

## Statement of Common Position

### African Group, Group of Least Developed Countries and ALBA Group

#### General considerations

- The LDCs, Africa and other vulnerable countries are facing numerous severe and growing negative impacts arising from the adverse effects of climate change.
- The UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol constitutes to be the fundamental global legal framework on climate change.
- Negotiations must produce two outcomes in Durban in line with the Bali Roadmap, for an agreed outcome to implement the Convention and a second and subsequent period of the Kyoto Protocol.
- These outcomes must be ambitious, balanced and based on science, equity and the rule of law.
- All actions or measures related to climate change must be in full conformity with the principles and provisions of the Convention, in particular those of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.
- It is imperative that all developing countries work in unison to advance a strong common position to Durban to ensure the realization of our shared objectives and the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.

#### Negotiations under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP)

- Annex I Parties must commit to second and subsequent commitment periods under the Kyoto Protocol.
- Annex I Parties must reduce their emissions by at least 40 per cent by 2017 and 95 per cent by 2050, compared to 1990 levels.
- Environmental integrity of Annex I quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments (QELRCs) must be ensured by closing loopholes and limiting use of carbon markets.
- Market mechanisms are to remain under the Kyoto Protocol and are conditional on agreement by Annex I Parties to ambitious commitments through a second period under the Protocol.
- Annex I non-Kyoto Parties shall not have access to Kyoto mechanisms.

#### Negotiations under the Convention (AWG-LCA)

##### *Shared vision*

- Achieving a global goal of limiting temperature increase to well below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels is required to avoid dangerous interference with the climate system.
- This limit must be achieved in a time frame that protects ecosystems, food production and sustainable development, particularly in vulnerable developing countries.
- A global goal for reducing global emissions by 2050 is required in order to maintain global warming well below 1.5°C.
- Reaffirm that achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication are the priorities for LDCs and Africa.
- Reaffirm that the right to equitable access to sustainable development and sharing of atmospheric space and resources by non-Annex I Parties.

##### *Adaptation*

- Adaptation is an essential priority for developing countries. There is an urgent need for immediate and adequate support for adaptation measures and plans through new, additional and adequate grant-based public resources.
- The Adaptation Framework is to be operationalized and the Nairobi Work Programme to be enhanced in Durban to facilitate the support of national adaptation plans.
- The Adaptation Committee is to provide technical expertise and guidance to the operating entities of the financial mechanism and to adaptation-related work programmes, bodies and institutions under the Convention.

- Adaptation is to be funded at full cost through direct and simplified access to public grant-based financial resources, following a country driven approach.
- Work must be expedited to strengthen international cooperation and expertise to understand, reduce and compensate loss and damage from adverse climate effects.

#### *Mitigation by developed countries*

- Annex I non-Kyoto Parties are to undertake legally binding quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments under the Convention.
- These must be comparable to those undertaken by Annex I Kyoto Parties under the Kyoto Protocol in magnitude, effort and compliance.
- Commitments by Annex I non-Kyoto Parties are to be measurable, reportable and verifiable through an agreed set of common accounting rules and compliance framework.
- Annex I non-Kyoto Parties are not eligible to use flexible mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol including the Clean Development Mechanism.

#### *Mitigation by developing countries*

- A firewall must be maintained between mitigation commitments of Annex I Parties that are legally binding in nature and voluntary nationally appropriate mitigation actions by non-Annex I Parties.
- The extent to which non-Annex I Parties will effectively implement actions under the Convention depend on implementation by developed country Parties and fulfillment of their commitments relating to finance, technology transfer and capacity building.

#### *Means of implementation*

- Concerns are raised about insufficient transparency and slow disbursement of “fast start” finance and indications that a small proportion is “new and additional”.
- There must be agreement in Durban on:
  - Sources and scale of public financial resources to be commencing in 2013;
  - Enhanced transparency in the provision of financial resources through a common reporting format; and
  - Operationalization of the Green Climate Fund ensuring direct access to finance, full transparency and accountability to the Conference of the Parties;
  - Operationalization of the Standing Committee on Finance.
- Developed country Parties are to provide scaled up, adequate and predictable finance that is new and additional to existing ODA targets based on an assessed scale of contributions by 2020 that constitutes at least 1.5% of the gross domestic product of Annex I Parties.
- There is an urgent need to address technology transfer, remove barriers to access and ensure appropriate treatment of IPRs, including the removal of patents on climate-related technologies for non-Annex I Parties.
- Capacity building is a crosscutting issue and will be reflected on other thematic areas. The creation of performance indicators for monitoring and review is important and capacity building should not be left to the private sector.
- Integral to the Durban outcome is the operationalization effective and accountable institutions and frameworks under the authority of the Conference of the Parties, supported by concrete deliverables, timeframes and work programmes for implementation to ensure that “empty shells” are not presented to non-Annex I Parties.

*The African Group represents 53 African countries in the UN climate change negotiations. The Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) represents 48 least developed countries in the UN climate change negotiations. The Alianza Bolivariana para los Pueblos de Nuestra América (ALBA) is an alliance for international cooperation among countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.*