



REPORT OF THE

PRE-AMCEN AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP

AND

AFRICAN REGIONAL MAJOR GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR UNEP'S 12th SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL / GLOBAL MINISTERIAL ENVIRONMENT FORUM

HOTEL MASSALLEY, Bamako, Mali

9 - 11 September 2011



Some of the participants pose for a photo with the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation Abdoulaye Berthe (third right) after the opening of the workshop

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our invaluable partners, specifically the APRODEV-affiliated¹ Agencies Christian Aid, Diakonia and Finnish Church Aid (FCA), as well as Oxfam GB provided funding which enabled us to hold this important workshop. We wish to express our gratitude to all and assure them of our continued cooperation.

The UNEP/Regional Office for Africa found it strategic to combine the civil society workshop with preparatory meeting for thirteenth Global Major Group and Stakeholders Forum. This was a major boost for us and we sincerely thank the staff for their continued support and partnership with the civil society in Africa.

And to those hundreds of member organizations and networks that have remained committed to the vision and mission of PACJA, and those who sent their representatives to the workshop, we wish to reiterate our promise to remain loyal to duty, and will continue to clasp our hands with them in all the things that are essential for the mutual progress of all.

PACJA has received overwhelming support from a wide array of allies, including governments African Group, Government of the Republic of Mali and African Group), inter-government agencies and international partners, who in one way or the other have added value to our work. The challenge of climate change cannot be defeated by a single individual, nor can it be defeated by a country or region. We need global collaboration, and that is why we sincerely value cooperation with all and sundry.

¹ The APRODEV - Association of World Council of Churches related Development organisations in Europe – brings together 17 faith-based Development Agencies, and work with PACJA in broader areas of climate change, justice and sustainable development

1. INTRODUCTION

The Pre-AMCEN African Civil society workshop, which also doubled up as the African regional preparatory meeting for UNEP Major Groups, was held on 9 – 11 September 2011, at Hotel Maselley, Bamako and brought together around 50 civil society participants from key regions and diverse backgrounds in Africa, including small farmers, trade unions, youth, women, indigenous peoples and faith-based networks, etc.

It was held strategically ahead of the AMCEN extra-ordinary meeting and was organised by PACJA in collaboration with UN Regional Office for Africa among other partners to discuss strategies aimed at strengthening civil society involvement in the international climate change dialogue processes and Rio+20 processes.

While the first two days were dedicated to discussions centering on COP17, day three was dedicated to regional major groups and stakeholders consultations in preparation for UNEP's 12th special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, to be held in February 2012. Consequently, the workshop was divided into two parts :

II. Part one which took the first two days looked into the details of UNFCCC-COP17, and had the following key objectives:

- To interrogate the African performance in the international climate change dialogue processes, and explore areas of improvement ahead of UNFCCC-COP17.
- To strategise on how the civil society could influence draft African position to that was endorsed by AMCEN, and which took place immediately after the workshop.
- To explore and deliberate on converging areas of lobbying, advocacy and mobilisation at international level among African civil society and government negotiators
- To identify and define the action agenda for different stakeholders – policy makers (parliamentarians), civil society, government negotiators, regional economic blocks and leaders to support global and national actions to enable communities adequately respond to climate change in ways that guarantee their livelihoods, in the period 2009 and after.
- To (possibly) finalise the African people's protocol on climate justice
- To validate policy briefs developed as lobby papers for PACJA for COP17 and beyond

II. Part two dealt with the African regional preparatory process and had the following objectives :

- To provide a platform for exchange and consultation among civil society on key environmental issues, in preparation for UNEP's 12th Special Session of the Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment Forum to be held from 20-22 February 2012

- To facilitate Major Groups' contribution to the GCSS.XII/GMEF and Rio+20 process.
- To analyse opportunities and strategic options to contribute to a successful Rio+20 process. This was done in view of the ambition that Rio+20 seeks to establish a new international cooperation order based on a more appropriate governance framework for sustainable development, and seeks to promote a transition to a green economy.
- To elect African representatives to the UNEP Global Major Groups

1.0 The opening ceremony, September 9, 2011



From left : Mrs. Ngenda (UNEP-ROA), Mrs. Damba (AFAD), Abdoulaye Berthe (Secretary general of the Ministry of Environment & Sanitation, Mali), Mithika Mwenda (PACJA) and Rev. Talbert Jallah (FECCIWA) during the opening ceremony

The facilitator, Rev. Dr. Talbert Jallah of the Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in West Africa (FECIWA) called the workshop to order and thanked the Guest of Honour, the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation Mr. Abdoulaye Berthe, who was representing AMCEN President and Deputy Prime Minister of Mali, HE Prof. Tiemoko Sangare. After self-introduction by participants, the facilitator introduced the speakers of the session, who included the President of AFAD Mrs. Maiga Damba, PACJA Coordinator Mithika Mwenda, UNEP-ROA programme Officer in charge of Partnership Gertrude Ngenda and Mr. Abdoulaye Berthe. He invited them to deliver their remarks.

1.1 Remarks by President of the host NGO - Association for Training and Support to Development (AFAD)

As the local organizer of the workshop, the AFAD President's role was to welcome the participants where she thanked the trust they had with her organization. She particularly thanked PACJA for the confidence it had renewed within AFAD through the reorganization of the forum. She recalled the context of the organization of the workshop in 2011 which was part of the continuation of the 2010 workshop whose objectives were the similar namely to allow African Civil Society to strengthen their understanding of climate change dialogue process in order to contribute to adopt a common position in the fight against climate change at the upcoming COP17 in Durban and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) that will be held in 2012 in Rio (Brazil).

1.2 Remarks by PACJA Coordinator

After thanking the participants for their availability and the NGO AFAD for the good organization of the workshop, recalled many initiatives carried out by PACJA, including the previous Bamako workshop 2010 promoting climate justice. He attribute the successes to unity and dedication among PACJA members, but lamented that despite all efforts, industrialized countries have failed to succumb to pressure to accept a climate change deal that is responsive to African countries and communities. He outlined PACJA work towards Durban and beyond, drawing their attention to the "Durban strategy" developed in South Africa in March 2011.

1.3 Remarks by the Director, UNEP Regional Office for Africa

The Director for UNEP Regional Office for Africa was represented by the Programme of in charge of Partnerships, Mrs. Getrude Ngenda, who welcomed all participants and thanked the local organizing committee for the successful organization of the workshop. She then reassured the audience of the commitment of UNEP to support the inclusion of the results of the workshop in the Bamako AMCEN and the UNEP's 12th Special Session of Governing Council / Global Ministerial Forum February 2012.

She reiterated UNEP's commitment to partnering with civil society, along other stakeholders, in driving environmental and climate change issues in sustainable development in Africa.

1.4 Keynote address from the office of Deputy Prime Minister, Ministry for Environment and Sanitation and AMCEN President

In his remarks, the Secretary General of Ministry of Environment and Sanitation Mr. Abbbdoulaye Berthe, who represented Deputy Prime Minister and AMCEN President Prof. Tiemoko Sangare thanked all the participants and welcomed them in Mali. He expressed his satisfaction and delight on the efforts of PACJA in the context of environmental protection and the fight against climate change and reassured the participants that the civil society views would be considered by AMCEN when drawing the common African position. After reiterating the AMCEN's President commitment to foster cordial working relationship between governments in Africa and civil society, he declared open the proceedings of the workshop and wished success to all.

2.0 Presentations

2.1 Context of COP17: the dynamics in international climate change dialogue processes, latest post-Cancun developments & possible scenarios in Durban and the main elements of the preliminary draft of the African position.

This presentation was made by Dr. Habtemariam Abate from Ethiopian Civil Society Network on Climate Change, who is also the a PACJA representative in Eastern and Horn of Africa. In his presentation, he focused on major negotiations made since the Cancun conference on the dynamics of climate change. He noted that the negotiations made through international meetings including those of Bangkok and Bonn addressed the substantive issues of climate change including reducing emissions of greenhouse gases to the minimum 1.5%, the issues of adaptation or mitigation of the effects of climate change, the possibilities and modalities of funding for adaptation measures to climate change (rapid funding in the medium and long term), etc.



After lengthy discussions on the “inside” and “outside” of the various international meetings, he came to the conclusion that for the moment the negotiations have failed to link word into action. In other words the major countries of the North not only drag the step in implementing the Kyoto Protocol but also are doing everything to kill it in Durban, South Africa.

The refusal by developed countries to reduce their percentage of greenhouse gas emissions, the large percentage given to the funding of the

effects of mitigation of climate change at the expense of adaptation, septic pledges on funding and slowness in the release of allocated funds, the availability to underdeveloped countries of the funds as loans instead of grants, are all indicators that justify their bad faith in the fight against the effects of climate change.

He concluded his presentation with worrying images of climate-inspired droughts in Eastern and horn of Africa, and cautioned that if the global community do not take drastic action, poor communities in Africa will continue suffering.

2.2 Is there hope in the COP17? African civil society perspectives on international climate change dialogue process.

This presentation was made by Augustine Njamnshi of the Working Group on Climate Change in Cameroon and the representative of PACJA in Central Africa. It had the following key highlights:

- The responsibility of developed countries in climate change and their refusal to accept responsibility,
- The relevance of the Rio Convention and the Kyoto Protocol on climate change,
- The many delaying tactics deployed by the polluters developed countries to undermine the Kyoto Protocol.



He noted that the bad faith demonstrated by a section of developed countries should not be allowed to dent the spirit of African countries suffering from the effects of climate change to lose hope in agitating for a climate deal that is backed by science. The unity around a common goal, the pursuit of sustainable development through environmental protection should be the guiding principle of African countries, he noted.

2.3 From Financial pledges / commitments to financial mobilization; shifting of goalposts in addressing pressing adaptation needs for Africa's nature dependent economies.

This presentation was made by George Awudi, Friends of the Earth Ghana, who is also the PACJA representative in West Africa. On highlighting the funding of climate change, the responsibility of developed countries, the financing needs of African countries (estimated at 30 billion U.S. dollar), he came to the conclusion that lot of things need to be done to force developed countries to honor their commitment.

In fact, of the 30 billion needed to repair the damage, only U.S. dollars 27.5 billion commitment has been made by developed countries of which 12 billion were allocated. This allocated small amount is a proof of bad faith in developed countries who promise more than they offer.

He noted that the few funds obtained are subjected to conditions such as: the direct debit of funds from the World Bank who gives as loans in order to better control their use, the percentage given to mitigation to the detriment of adaptation.

These conditions are far from suiting African countries. As an example he cited the inappropriate role of the World Bank in the management of the funds for green climate fund because it funds activities that destroy the environment. He wondered what would be the role of the civil society in the development of framework of the Green Climate Fund.

2.4 Open session: questions and comments

After summarizing the presentations, the facilitator called upon the participants to seek clarifications or make comments after which several participants took turns to make contributions, comments or ask questions for clarification:

- African countries were asked to go to Durban with a concrete position.
- African countries must make binding decisions vis-à-vis developed countries

- Africans should identify unclear points of international negotiations and ask for clarifications
- Developed countries should commit to deep emission reductions in Durban
- Developed countries are about to implement the strategy to divide and in order to better rule by persuading some African countries to accept mitigation loans from the effects of climate change.
- Developed countries do not want to reduce their gas emissions and should be forced.

The main questions addressed the following issues:

- What can we do so that people suffering from the effects of climate change can attain decent livelihoods?
- Where is the second commitment period under the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol?
- Should we reject the Copenhagen Accord and Cancun Agreement?
- Is there a draft of African declaration?
- What are the main points of disagreement between African civil society and African negotiators?

3.0 Regional/ country and sector-based reports

This session was meant to share information about activities taking place in various countries, regions and sectors represented in the workshop.



Noah Zimba from Zambia Network on Climate Change, the Rev. Dr. Robert Mensa (Faith-based networks), John Kioli from Kenya Climate Change Working Group and Josephine Kamel from PACJA Women caucus made brief presentations from their constituencies.

Noah Zimba gave the progress of the *Trans African caravan of hope* that PACJA was organizing in preparation for the Durban Summit (COP 17). He explained the objectives of the caravan, its itinerary, the participants, the implementation strategy, the level of funding research and the efforts of the organizing committees of the caravan.

He noted that the caravan would start on November 18th and will reach Durban on 21 with a unique, common message to all Africans: the developed countries are responsible and they should compensate for the loss of opportunity in Africa.

Rev. Mensa informed the participants about the efforts being spearheaded by faith-based networks in Africa, and particularly “we have faith campaign” mobilizing churches and other religions in Africa and elsewhere in the world. The goal of these initiatives is to inform utilize

the massive following of religious organization in Africa to create awareness and advocate for climate justice.

John Kioli from Kenya Climate Change Working Group on his turn informed the participants of the Parliamentarians' summit in Kenyan that would bring together parliamentarians across the continent as key stakeholders in climate change policy advocacy.

Mrs. Josephine Kamel, the African Women Policy Analysis Network, who is also the head of PACJA Women Caucus highlighted the strides women were making in ensuring climate change dialogue processes integrated gender issues, and welcomed participants to join the effort.

At the end of the presentation on countries activities and activities by sector-based networks, a session of questions and comments was opened by the facilitator, allowing participants to react on the various interventions. Among the many reactions (all interesting), were as follows:

- Has an assessment on Africa been made?
- What are the sources of the figures on the financing of climate change?
- How do communities affected access the funds?
- What mitigation options should be taken by African countries
- Details on the decision-making opportunities for funds on green climate fund
- Should mining producers be forced to pay for green climate fund?
- What strategy should be adopted by the civil society to reverse the quota of 63% for mitigation and 20% for adaptation?
- How and under what conditions should PACJA members who are not in southern Africa participate in the caravan?

4.0 Group work

Theme 1: What are the key ethical and equity demands Africa should continue pushing for ahead of COP17 and beyond?

Theme 2: AMCEN was mandated by Heads of States and Governments during Malabo AU Summit to draft a common Africa position and priority in the Bamako Special COP17 meeting starting on 12th, what are key issues which African civil society should deliver during the African high-level Panel on climate change when called to do so?

To address the issues, two groups (one French and one English) were established. Each group was asked to deliberate and deliver the answers during the plenary the next day.

The second day started at 9 am by the presentation of the summary. This was followed by some remarks (additions, corrections) of the participants whose summary was made by the facilitator of the day. Then the report was adopted by the workshop. The group work was presented first by the French group and then the English group. After discussions (questions for clarification, comments and contributions) on the various proposals, a summary was made before it was approved by the workshop.

Thereafter, several participants from various backgrounds took turns to inform the workshop on what they had done and are doing in their countries as part of the advocacy on climate change:

- Rev. Dr. Robert Mensa (Religious groups on the key messages of the roadmap on climate change)
- Emanuel Seck (climate and Network Development - West and North Africa)
- Ann Maina (Africa Biodiversity Network)
- Said Chakri (about the experience of Morocco and the entire North Africa)
- Zenabou Segda (experience of ECOWAS in contributing on funding sources)
- Robert Bakiika (Representative of Uganda who presented the experiences of his country in research funding.)

5.0 Agriculture in climate negotiations: the twists and turns - the rising prominence of agriculture in climate change discussions - potential threats and opportunities for small farmers.

This presentation was made by Robert Chimambo (Zambia Network on Climate Change), Ann Maina (Africa Biodiversity Network) and Samuel Braimah (Action Aid). Each, in his / her case, clearly developed key elements of the content of the theme he or she was presenting.

A detailed report on soil carbon and its danger in climate negotiations was done by Action Aid. It is after the presentation that the participants agreed to oppose any inclusion of agriculture in negotiations, and in case it is included, adaptation should be prioritized in place of mitigation.

6.0 Assessment of Accra strategic actions and next steps.

The Accra strategic actions were developed in 2010 immediately after the controversial Copenhagen Climate Change Conference. Among the objectives were to strengthen networking among African Civil Society, including establishing national platforms and building capacity for sector-based networks on climate change.

This session, thus, was to review the progress and determine whether PACJA was clearly realizing the objectives of Accra with a view of charting the way forward. The session looked at:

- Activities carried out by PACJA
- Attained results
- The constraints and challenges
- The future actions in Africa and globally.

The Coordinator, who was making the presentation, noted that the coalition had made many strides but had experienced many challenges. Participants asked the following questions:

- How could PACJA achieve its objectives of mobilizing Africa for better outcome in Cop17 and Rio+20?
- What efforts were being made to broaden PACJA ownership and how could democracy be promoted internally and externally?
- What strategies and initiatives are being put in place at national and regional levels to consolidate the Alliance?
- How would the caravan ensure participation for CSOs not within Southern and Eastern Africa?

After discussions, it was agreed that PACJA was still in the process of growth and all should contribute in their own for the realization of the founding objectives. With regard to the caravan, participants were informed that in addition to activities carried out in Eastern and Southern Africa, solidarity actions would be undertaken in the rest of Africa, particularly during the PACJA Week of Action 20 – 26 November 2011. In addition, journalists from these regions would be supported in the caravan to relay messages and information to the public.

7.0 African Regional Major Groups and Stakeholders Consultative Meeting in Preparations for UNEP's 12th Special Session of the Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment Forum.

7.1 Introduction

The facilitator, Nelson Muffuh from UN Millennium Campaign for Africa, welcomed participants to the meeting and underscored the importance of UNEP in Environmental protection and conservation. He thanked the UNEP Regional Office for Africa for their willingness to work with the Civil society, and reiterated that it is such partnership that will strengthen Africa's voice global multilateral environmental agreement negotiations, such as UNFCCC, the Biodiversity Convention and the Convention on Desertification.

He singled out Ms. Gertrude Ngenda, Ms. Ndoye and David Ombisi, who were present during the session and thanked them for their dedication. Thereafter, he invited Ms. Gertrude Ngenda to make a presentation on the work of UNEP whose key highlights were:

- The objectives and tasks of UNEP
- UNEP's organizational structure
- The activities undertaken and in progress in the protection of the environment
- Working with partners
- The constraints / challenges addressed
- The roles of major groups in sustainable development.

Her presentation was followed by PACJA Coordinator's outline of procedures of the meeting in accordance with rules laid followed by the announcement of organizational measures by Mitika. These included:

- The election of officers (chairman, vice president and Rapporteur)
- Organization of work /adoption of the agenda.

Nelson Muffuh was confirmed as the Chair while Hindou Oumarou (Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee, Chad) was elected the Vice-Chair. Noah Zimba (Zambia Network on Climate Change) was elected the Rapporteur.

The Chair set the stage for discussions:

- The organization of UNEP's work: Adoption of the agenda
- The UNCCD since 1992
- The key objectives of Rio+20 and the expected outcomes
- The work of UNEP in Rio+20
- The preparatory process (national and regional)

- The schedule of activities
- The role of the participation of the African Group and African Governments
- What role can African Civil Society play in accelerating the process?

The Chair noted that already many countries are spearheading preparatory processes for Rio+20 and the civil society could take advantage to influence the process at national levels. He singled out Cameroon and Zambia which he said the civil society were already playing robust role in influencing the governments agenda. The COP17 in Durban, he noted, should be seen as build-up processes towards Rio, and pointed out activities done by Senegalese civil society to link Durban and Rio. Since climate change will be one of the key issues in Rio, he advised participants to look beyond Durban COP17 as a way of building the African case for future environmental governance.

7.2 The Presentation by Gertrude Ngenda on International Environmental Governance (IEG)

The key highlights of the presentation were:

- Based on the Nairobi-Helsinki outcome of the consultative group on IEG, what are the main building blocks for a reformed IEG system?
- What institutional structure should be set up for IEG in the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development
- What should be the role of major groups and stakeholders in a reformed IEG system?
- What concrete mechanisms could be set up to ensure that major groups and stakeholders can play their role?
- What strategy should be adopted to achieve the establishment of this mechanism?

After discussions, a number of questions were asked to the presenter namely:

- What is the role of climate change in the EU program?
- Are there mechanisms to track climate change adaptation financing in Africa?
- What constitutes environmental crimes?
- Is the international governance an approach or a mechanism?
- How can international community enforcing international environmental governance?

7.3 The second presentation: green economy in the context of poverty eradication

Gertrude went ahead to make this presentation whose issues of discussion were:

- What strategy can be suggested to address the need to reduce poverty, increase equity and address environmental issues (at international and national levels)?
- What can Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum contribute to ensure that poverty eradication plays a central role in a transition to a green economy?

- What areas could MGS focus on in the debate on green economy and poverty eradication?
- What are the main messages of Rio +20 that link economic growth, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability?

The main questions and comments on the presentation were as follows :

- How can participation of women in the green economy be enhanced?
- More clarification on the African Ecological Mechanism
- What guarantees do we have that the green economy agenda is not another false hope?
- We should have African solutions to African problems and not expect anybody to solve African problems.
- There is not clarity of green economy particularly in African context
- There is need for more information and capacity building for Africa to really understand what Green Economy means for the continent.
- Have corporate taken the place of OSC?
- African civil society must be vigilant in relation to different concepts: RED, REDD, CDM, etc through information sharing and communication.

7.4 Preparation for GCSS XII / GMEF and election of representatives

The session was chaired by Gertrude Ngenda supported by her colleague, Fatou Ndoye.

It focused on:

- Discussion on meeting outcomes and consolidation of key messages (regional statement) to the GMGSF-13 and GSSXII/FMME
- Other inputs to GMGSF

During this sessions, participants had an opportunity to elect two representatives to the GMGSF-13 GCSSXII/ GMEF which was presided over by the Chair, Nelson Muffuh. As with any other elections, there were light moments and moments of disagreements and questions about the procedure. After all clarifications were done, participants were asked to make nominations and the following were proposed:

1. Augustine Njamnshi – Cameroon
2. Nafisatu – Ghana
3. Zenabou Segda – Burkina Faso

In addition to gender consideration, language diversity was considered important for representation. Augustine Njamnshi was unanimously elected during the first phase of the secret ballot, where while the other two, Nafisatu and Zenabou tied at 19 votes each. After the second voting exercise, Zenabou Segda emerged the winner. Thus, the following were confirmed as African representatives:

1. Augustine Namnshi
2. Zenabou Segda

7.5 The closing ceremony

The closing session included the following:

- Presentation and adoption of the African civil society statement
- Closing remark by the Chair of the meeting
- Closing remarks by the Regional Director of UNEP / ROA.

Augustine Njamnshi presented the draft statement, which was unanimously adopted by the participants.

Thus began the closing speech delivered by the first, the chairman of the meeting and then by the Regional Director of UNEP. The Chair thanked participants for their contributions and invited the representative of UNEP / ROA, Mrs. Gertrude ngenda, declared the Pre-AMCEN African Civil Society Climate Change Workshop and Regional Major Group and Stakeholders Consultative Meeting in Preparations for UNEP's 12th Special Session of the Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment Forum closed.