Doha and in particular on Africa's common position, long-term finance, ambition, political involvement supporting the negotiators to achieve the necessary result out of COP 18 / CMP 8. .
- a) CAHOSCC endorsed that Africa's common position on climate change for negotiations at COP 18/CMP 8 remains as contained in the updated African common position adopted by AMCEN in the Arusha Declaration and decisions at the 14th session in Arusha, Tanzania.
 - b) CAHOSCC commended the efforts of the work of AMCEN in Arusha and Doha and applauded the work of the AGN in the negotiations; stressed the need for Africa to continue to speak with one voice to consolidate the achievements of previous climate change negotiations and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) also known as Rio+20; and need to engage with other strategic negotiating partners to ensure success in Doha.
 - c) On **Finance**, CAHOSCC observed the substantial funding gap; raised serious concerns on pledges on the 'Fast Start' Finance of 30 billion US Dollars that was meant to be realized for the period from 2010 to 2012 to support Developing countries on adaptation and mitigation; and stressed the need to mobilize strategies for the 'long term finance' to realize the annual 100 billion US Dollars from 2013 to 2020 to facilitate the operationalization of the GCF.

- d) On the **Kyoto Protocol**, CAHOSCC noted its significance that it is an enhanced multilateral rule based system and stressed the need to ensure implementation with legally binding outcomes.
- e) On the *Ad hoc* Working Group on the **Durban Platform (ADP) for Enhanced Action**, CAHOSCC emphasized that the outcome must fulfill the objective of the Convention including a limit in the increase of global average temperature to well below 1.5°C as adopted by AMCEN to avoid further loss and damage to Africa. It also noted that Doha should be able to set up programme of work in accordance with the Bali Road Map, as part of the Durban package for ambitious and comprehensive outcomes.
- f) On the **Coordination**, CAHOSCC stressed the recognition of work done under the Commission, AGN, AMCEN, and CAHOSCC on behalf of the African Union; building on the positive experiences of previous negotiations to continue to uphold the African single voice in championing and defending the African Common Position on climate change by all concerned; and that the issue of the **mechanism** of coordination at summit level should be deferred for the deliberation of the Heads of State and Government at the January 2013 to take appropriate decision.

C. Outcomes of the Doha Climate Change Conference

5. The Doha Conference adopted:

- i) Doha Climate Gateway package of decisions, without amendment and subject to approval of the entire package, on: agreed outcome pursuant to the Bali Action – Key outcomes on Annex 1.
- ii) The length of the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol will be 8 years, beginning from 1 January 2013 and end on 31 December 2020.

6. Germany, United Kingdom (UK), France, Denmark, Sweden and the EU announced concrete finance pledges in Doha for the period up to 2015, totaling approximately 6 billion USD.

7. The Government of the Kingdom of Qatar deserves appreciation for successfully hosting the Doha Conference as well as for the quality of leadership that it has demonstrated to achieve the Doha Climate Gateway Package. Similarly, CAHOSCC, AMCEN, AGN and the Commission deserve appreciation for the commendable collaboration witnessed in Doha.

8. Dates and venues of future sessions – Parties decided to accept with appreciation the offer by the Government of Poland to host COP 19/CMP 9 in Warsaw, Poland from Monday, 11 November to Friday, 22 November 2013.

9. CAHOSCC proposes the attached draft Decisions for consideration by the Assembly in the impetus of the global climate change negotiations.

Annex 1

1. The list of decisions taken at COP 18 / CMP 8 included the following:

I. Long-term Cooperative Action (LCA): Agreed outcome pursuant to the Bali Action Plan – decided that Parties will urgently work towards the deep reduction in global greenhouse gas emissions required to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to attain a global peaking of global greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, consistent with science and as documented in the 4th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, reaffirming that the time frame for peaking will be longer in developing countries;

II. Durban Platform – Parties:

- a) Determined to adopt a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties at its 21st session, to be held from Wednesday, 2 December to Sunday, 13 December 2015, and for it to come into effect and be implemented from 2020; and
- b) Decided to identify and to explore in 2013 options for a range of actions that can close the pre-2020 ambition gap with a view to identifying further activities for its plan of work in 2014 ensuring the highest possible mitigation efforts under the Convention; and decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action will consider elements for a draft negotiating text no later than at its session to be held in conjunction with the 21st session of the COP, due to be held from Wednesday, 3 December to Sunday, 14 December 2014, with a view to making available a negotiating text before May 2015. *Meanwhile, France has offered to host COP 21 from Wednesday, 2 December to Sunday, 13 December 2015.*

III. Finance:

- a) On Work programme on Long-term Finance, Parties decided to extend the work programme on long-term finance for one year to the end of 2013, with the aim of informing developed country Parties in their efforts to identify pathways for mobilizing and scaling up of climate finance to USD 100 billion per year by 2020 from public, private and alternative sources in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation, and informing Parties in enhancing their enabling environments and policy frameworks to facilitate the mobilization and effective deployment of climate finance in developing countries.
- b) Endorsed the work programme of the Standing Committee on Finance for 2013 –2015.

- c) Green Climate Fund to the COP:
- i) Reaffirmed that a significant share of new multilateral funding for adaptation should flow through the Green Climate Fund;
 - ii) Reiterated the request to the Board of the Green Climate Fund to balance the allocation of the Green Climate Fund resources between adaptation and mitigation activities;
 - iii) Decided to initiate the fifth review of the financial mechanism and invited Parties to submit to the secretariat by 1 March 2013 for consideration by the Standing Committee their views and recommendations on elements in the development of the further guidelines for the fifth review of the financial mechanism;
 - iv) Requested the Global Environment Facility, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention to make support available to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) for preparing their subsequent biennial update reports and
 - v) Urged contributing Parties to fulfil their financial pledges for the fifth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility.

IV. On National adaptation plans – Parties decided to provide:

- a) Guidance to the Global Environment Facility, as the operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention for the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund, to enable activities for the preparation of the national adaptation plan process by the least developed country Parties.
- b) Support the national adaptation plan process, while maintaining support for the least developed countries work programme, including national adaptation programmes of action.

V. On Technology Executive Committee – Parties stressed the need for the implementation of the technology needs assessment results; and on the arrangements to make the Climate Technology Centre and Network fully operational, Parties adopted the memorandum of understanding between the COP and UNEP regarding the hosting of the Climate Technology Centre and requested UNEP to convene and facilitate the first meeting of the Advisory Board as soon as possible in 2013.

VI. Kyoto Protocol: Parties reaffirmed that the second commitment period will begin on 1 January 2013 and end on 31 December 2020;

VII. Dates and venues of future sessions – Parties decided to accept with appreciation the offer by the Government of Poland to host COP 19 / CMP 9 in Warsaw, Poland from Monday, 11 November to Friday, 22 November 2013.

2012-01-28

Report of the Coordinator of the
Committee of African Heads of State
and Government on Climate Change
(CAHOSCC) on the Climate Change
Negotiations at the 18th Conference of
Parties of the UN Framework
Convention on Climate Change
(UNFCCC) (COP 18)

African Union

DCMP

<https://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/9064>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository