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## **STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN NON-STATE STAKEHOLDERS ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN AFRICA**

*The African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) and the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), The African Coalition for Sustainable Energy and Access hosted an African multi-stakeholder Policy Dialogue on sustainable energy in Africa on 27-28 January 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The policy dialogue brought together participants from Civil Society, Private Sector, African Union Commission, Pan African Parliament, UN Environment, youth and women.*

Mindful of the enormous energy challenges facing Africa to achieve its economic growth, sustainable development, and human well-being

*Mindful of article 12 of the Paris Agreement which calls on non-state stakeholders to effectively participate in the implementation of this agreement,*

Noting the continent's conviction of moving from Commitment to Action with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) demonstrated by ratifying the Paris Agreement and its consequent entry into force, enhancing the implementation of the Paris Agreement supported by pan- African initiatives and programmes such as the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI).

*Considering the participative and inclusive spirit that characterized Africa's engagement in climate change negotiations,*

*Reiterating our resolve as non-state actors to continue to accompany our governments in translating the Paris Agreement into action to achieve low carbon development pathways in line with Agenda 2063*

*Recognizing the importance of energy efficiency in addressing the issue of access to sustainable energy in Africa, and welcoming the International Energy Efficiency Initiative launched during COP22 in Marrakech and the importance it will play in Africa industrialization*

*Recognizing that the principles of AREI are sound and will ensure that Africa embarks on a truly transformative, people-centered trajectory towards renewable energy systems of the future*

*Acknowledging the wealth of knowledge and expertise of African non-state actors in supporting the implementation of the sustainable energy initiatives*

We,

1. *Call upon our governments to adopt the appropriate policies on sustainable energy and create enabling environment for their implementation by learning from the experiences and good practices of some African Countries such as South Africa, Kenya, Morocco, and Ethiopia*

2. *Call upon our governments to take into consideration the effect of climate change variability while making policies and investments in sustainable energy*
3. *call upon our governments, regional economic communities, and continental institutions to expedite the development and implementation of policies for sustainable energy and energy efficiency*
4. *Applaud the collaborative and participative spirit of the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and commit ourselves to work intensively and effectively as partners and stakeholders to ensure that the grand promises of this initiative come into fruition*
5. *Call upon our governments to ensure that AREI and its board of directors will be granted full legal personality to ensure that it can fulfill its role as Pan-African initiative and that the independence of the Independent Delivery Unit is ensured*
6. *Call upon our governments, regional economic communities and continental institutions to support the International Energy Efficiency Initiative and draw on opportunities and advantages it presents*
7. *Commit ourselves to inform constantly and accurately on the needs of and possible solutions for the energy poverty and climate vulnerable communities, especially in rural areas*
8. *Urge our governments to strengthen regional collaboration on sustainable energy, its development, and implementation*
9. *Recommend that the purpose of investment in sustainable energy should not only be limited to access and affordability but should also empower women and youth through job creation and productive activities*
10. *Take note of the Marrakech Declaration on the role of private sector in green economy, signed during the high level business summit by more than 20 African business federations, and call upon our governments to prioritize the engagement of African private sector in green economy.*

**For more information please contact:**

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