

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY AMBASSADOR NOZIPHO MXAKATO-DISEKO FROM SOUTH AFRICA, AT THE OPENING PLENARY OF 43RD SESSION OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION (SBI43), PARIS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (Paris, France, 1 December 2015)

Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished representatives, Ladies and gentlemen,

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The Group wishes to express its full support towards a successful outcome to these negotiations.

2. The Group of G77 and China believes that it is critical that the work under the subsidiary bodies continue to be accelerated in the period before the new agreement comes into force in 2020 and beyond. The work of the subsidiary bodies, in particular the SBI, assist all Parties to enhance the implementation of their commitments under both the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and of great importance to the Group.

3. The G77 welcomes the report of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts. The work of the WIM on loss and damage under this Convention is of critical important to the Group, and we take note of the of the adjustments relating to the terms of office of the members and Co-Chairs of the Executive Committee. In line with urgency of this matter, the G77 also notes the need for resources for the successful and timely implementation of the initial two-year workplan of the Executive Committee and we urge developed country Parties to to make available resources in view of the ambitious nature of the workplan.

Mr. Chair,

4. Adaptation is an important and urgent priority for the Group of 77 and China. We therefore call for the urgent and immediate implementation of the NAPs process, but are particularly concerned about the lack of adequate funding for this process. In order to facilitate access to funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement the NAPs, including simplifying the procedures for accessing finance and technical support, it is important that the work of the Adaptation Committee and the LEG, in collaboration with GCF, address how best to support developing country Parties. In this regard, we look forward to engage constructively on this item and to recommend a draft decision for adoption by the COP.

5. The G77 welcomes the Report of the Adaptation Committee and the effort to make balanced progress in all its work areas. We take note of the future workplan of the Adaptation Committee, and look forward to discussing it in the Contact Group. The Group also welcomes the work completed related to means of implementation for adaptation and hopes that its outcome translates into something that can expedite support for developing countries. We are prepared to engage with partners in reviewing the recommendations to the COP contained in the report.

6. We would like to underline the essential need to consider strengthened activities under LDC Work Programme including the continuity of the LDC Expert Group with an expanded mandate, and the urgent replenishment of LDC Fund to implement the long pending projects identified in NAPAs.

7. The Group of 77 and China believes that the SBI should be more engaged on the issue of technology transfer so that the Technology Mechanism could enhance action on technology development and transfer. It is extremely important for the Technology Executive Committee as well as the Climate Technology Centre and Network to work under the guidance of the COP through the subsidiary bodies, including the implementation of Pozna? strategic programme. We look forward to the tangible transfer of technologies to developing countries to address climate change.

8. As developing countries, capacity-building is of great importance to us as a key component of the means of implementation and is a necessity for the implementation of the Convention. In our view, the current capacity-building work undertaken in all fields should be coordinated within an international institutional arrangement which can bring equity and transparency to this process. We reiterate our call for the establishment of an effective international mechanism on capacity-building. Such a mechanism is essential for developing country Parties to participate fully in addressing the challenges of climate change, and to effectively implement their commitments under the Convention. It is for this reason that we are committed to working with our partners to ensure that the Third Comprehensive Review of the implementation of the Capacity-Building Framework is initiated with the urgency it deserves.

9. Regarding the Multilateral Assessment Working Group Session, the G77 and China calls for interactive discussions among Parties during this session. It is our firm belief that these discussions are crucial for building trust and to move the process forward. We look forward to the completion of the Working Group Session in a timely manner so that the SBI can consider its conclusions.

10. On National Communications from Annex I Parties, it is the view of the Group that it is imperative that Annex I Parties submit their inventories using the revised reporting guidelines. The compilation and synthesis of the Sixth National Communications and First Biennial Reports from Annex I Parties to the Convention is critical to ensure that Annex I Parties meet their reporting obligations under the Convention.

11. The G77 and China is concerned that the Revision of the Guidelines for the preparation of National Communications by Annex I was not concluded in Lima, thereby delaying the reporting by Annex I Parties. It is thus our view that the conclusion of this item here in Paris is of critical so as to ensure that Annex I Parties meet their reporting obligations under the Convention.

12. The Group appreciates the work of the Structured Expert Dialogue (SED) that is considered under the 2013-2015 review of the adequacy of the long term global goal. The Group expects that a thorough consideration will be made of the report in order for COP21 to take forward the work of the SED, as well as on linkages with work under the ADP. This work is important as it relates to ambition as well as requisite support, particularly to developing countries towards the realisation of the ultimate objective of the Convention.

13. On Response Measures, the G77 and China reaffirms the importance of giving full consideration to what actions are necessary to meet the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties arising from the impact of the implementation of response measures, in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention. In this regard, we look forward to engaging constructively on the text of the draft decision forwarded from the 42nd session of the SBs in order to adopt a decision at COP21. The G77 and China position remains firm that the negative economic and social consequences of response measures taken by developed country Parties on developing country Parties must be avoided and minimised. Policy issues, such as unilateral measures, must also be addressed.

Mr. Chair,

14. The UNFCCC is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for addressing the global response to climate change, and as such we are particularly interested in seeing to it that the UNFCCC, as administered by the secretariat, serves the interests of all Parties in a balanced manner. In line with this, we will actively participate on the agenda items related to governance including in the discussions on the arrangements on intergovernmental meetings and on administrative, financial and institutional matters, as we look to the next biennium budget for 2016-2017. It is important that the functions and operations of the secretariat are supported in an adequate and balanced manner in order for it to play its role in support of the Parties, equally in the areas of adaptation and mitigation.

15. In conclusion, the Group wants to assure you that it will participate constructively and efficiently in all the mandated events at this session.

I thank you.				G-7
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