

## Decision 14/1: Africa's post Rio+20 strategy for sustainable development

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recalling* the decisions<sup>1</sup> of the Assembly of the African Union at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, held in Malabo on 30 June and 1 July 2011 and in Addis Ababa on 29 and 30 January 2012, on Africa's preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,

*Taking note* of the Africa consensus statement that was adopted in Addis Ababa on 25 October 2011 in the context of the African regional preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Welcoming* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Welcoming also* the decision<sup>2</sup> of the Assembly of the African Union at its nineteenth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 July 2012, on the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in which the Assembly urged member States to continue to speak with one voice, ensure adequate representation of Africa in all the committees to be established consequent to the outcome of Rio+20, and to use the fourteenth ordinary session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment to conduct a substantive analysis of the Rio+20 outcomes in order to develop a road map for Africa and to prepare for the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly of the United Nations,

*Decide:*

1. To develop a common strategy for negotiation and engagement that represents the interests of Africa in the intergovernmental process, to be established by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, on:
  - (a) The establishment of the universal intergovernmental high-level political forum;
  - (b) The development of sustainable development goals;
  - (c) The strengthening and upgrading of the United Nations Environment Programme;
  - (d) The operationalization of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns;<sup>3</sup>
  - (e) A mechanism for the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies;
  - (f) The intergovernmental process for an effective sustainable development financing strategy;
2. To agree that African member States representing the region in the aforementioned intergovernmental process should coordinate with African missions through the African Union office in New York to agree on regional inputs on various issues prior to submission to various committees;
3. To establish mechanisms that provide coordinated support to member States for the promotion of the green economy in Africa, including the development of partnerships and national strategies, the promotion of regional and international cooperation, including South-South cooperation, and the transfer of resource-efficient and green technologies and know-how;
4. To develop and implement the following key African regional flagship programmes, identified on the basis of the Rio Outcome document, key priorities for Africa and existing regional programmes and partnerships, as a means to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20):
  - (a) African green economy partnership;
  - (b) Ecosystem-based adaptation programme for Africa;
  - (c) African programme on sustainable energy development;

---

1 Assembly/AU/Dec.381(XVII) and Assembly/AU/Dec.400 (XVIII).

2 Assembly/AU/Dec.437(XIX).

3 A/CONF.216/5, annex.

- (d) Partnership for sustainable consumption and production in Africa;
- (e) Integrated waste management programme for Africa;
- (f) Africa integrated environmental assessment for sustainable development planning;
- (g) Sustainable land management and desertification programme in Africa;
- (h) Poverty and livelihoods;
- (i) African programme on biodiversity and ecosystems;
- (j) African partnership for capacity-building, technology transfer and skills development;

5. That the key regional flagship programmes identified in paragraph 4 above will be further developed and implemented through existing institutional structures, taking into account frameworks for regional and interregional cooperation, including South-South cooperation, such as Africa-China-Brazil Cooperation for Africa's Sustainable Development, the Tokyo International Conference on Africa's Development and other cooperation initiatives;

6. To request the secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment to convene a meeting of experts in order to further develop the key regional flagship programmes;

7. To call upon development partners, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to provide financial and technical assistance and capacity-building to support the implementation of the key regional flagship programmes at the regional and national levels.

## **Decision 14/2: Strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Taking note* of the Africa consensus statement that was adopted in Addis Ababa on 25 October 2011 in the context of the African regional preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,

*Welcoming* the outcome document<sup>4</sup> of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", adopted by the Conference on 22 June 2012,

*Welcoming also* General Assembly resolution 66/288, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document,

*Welcoming further* section C, in particular paragraph 88, of the outcome document, on the environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development, which calls for the strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Welcoming* the fact that paragraph 88 of the outcome document invited the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session to adopt a resolution strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme,

*Recalling* the decision<sup>5</sup> of the Assembly of the African Union at its nineteenth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 July 2012, in which the Assembly requested the fourteenth ordinary session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment to conduct a substantive analysis of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in order to develop a plan of action for Africa and to prepare for the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly of the United Nations,

*Decide:*

1. To invite the General Assembly to safeguard the positive results of the outcome document of Rio+20 and the decision<sup>5</sup> of the Assembly of the African Union at its nineteenth ordinary session by adopting at its sixty-seventh session a resolution on the strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme in conformity with paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as follows:

---

4 A/CONF.216/16, chap. I, resolution I, annex.

5 Assembly/AU/Dec.437(XIX).

- (a) Establish universal membership in the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as other measures to strengthen its governance as well its responsiveness and accountability to member States;
- (b) Ensure secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary contributions to fulfil its mandate;
- (c) Enhance the voice of the United Nations Environment Programme and its ability to fulfil its coordination mandate within the United Nations system by strengthening its engagement in key United Nations coordination bodies and empowering it to lead efforts to formulate United Nations system-wide strategies on the environment;
- (d) Promote a strong science-policy interface, building on existing international instruments, assessments, panels and information networks, including the Global Environment Outlook, as one of the processes aimed at bringing together information and assessment to support informed decision-making;
- (e) Disseminate and share evidence-based environmental information and raise public awareness on critical as well as emerging environmental issues;
- (f) Provide capacity-building to countries, as well as support, and facilitate access to technology;
- (g) Progressively consolidate headquarters functions in Nairobi, as well as strengthen its regional presence, in order to assist countries, upon request, in the implementation of their national environmental policies, collaborating closely with other relevant entities of the United Nations system;
- (h) Ensure the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and exploring new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society;

2. To invite the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session to consider including the following additional elements in the strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme:

- (a) Strengthening regional presence by increasing and upgrading the functions and capacity of regional offices and establishing five subregional offices in Africa so as to enable countries to build their capacities to implement their national environmental policies, plans and programmes;
- (b) Increasing financial resources to the United Nations Environment Programme to at least 2 per cent of the United Nations regular budget;
- (c) Establishing a universal membership body known as the Environment Assembly, with a ministerial segment called the Ministerial Conference on the Environment;
- (d) Mandating the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to determine the details of the mandates and composition of other bodies of the Environment Assembly;

3. To urge all member States to actively participate and engage in the negotiations on and adopt a resolution on strengthening and upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme during the sixty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly.

### **Decision 14/3: Review of the action plan for the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recalling* decision 13/1 on the review of the implementation of the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD),

*Expressing appreciation* for the efforts of the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency and all the relevant partners in undertaking the review of the implementation of the action plan,

*Acknowledging* the interlinkages between the environment action plan and the outcome of the Rio+20 Conference and other programmes and initiatives at the global and regional levels,

*Recognizing* the continued relevance and importance of the action plan as the framework for addressing environmental matters in Africa,

*Expressing appreciation* for the progress and success so far made and the achievements of the action plan in guiding and influencing policy and programme development at the regional, national and local levels in Africa,

*Noting* the consultative process undertaken to review the environment action plan, including the key findings of the review,

*Welcoming* the progress made in the review of the environment action plan,

*Decide:*

1. To request the African Union Commission to continue to provide high-level political support and advocacy for the implementation of the action plan for the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;
2. To request the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, in close collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, regional economic commissions and other relevant partners, to finalize the update of the action plan;
3. To request the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, in close collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant partners, to develop key priorities, including emerging and persistent thematic areas for implementation in the updated action plan for the next five years;
4. To agree to include the following emerging and persistent areas as part of the updated action plan in the context of Africa's sustainable development and poverty reduction:
  - (a) Green economy;
  - (b) Natural resources governance;
  - (c) Wastes management;
  - (d) Sustainable energy;
  - (e) Climate change;
  - (f) Biodiversity;
  - (g) Sustainable consumption and production;
  - (h) Sustainable land management; and
  - (i) Integrated management of African coastal lands;
5. To agree to enhance implementation of the action plan as identified in the following key findings of the review:
  - (a) Improvement of coordination mechanisms at all levels;
  - (b) Establishment of a regular reporting framework by member States;
  - (c) Mobilization of additional financial resources, including from domestic sources;
  - (d) Interlinkages and complementarity with other sustainable development sectors;
  - (e) Monitoring and evaluation;
  - (f) Communication, advocacy and knowledge management;
  - (g) Institutional capacity-building;
6. To agree to create the African Environment Partnership Platform as the mechanism to coordinate, mobilize resources, foster knowledge and align support for the implementation of the action plan;
7. To request the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, in close collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, regional economic commissions and other relevant partners to develop modalities for the operationalization of the African Environment Partnership Platform within one year of the adoption of the present decision.

## **Decision 14/4: Sustainable consumption and production in Africa**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment,

*Recalling* the Dakar Declaration for Enhanced Partnership in the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Environment Initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), adopted by the second Partners Conference of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment on the implementation of the plan, held in Dakar on 15 and 16 March 2005,

*Noting* the progress made in the development and implementation of the African 10-Year Framework Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production,

*Noting also* that eco-labelling is one of the priority areas of the African 10-Year Framework Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production,

*Welcoming* the global 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns<sup>6</sup> adopted by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, which supports regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production, contributing to resource efficiency and decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation, while creating new job opportunities and contributing to poverty eradication,

*Reaffirming* the emphasis on the importance of linking sustainable consumption and production with the challenge of meeting basic needs in the process of developing national, subregional and regional activities in Africa under the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns with partners such as the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production,

*Expressing appreciation* for the efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme and other partners in supporting regional and national initiatives to promote a shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns,

*Decide:*

1. To review the African 10-Year Framework Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production so as to hasten the implementation of the adopted global 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns;<sup>6</sup>
2. To implement the activities and programmes of the African 10-Year Framework Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production as shall have been reviewed;
3. To call upon our development partners to provide financial and technical assistance and capacity-building to support the implementation of sustainable consumption and production activities at the regional and national levels for the effective implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;
4. To provide support for the implementation of the African Eco-labelling Mechanism and its Eco Mark Africa eco-label so as to promote African regional, intra-national and international trade, as well as strengthen its Secretariat;
5. To support the Partnership for Sustainable Consumption and Production in Africa, and to strengthen the Secretariat of the African Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

## **Decision 14/5: Strengthening the Africa Environment Outlook and environment information networks in support of decision-making in Africa**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recalling* decision 13/7 and other decisions adopted by the Conference on the Africa Environment Outlook process and the Africa environment information network,

*Noting* that the environmental information assessment and reporting mechanism of the Africa Environment Outlook process and the Africa environment information networks are essential to

---

6 A/CONF.216/5, annex.

informing decision-making to effectively implement the achievements and outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20),

*Reaffirming* the importance of the Africa Environment Outlook as a decision support tool for the work of the African Union, as well as its member States,

*Decide:*

1. To request member States to use the Africa Environment Outlook as one of its regular tools for reviewing the state of the African environment to support decision-making at the national and regional levels;
2. To agree to develop a regional reporting platform, Africa Environment Outlook-Live, to provide dynamic and regularly updated, scientific and evidence-based, on-line information on the state of the environment, including trends and the future outlook, as part of the support for decision-making in Africa;
3. To request the United Nations Environment Programme and other partners to support the establishment of Africa Environment Outlook-Live as the regional on-line environmental information platform that is linked to and compatible with UNEP-Live;
4. To agree to support the evaluation of uptake and use in decision-making of environmental information, including the findings and recommendations contained in the Africa Environment Outlook reports, in order to identify and strengthen appropriate mechanisms through which environmental information can better serve policy and decision-making in the region;
5. To agree to build national and regional capacities in environmental information management and communication and strengthen the Africa environment information network and other environment information networks at the national level;
6. To agree to mobilize resources to prepare future Africa Environment Outlook reports and support the capacity-building of African countries in thematic and integrated environmental assessment and reporting, including through the development of appropriate data and indicator management tools (environmental data and information management).

#### **Decision 14/6: African Ministerial Conference on the Environment in the context of the African Union structures**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recalling* the decision<sup>7</sup> of the Assembly of the African Union at its twelfth session, held in Addis Ababa from 1 to 3 February 2009, by which the Assembly established specialized technical committees of the African Union, with environmental matters falling under the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and the Environment,

*Recalling also* decision 13/3, in which African ministers of the environment requested the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, to continue the revision of the Constitution of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, taking into account the institutional evolution of the African Union, and to submit the revised text to the Conference at its fourteenth session,

*Noting* the action by the Bureau to suspend the revision of the Constitution pending further clarification on the operationalization of the decision of the Assembly of the African Union on the specialized technical committees,

*Recalling* the decision<sup>8</sup> of the Executive Council requesting the Commission, in collaboration with the Secretariat, to formalize the role of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment as the ministerial body for the environment under the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and the Environment,

*Recalling also* the decision<sup>9</sup> of the Assembly of the African Union, adopted at its seventeenth session, held in Malabo on 30 June and 1 July 2011, in which the Assembly requested the African Union Commission to operationalize the specialized technical committees from January 2013 and that thereafter the Sectoral Ministerial Conferences be abolished, with environmental matters continuing to

---

7 Assembly/AU/Dec.227(XII).

8 Decision EX.CL/624 (XVIII).

9 Assembly/AU/Dec.365(XVII).

be the responsibility of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment functioning as a subcommittee of the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and the Environment,

*Recalling further* decision 8/3, adopted by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment at its eighth session, held in Abuja from 3 to 6 April 2000, to build, through consultation and joint programming, partnerships with the United Nations system, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, women's groups and community-based organizations, the private sector, donor countries and multilateral donor organizations,

*Recognizing* that the environment contributes substantively to the achievement of Africa's sustainable development, is cross-cutting and varied and faces major challenges that require concerted efforts and political support at the continental, regional and national levels,

*Recognizing also* the resource implication and time constraints in implementing the decision adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its seventeenth session on operationalizing the specialized technical committees from January 2013,

*Decide:*

1. To request the Assembly of the African Union at its next session to reconsider the decision to abolish the sectoral ministerial conferences, specifically the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment;

2. To request the Assembly of the African Union, given the high importance of the environment to the sustainable development of Africa and its cross-cutting nature as well as its varied composition, which includes the areas of disaster risk reduction, meteorology, climate change, forestry, biodiversity, desertification and water, to authorize the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment to function in its current form pending the determination of modalities that would define its future direction.

## **Decision 14/7: The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recognizing* the efforts made by the African Union Commission, the Pan African Agency of the Great Green Wall and member States to operationalize the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative, which led to its validation at the experts meeting held in Ouagadougou from 27 to 29 August 2012,

*Considering* the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative as an African flagship programme to address issues related to desertification, land degradation, drought, climate change and loss of biodiversity in the Sahara-Sahel zone in Africa,

*Calling* for urgent action to reverse land degradation and to achieve a land-degradation-neutral world in the context of sustainable development,

*Considering* the commitment made at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) to take coordinated action nationally, regionally and internationally to monitor globally land degradation and restore degraded lands in arid, semi-arid and dry humid areas,

*Recalling* the Bamako declaration of the thirteenth African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, in which African ministers of the environment called for a strategic partnership between the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment to foster the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification 10-year strategy in Africa,

*Acknowledging* the efforts of the partners in supporting the elaboration of national strategies and action plans to enhance the implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative,

*Concerned* with the need for improving the institutional governance and the coordination of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative by the African Union Commission and the

Pan African Agency of the Great Green Wall, as stressed in the decision<sup>10</sup> of the African Union at its seventeenth session, held in Malabo in June 2011,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the conclusions of the regional experts meeting held in Ouagadougou from 27 to 29 August 2012, at which progress made in the implementation of the Initiative was reviewed,

*Decide:*

1. To consider the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative, in the framework of the Environmental Action Plan of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), as a flagship programme that represents the African contribution to the achievement of a land-degradation-neutral world in the context of sustainable development, as recommended by United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;
2. To adopt the regional harmonized strategy for the implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative as a strategy which has been fully aligned with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018);<sup>11</sup>
3. To request development partners to align their support for the implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative with the priorities identified by countries in their national action plans;
4. To agree to the transformation of the Pan African Agency of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel into a specialized agency of the African Union Commission under the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture.

### **Decision 14/8: Management of biodiversity in Africa**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recalling* the decision<sup>12</sup> of the African Union Assembly on the report on Africa's participation in the Nagoya Conference on Biodiversity, in which the Assembly called for the inclusion of biodiversity among the priorities of the African Union and encouraged member States of the African Union to become parties to all the conventions on biodiversity,

*Recalling also* the report presented by the President of Gabon at the sixteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, in which the Assembly called on member States to join forces and work together to ensure the adoption of a common African position for future negotiations on biodiversity and the establishment of a coordination mechanism to achieve this,

*Acknowledging* the request of the Government of Kenya to the African Union Commission, pursuant to the Assembly decision, to create a coordination mechanism for the African group of negotiators on biodiversity and to facilitate an African common position during international negotiations on biodiversity,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts of the Government of Kenya in hosting an African regional preparatory meeting for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nairobi on 6 and 7 September 2011, which requested the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment to support the formalization of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity,

*Recognizing* that a coordinated structure provides a link between the political and technical processes and also provides political guidance to the negotiators and enhances Africa's visibility in the negotiation process,

*Recognizing also* the need for the ratification and effective implementation of biodiversity-related instruments, in particular the protocols adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity,

---

10 Assembly/AU/Dec.376 (XVII).

11 See United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, decision 3/COP.8.

12 Assembly/AU/Dec.352 (XVI).



*Taking note with appreciation* of the ongoing work of the African Union Commission in implementing the African Union Assembly decision<sup>13</sup> on the establishment of a coordination mechanism on biodiversity,

*Concerned* about the alarming prevalence of the transboundary illegal trade in wild fauna and flora, which is contributing to the destruction and extinction of species, in particular the African elephant, the rhinoceros and the African great apes,

*Recalling* the Libreville Declaration<sup>14</sup> of the Pan-African Conference on Biodiversity and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held from 13 to 17 September 2010, which called for adoption of appropriate measures at both the bilateral and multilateral levels to combat transboundary crime, including by encouraging African countries to accede to the 1994 Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora,

*Cognizant* of the African Elephant Action Plan<sup>15</sup> established in accordance with decision 14.75 of the fourteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,

*Aware* that an African Elephant Fund has been established in accordance with decision 14.79 of the fourteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,

*Decide:*

1. To establish a coordination mechanism for the African group of negotiators on biodiversity, the modalities for which are set out in the annex to the present decision, comprising three levels of coordination to ensure the preparation of a common African position for negotiations on biodiversity, with the coordination established at:
  - (a) The experts level by the chairperson of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity, selected by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment for the intersessional period between the Conferences;
  - (b) The ministerial level by the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment;
  - (c) The Heads of State and Government level by a spokesperson to be selected by the Heads of State and Government;
2. To request the African Union Commission to support the work of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity, including hosting coordination meetings and capacity-building;
3. To call upon all African countries and regional bodies to fully support and implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Targets, adopted by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, including an update of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
4. To urge those African countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to and implement as appropriate:
  - (a) The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity;
  - (b) The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity;
  - (c) The Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
  - (d) The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds;
  - (e) The Lusaka Agreement to Combat Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna And Flora;
5. To encourage the African Union Commission to continue its work on the preparation of guidelines to support the coordinated implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa;

---

13 Assembly/AU/15 (XVI).

14 AMCEN/SS/IV/INF/7.

15 See document CoP.15 Inf.68.

6. To endorse and promote the African Elephant Action Plan and the African Elephant Fund for ensuring effective conservation and long-term survival of elephants across Africa;

7. To request the African Union Commission to convene in 2013, in collaboration with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme and other partners, an international conference on the fight against loss of biodiversity in Africa and to provide institutional and financial support to the Lusaka Agreement with a view to enhancing its capacity to undertake cooperative enforcement operations directed at the transboundary illegal trade in wild fauna and flora in Africa.

## **Annex**

### **Modalities for the coordination mechanism of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity**

1. The African group of negotiators on biodiversity shall be composed of all member States from Africa to ensure the preparation of a common African position for negotiations on biodiversity.

2. Terms of reference:

(a) The Chair of the experts shall:

- (i) Coordinate the African group of negotiators on biodiversity at the experts level;
- (ii) Convene meetings of the experts in consultation with the African Union Commission and the secretariat of African Ministerial Conference on the Environment;
- (iii) Prepare the draft agenda of the meetings;
- (iv) Lead the negotiations at the experts level;

(b) The African Union Commission shall serve as the secretariat of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity;

(c) The Chair of African group of negotiators at the experts level shall report:

- (i) To the ministerial level, that is, to the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment;
- (ii) On any biodiversity meeting, including intersessional meetings and conferences of the parties, and on any progress to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, experts, ministerial and summit sessions;

(d) The Chair at the ministerial level shall:

- (i) Coordinate the African group of negotiators on biodiversity at the ministerial level;
- (ii) Convene meetings of the ministers in consultation with the African Union Commission and secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment;

(e) The African Union Commission shall serve as the secretariat of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity at the ministerial level;

(f) The Chair of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity at the ministerial level shall report:

- (i) Progress to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and at the Summit of the African Union sessions;
- (ii) Any biodiversity meeting including intersessional meetings and Conferences of the Parties;

(g) At the Heads of State and Government level, the Chair shall:

- (i) Provide political leadership and guidance to the African group of negotiators on biodiversity;
- (ii) Call for meetings on biodiversity at the Heads of State and Government level in consultation with the African Union Commission and the secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment;

(h) The African Union Commission shall serve as the secretariat of the African group of negotiators on biodiversity at the Heads of State and Government level;

(i) The Chair at the Heads of State and Government level shall report to the Summit of the African Union.

### **Decision 14/9: Engaging member States to ratify and adopt a strategy on the promotion of the ratification of the Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recognizing* the importance of nature and natural resource conservation to Africa,

*Recognizing also* that the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources presents not only ecological but political, economic, social and cultural opportunities and advantages for Africa in terms of natural resources management,

*Aware* that the conservation of nature and natural resources in Africa requires the combined efforts of all member States and the involvement of all stakeholders,

*Expressing appreciation* for the number of efforts made by some member States towards signature and ratification of the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources during the period 2003–2012,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the African Union Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and other partners to sensitize member States to ratify the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources,

*Welcoming also* the strategy developed by the African Union Commission to guide the promotion of the ratification of the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources,

*Recognizing* the potential for synergy with other conventions, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity,

*Decide:*

1. To urge all member States to raise awareness of the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources and use the strategy to guide the promotion of the ratification and the implementation of the Convention;
2. To urge member States that have not yet done so to take the necessary measures as soon as possible to ratify and implement the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources;
3. To call upon the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the regional economic communities, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the secretariats of the multilateral environment agreements and other partners to support African countries in the ratification and implementation of the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources;
4. To encourage civil society and, in particular, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, to pursue sensitization activities to expedite the process of the ratification of the 2003 Maputo Convention on Nature and Natural Resources;
5. To request the Commission to report on the implementation of the present decision at the next ordinary session of the Executive Council.

### **Decision 14/10: Engaging parliamentarians in the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Aware* that environmental governance in Africa requires the combined efforts and involvement of the executive, judicial and legislative arms of the State as well as civil society, the public and the private sector,

*Expressing appreciation* for the role of parliaments in Africa as legislative bodies in supporting the development and implementation of policies and laws on the environment, including multilateral environmental agreements,

*Expressing appreciation also* for the efforts of the African Union Commission and other partners in creating awareness and strengthening the capacity of parliamentarians in environmental management,

*Taking note* of the Entebbe declaration made by the Colloquium of Parliamentarians organized by the African Union Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme on mainstreaming multilateral environmental agreements, held in Entebbe, Uganda, from 4 to 6 June 2012;

*Decide:*

1. To work closely and collaborate with the legislative arm of the State in the development and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements as well as their integration into national governance, development plans and strategies;
2. To call upon the parliaments of member States to support the implementation of multilateral environment agreements, including the allocation of adequate budgetary resources, monitoring and the enactment of appropriate laws, and raising awareness at the grass-roots level, so as to strengthen environmental governance in their countries;
3. To request the legislative bodies of the regional economic communities of the Southern African Development Community, the East African Community, the Economic Community of Central African States, the Economic Community of West African States and other related institutions to support national parliaments in the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements;
4. To request the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements and other partners to support the interactions and efforts of parliamentarians and the establishment of a network on environmental governance in Africa.

### **Decision 14/11: Joint celebration of Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day**

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Recalling* decision 12/7, in which the African ministers of the environment agreed that the celebration of Africa Environment Day on 3 March every year should be hosted by member States on a regional basis,

*Recalling also* the decision<sup>16</sup> of the African Union Assembly at its eighteenth session mandating the joint celebrations of Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts of member States, the African Union Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme and other partners in celebrating Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day,

*Recognizing* the importance of the celebrations to raise awareness of the environmental challenges facing the continent,

*Recognizing also* the need for a roster of countries to host the event in 2013 and 2014, and recalling that the events have already been hosted by member States in the western, eastern and central regions of Africa,

*Decide* that at every ordinary session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment two countries shall be identified to host the joint celebrations of Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day each year for the next two years.

---

<sup>16</sup> Assembly/AU/Dec.406(XVIII).

## Decision 14/12: Climate change

*We, African ministers of the environment,*

*Having met* in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 12 to 14 September 2012 at the fourteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

*Welcoming* decision 448(XIX), adopted by the African Union Assembly at its nineteenth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 July 2012, on Africa's preparation for the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, inter alia, supporting the bid by Namibia on behalf of Africa to host the secretariat of the Green Climate Fund in the continent where the impact of climate change has been and is likely to be felt most acutely in future,

*Recalling* paragraph 3 of decision 525(XV) of the Executive Council of the African Union, in which the Council requested the African Union Commission, in collaboration with partners, to elaborate a comprehensive African strategy on climate change, including the development of sector technical back-up data on the impacts of climate change, its cost to the economy and the amount of carbon sequestered in various African ecosystems,

*Recalling also* the decision of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment at its thirteenth session to update the common negotiating position on climate change, which affirms an international climate regime that ensures full, effective and sustained implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol thereto,

*Recalling further* the Bamako Declaration on Consolidating the African Common Position on Climate Change and Preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development<sup>17</sup>, adopted by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment at its fourth special session, in which African ministers of the environment endorsed, inter alia, the updated African common position on climate change as the basis for negotiations by African States on strengthening the international climate change regime through the full, effective and sustained implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol thereto,

*Recalling* the decision of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment at its fourth special session agreeing, inter alia, that the African common position will be continuously backed by new findings, including the best available scientific, economic and technical information, and in this regard, inviting relevant institutions and development partners to support the elaboration of the research agenda in support of the African common position,

*Recalling also* the outcomes of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Durban, and previous sessions thereof,

*Aware* of the forthcoming eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Doha from 26 November to 7 December 2012,

*Decide:*

1. To adopt the updated African common position on climate change and the key messages<sup>18</sup> on climate change negotiations for the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol presented as the outcome of the meeting of the African group of negotiators held in Arusha from 10 to 12 September 2012;
2. To request member States and the African group of negotiators to use the common position as the basis for their positions during the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

---

17 AMCEN/SS/IV/3, annex I.

18 Decision SS.IV/1, annex.

3. To request member States and the African group of negotiators to reaffirm the decisions adopted at the seventeenth Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and call for their implementation in Doha, in particular:

(a) The realization of an ambitious, legal second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, coming into effect on 1 January 2013;

(b) That parties provisionally apply the amendments, pending entry into force, in order to facilitate their early implementation;

(c) That Annex I parties agree to a second commitment period that ensures environmental integrity and limit the access of the flexible mechanisms only to those parties that have commitments during the second commitment period;

(d) The successful conclusion of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action, with a clear comparability framework for Annex I parties that are not covered by the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol; the need to close the finance gap between 2013 and 2020, and to provide concrete support for adaptation actions; and remove barriers to technology support during the implementation of the Bali Road Map;

(e) That the work to enhance ambition under the Durban Platform should not be a substitute for commitments under the Bali Road Map, and to reaffirm that the Convention is the multilateral platform for climate change action, and any additional actions require agreed transparency and accounting provision; reaffirming that the future legal outcome should be based on the principles and provisions of the Convention, in particularly equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, further reaffirming that the outcome should cover mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology and capacity-building;

4. To reiterate that the African common position will be continuously backed by new findings, including the best available scientific, economic and technical information, and in this regard to welcome the research agenda and work programme of support for the African group of negotiators and to invite institutions, African centres of excellence, the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Climate Policy Centre and other development partners, including the World Bank, to support the elaboration of the research agenda and work programme in support of the African common position;

5. To recognize the support of African and multilateral institutions towards climate change action on the continent, and to recall the decision of the fourth special session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, held in Bamako, in which African ministers of the environment requested the African Development Bank to further consult on the African Green Fund, and in this connection to take note of the proposal of the African Development Bank to broaden the scope of the original idea of the Fund to an African Green Facility in order to address the call of the African leaders to implement the outcomes of the Rio+20 summit;

6. To request the African Development Bank to keep African institutions and experts, the African group of negotiators and ministers informed of further developments on this initiative;

7. To encourage the African Union Commission to present the strategy document on climate change to the African group of negotiators and ministers for consideration, pursuant to the decision of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment at its fourth special session;

8. To invite all member States to attend and participate actively in the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and promote the African common position;

9. To reaffirm the mandate of the African group of negotiators to continuously update the African common position on the basis of the guidance encompassed in the key messages document and emerging scientific understanding and dynamics in the negotiation.

## Annex

### **Key messages on climate change negotiations for the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

1. We, African ministers of the environment, recognize that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and represents an urgent and irreversible threat to human societies and the planet. We express our deep concern that the window of opportunity to avoid dangerous human interference with the climate system is closing, with a growing risk of runaway climate change and catastrophic impacts for natural ecosystems and humankind, particularly in Africa.
2. We reaffirm that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol constitutes the fundamental global legal framework on climate change and that 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.
3. We reaffirm that achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication are the priorities for Africa. We recognize that today Africa faces numerous, severe and growing negative impacts arising from climate change and that these impacts are undermining Africa's efforts to attain its development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.
4. We note with concern that wealthy Annex I parties increased their emissions by approximately 8 per cent between 1990 and 2008. We further express concern that the current inadequate mitigation pledges, in particular by Annex I parties, are likely to lead to an increase of the global average temperature of greater than 2°C – and possibly as much as 5°C – threatening catastrophic impacts worldwide, and particularly for Africa due to its high vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and low adaptive capacity.
5. We acknowledge that there is an urgent and immediate need to avoid further loss and damage to Africa and call for an intensified action, in particular by Annex I parties, to reduce their emissions in line with the information set out in the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and more recent scientific studies in a way that will limit the global average temperature increase to well below 1.5°C.
6. We are aware that, despite the urgent threat facing human societies and the planet, the mitigation pledges by Annex I parties in the context of the climate change negotiations amount to less than the voluntary mitigation pledges by non-Annex I parties. We recall that the Convention requires Annex I parties to make equitable and appropriate contributions to achieving the objective of the Convention and therefore stress that Annex I parties should show leadership, including through raising their level of ambition to the scale required by science and equity.
7. We urge Annex I parties to provide scaled-up new and additional financial resources to enable developing countries, particularly countries in Africa, to mitigate and adapt to climate change without diverting scarce resources required for poverty eradication and other sustainable development objectives.
8. We recognize that Africa needs its fair share of atmospheric space in order to meet its development needs, and acknowledge that this may result in increased emissions.
9. We note that in the absence of increased ambition, the projected emissions of Annex I parties would consume almost half of the 44 Gt emissions budget for 2020 that is estimated by the United Nations Environment Programme to have a likely chance of limiting temperature increase to 2°C or less, thereby limiting the atmospheric space available to non-Annex I parties and allocating to the Annex I parties an excessive share of a global atmospheric resource.
10. We express concerns that rather than increasing their ambition some Annex I parties have refused to ratify, or have withdrawn from the Kyoto Protocol or intend to do so. We further express concern at the apparent intention of some Annex I parties to move away from a legally binding regime applicable to them into a weaker pledge-based regime, while shifting the burden to non-Annex I parties.
11. We reaffirm that adaptation is an essential priority for Africa and that there is an urgent need for immediate and adequate support for the implementation of country-driven adaptation measures and

actions through the provision of grant-based public resources including through direct access to the Green Climate Fund and other relevant financial entities.

12. We also recognize, in this context, the importance of agriculture to Africa and reaffirm our recommendation that a comprehensive work programme on agriculture in non-Annex I parties be established under the Adaptation Framework and that agriculture be addressed as a matter of priority in relation to the mitigation commitments of Annex I parties. We confirm that Africa's emissions, including from the agriculture sector, are low and that most of the global emissions from the agriculture sector derive from industrialized, subsidized and fossil-fuel intensive agricultural practices in Annex I parties, and that the overriding priority for Africa in the agriculture sector is food production and rural development.

13. We express concern about the lack of clarity on long-term financing of results-based REDD+ activities in phase three. We call for a transparent process for the provision of adequate and equitable long-term financial resources. We further call for the establishment of a simplified structure that would allow broader participation of countries in accordance with their national circumstances.

14. We recall that the effective implementation of mitigation and adaptation actions by non-Annex I parties depends on the fulfilment by Annex I parties of their commitments relating to financial resources, technology development and transfer and capacity-building. We recognize, in this context, the insufficient transparency and slow disbursement of the financial resources pledged by developed country parties as "fast start" finance for the period 2010-2012 and indications that only a small proportion of these resources are "new and additional", and we call on Annex I parties to fully implement their commitments relating to financial resources and the transfer of technology as an important step towards addressing the common challenge of climate change.

15. We further call for an agreement in Doha on scaled-up public resources to be provided by Annex II parties commencing in 2013, building on lessons learned from "fast start" finance and reaching a scale adequate to meet the needs of developing countries up to 2020 and beyond.

#### **Negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol thereto**

16. We reaffirm that the outcome of negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change must be based on science and the principles and provisions of the Convention. Such an approach must include ambitious short-, medium- and long-term mitigation commitments by Annex I parties that reflect their historical responsibility and an equitable and appropriate contribution to the global effort to tackle climate change, and the provision of adequate means of implementation – finance, technology and capacity-building – to enable non-Annex I parties to address mitigation and adaptation.

17. We reiterate that the climate negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change should produce: (a) an amendment to Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol regarding further mitigation commitments of Annex I parties for a second commitment period from 2013 to 2017 under the Kyoto Protocol; (b) a set of outcomes in line with the Bali Road Map regarding an agreed outcome on long-term cooperative action to enhance the implementation of the Convention; and (c) a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention addressing mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, transparency of action and support, and capacity-building through the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) no later than 2015 to come into effect and be implemented by 2020.

18. We call on all parties to respect the balance of the outcome at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change, held in Durban, South Africa. We urge Annex I parties to join us in ensuring an ambitious and legally binding second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, an ambitious and comprehensive set of outcomes under the Bali Action Plan to ensure the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention, recognizing that progress in the ADP negotiations is premised on successful conclusion of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) and Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP). We affirm that these three negotiations are interlinked and that new discussions under the Durban Platform must build on conclusions agreed in longstanding negotiations under the Kyoto Protocol and the Convention.

19. We emphasize that work under these negotiations must be carefully balanced and sequenced to ensure that Annex I parties take on equitable and adequate mitigation commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, that parties achieve the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention in accordance with the Bali Action Plan, and that the ambition gap on mitigation and means of implementation is closed prior to 2015 to ensure the highest level of effort by all parties, as a sound



basis for negotiations towards a new protocol, legal instrument or agreed outcome for legal force under the Durban Platform.

20. We call on all parties to join us in preserving and building on the architecture of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol developed over almost two decades, and we warn against the unravelling of the international climate change architecture into a weaker regime based on “pledge and review” for Annex I parties, as this will undermine environmental integrity thus increasing the risk to the African continent of climate change. We call on all Annex I parties to fulfil their commitments through an ambitious and legally binding second period of commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, comparable efforts by Annex I non-Kyoto parties, as well as full implementation of commitments relating to adaptation, finance, technology transfer, capacity-building and related matters.

### **Implementing the Kyoto Protocol**

21. We call on developed country parties to the Kyoto Protocol to honour their commitments through ambitious mitigation commitments for a second commitment period and to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases by at least 40 per cent during the second commitment period from 2013 to 2017 and by at least 95 per cent by 2050, compared to 1990 levels, as an equitable and appropriate contribution to achieving the objective of the Convention. We stress the urgency of concluding all issues for a second commitment period in Doha and of elaborating measures to avoid a gap between commitment periods.

22. We confirm that negotiations towards a new agreement under the Durban Platform must not detract from agreement of ambitious further commitments for Annex I parties under the Kyoto Protocol. We join other developing countries in confirming that the second commitment period shall end in 2017 to avoid locking in low levels of ambition by Annex I parties until 2020, which would risk extremely dangerous levels of warming and an inadequate contribution by Annex I parties towards addressing climate change. Individual contributions by Annex I parties are to be agreed and converted into quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives (QELROs) for inclusion in Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol to be adopted in Doha and further urge those Annex I parties that have not submitted their QELROs to do so.

23. We call on Annex I parties to ensure the environmental integrity of their emission reduction commitments, and to guarantee an equitable and appropriate level of domestic emission reductions, by closing existing loopholes, limiting the use of carbon markets and project-based mechanisms to 10 per cent of their quantified emission reduction commitments, and ensuring the additionality of carbon credits.

24. We recognize that the continued existence and effectiveness of the Adaptation Fund is contingent on an ambitious second commitment period by Annex I parties under the Kyoto Protocol, including ambitious emission aggregate and individual reduction commitments as well as the effective closure of all loopholes, as a precondition for a functioning project-based mechanism and delivery of carbon credits. As a means of increasing funding for the Adaptation Fund we call for financial resources to be raised through a levy on emissions trading and other carbon mechanisms and markets.

25. We reiterate that Annex I parties that do not sign up to the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, and have therefore not taken on a legally binding QELRO under the Kyoto Protocol, shall not have access to the mechanisms established by the Kyoto Protocol, including emissions trading, joint implementation and clean development mechanism.

### **Implementing the Convention**

26. We reiterate the importance of fulfilment by all parties of their commitments under the Convention and call for the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action to continue its work to reach an agreed outcome pursuant to decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan) and conclude its work in Doha in accordance with decision 1/CP.17.

### **Shared vision**

27. We emphasize that avoiding dangerous interference with the climate system and achieving a global goal of limiting temperature increase to well below 1.5°C will require an integrated approach based on science, equity and the principles and provisions of the Convention. We are concerned that temperature increases above 1.5°C from pre-industrial levels pose catastrophic impacts to poor and vulnerable people and communities worldwide, in particular Africa, and is inconsistent with the fundamental objective of the Convention.

28. We recognize that a global goal for substantially reducing global emissions by 2050 and the time frame for global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions cannot be undertaken in the abstract and

will necessarily involve matters related to the context of such considerations including ambitious short-, medium- and long-term mitigation commitments by Annex I parties that reflect their historical responsibilities and an equitable and appropriate contribution to the global effort to tackle climate change. We confirm that a long-term global goal for reducing emissions by 2050 and a time frame for global peaking can only be understood in the context of a global goal for adaptation, finance, technology support and the implications for economic and social development in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

### **Adaptation**

29. We welcome the operationalization of the Cancun Adaptation Framework, in particular the Adaptation Committee. We urge the Adaptation Committee to expedite its work on facilitating the support process and implementation of national adaptation actions and plans of non-Annex I parties through the relevant linkages between the finance and technology mechanisms of the Convention.

30. We affirm that adaptation activities should be funded at full cost through direct and simplified access to adequate, new and additional public grant-based financial resources, following a country-driven approach, as well as to environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building in a predictable and prompt manner as part of a balanced package on all issues to implement the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.

31. We urge that measures should be taken to expedite work on strengthening international cooperation and expertise in order to understand, reduce and compensate for loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts on agriculture, water, human health, and other economic and non-economic losses related to extreme weather events and slow onset events.

### **Mitigation**

32. We reiterate concerns about efforts by Annex I parties to move away from a legally binding into a weaker “pledge-based” regime, the conditional nature of Annex I pledges, the low level of mitigation ambition and the associated party-specific rules and accounting methodologies which may undermine environmental integrity and significantly reduce the contribution of Annex I parties to the global mitigation effort by 2020.

33. We call on Annex I parties that are not parties to the Kyoto Protocol to undertake legally binding commitments under the Convention that are comparable in magnitude and effort and are measurable, reportable and verifiable with regard to mitigation and the provision of financial and technological resources. We call for the development of an agreed set of common accounting rules and a compliance framework for Annex I parties that have not subscribed to the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol to assess their quantified emission reductions.

34. We reaffirm that a firewall must be maintained between mitigation commitments of Annex I parties that are legally binding in nature and appropriate voluntary mitigation actions by non-Annex I parties.

35. We stress that the extent to which non-Annex I parties will effectively implement actions under the Convention will depend on the effective implementation and fulfilment by developed country parties of their commitments under the Convention related to financial resources, capacity-building and technology development and transfer.

### **Means of implementation**

36. We welcome the adoption in Durban of the governing instrument of the Green Climate Fund and stress the need for concrete outcomes on the long-term finance work programme and the work of the Standing Committee. We call for enhanced transparency in the provision of support through a common reporting format, definitions and methodologies.

37. We note the pledge by developed country parties to mobilize jointly \$100 billion per year by 2020, and reiterate Africa’s position that developed country parties 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 gross domestic product of Annex I parties, in order to curb climate change and meet the needs of non-Annex I parties to tackle climate change and its adverse effects.

38. We note with concern the gap between the end of fast start finance in 2012 and the \$100 billion pledge by 2020. We call on Annex II parties to significantly scale up the provision of new, additional, predictable and adequate resources in the interim period. We also call on those parties to contribute to the Green Climate Fund and to accelerate its operationalization with a view to addressing the most urgent adaptation needs of developing countries.

39. We emphasize the need for an appropriate body under the Convention with respect to mobilization of financial resources to address the ambition gap on finance, and to look beyond the short-term financial constraints faced by developed countries, in order to raise in a predictable and identifiable manner the amount of new and additional funding necessary and available for the implementation of this Convention and commensurate to the adaptation, mitigation and technology needs of developing countries, and establish the conditions under which that amount shall be periodically reviewed.
40. We stress the importance of ensuring direct access to financial resources for all developing countries through a transparent process, ensuring equitable allocation taking into account geographical and needs-based criteria, a balance between adaptation and mitigation, and grant-based funding for adaptation activities.
41. We emphasize that public finance should be the main source of funding to ensure the sustainability, predictability and adequacy of funding, bearing in mind that private and market finance can play a complementary role.
42. We stress the urgent need to fully operationalize the technology mechanism in 2012 and taking into account the need to resolve the outstanding issues such as the link between the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and its network, the operationalization of the Advisory Board, the 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.
43. We welcome the Durban Forum on Capacity-building and call for its further development through the establishment of a work programme. We acknowledge that the creation of performance indicators for monitoring and review of capacity-building is of paramount importance. We further stress that capacity-building activities should not be left to the private sector.
44. We welcome progress made in Durban in the establishment and operationalization of effective and accountable institutions under the authority and guidance of the Conference of the Parties in relation to adaptation, finance and technology transfer, including the Cancun Adaptation Framework, Green Climate Fund and Technology Mechanism. We further call for the prompt, effective, and full operationalization of these institutions including through the provision of required financial resources to ensure these institutions are not “empty shells” and that adequate financial resources, including for time-bound deliverables and work programmes, are available for action in developing countries, particularly in relation to adaptation, mitigation and technology development and transfer.

#### **Negotiations under the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action**

45. We welcome the successful launching of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action to develop a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention addressing, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, transparency of action and support, and capacity-building, as well as the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition to identify and to explore options for a range of actions that can close the ambition gap.
46. We express satisfaction with the adoption of an agenda and initial exploratory discussions among parties in Bangkok. We look forward to the successful completion of the mandates to implement the Convention (AWG-LCA) and Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) in accordance with the Bali Road Map, as part of the Durban package. We call for ambitious and comprehensive outcomes under the Bali Road Map, noting that unresolved items under this negotiation shall be dealt with in appropriate bodies under the Convention, including the Durban Platform.
47. We stress that the negotiations of a future legal outcome under the Durban Platform are under the Convention and, as a result, all of the principles and provisions of the Convention apply including the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. The outcome must reinforce a fair, multilateral and rules-based regime that brings into effect the right to equitable access to sustainable development, sharing of atmospheric space and resources taking into account cumulative historical responsibility and use of such resources by Annex I parties, with the principle of equity reflected in all aspects of a future agreement.
48. We stress that the outcome must fulfil the objective of the Convention including a limit in the increase of global average temperature to well below 1.5°C. We emphasize in this context the urgent need to reflect ambitious commitments under the Bali Road Map in order for Annex I parties to reduce their emissions by at least 40 per cent by 2017 as an equitable and appropriate contribution to achieving the objective of the Convention. We further reaffirm that the Convention and the Kyoto

Protocol thereto are the multilateral platform for climate change action, as such additional actions under the ambition work stream of the Durban Platform require agreed transparency, accounting, and recognition provisions. To enhance action by developing countries a clear process to scale up the means of implementation including finance, technology and capacity to support is necessary.

49. Finally, we affirm that the outcome of negotiations should culminate in an enhanced multilateral rules-based regime that implements the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol thereto through a common vision covering global goals relating to temperature, global emission reductions and trajectories, adaptation, finance and technology transfer in the context of an equity reference framework, as well as means to record additional specific commitments by Annex I parties and contributions by non-Annex I parties, operational mechanisms with dedicated funding, work programmes and deliverables, and arrangements for accountability, compliance and review.

---