

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE G77 AND CHINA BY AMBASSADOR NOZIPHO MXAKATO-DISEKO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL, MULTILATERAL BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, AT THE OPENING PLENARY OF THE 9TH PART OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE DURBAN PLATFORM FOR ENHANCED ACTION (ADP2-9) (Bonn, Germany, 1 June 2015)

Co-Chairs,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. Before I make our statement, I would like to express the Group's condolences to the people of Nepal, India, China and Bangladesh for the devastation and tragic loss of life they suffered recently subsequent to the earthquake of 25 April. This and other disasters, many of which are climate related, are sobering reminders to us all of the vulnerability of mankind to natural disasters.

Co-Chairs,

My Group wishes to express its full support to the Co-Chairs as they guide us to a successful outcome to these negotiations. We also thank the Co-Chairs for their scenario note and recognise the secretariat's work in identifying overlaps and duplications in the Geneva text. We also hope that we can find the time and space during this session in Bonn to address important cross-cutting issues, such as structure, legal form and differentiation, which we believe will catalyse progress in the negotiations.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of openness, inclusiveness and transparency in this process.

Co-Chairs,

Climate change is already having serious impacts in developing countries. Despite the fact that we have not chosen this reality, developing countries are committed to address the challenge of climate change. In fact, we have proved that we already do more than what was already envisaged by the Convention. For many years we have been taking ambitious action on all fronts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, without adequate and predictable means of implementation. Indicative of developing countries' commitment is the hard work currently underway to prepare INDCs in order to submit these well in advance of Paris. Developing countries are embarking on the INDC process, despite the fact that developed countries are not putting forward intended commitments with respect to the provision of finance, technology and capacity-building. In this regard, the commitment of developing countries to address climate change is of great significance, particularly since developed countries have not honoured their existing obligations under the Convention: neither as far as the actions required from them, nor as far as the provision of the necessary means of implementation to developing countries.

Also indicative of developing countries' commitment to this process is the fact that the Doha Amendment has so far been accepted by 29 developing countries and only 3 developed countries. Recognition by developed countries of the contributions already made by developing countries is critically important and can help to unlock difficult issues in the negotiations.

It is in this context that the G77 and China are here in Bonn to call on developed countries to demonstrate their commitment to addressing climate change by agreeing to the following:

Honouring existing commitments under the Convention and Kyoto Protocol

- Developed countries need to honour their existing commitments. This means respecting the principles and provisions of the Convention, including the principle of CBDR&RC and equity, which have been reaffirmed in Lima, as well as advancing important implementation issues under the subsidiary bodies.

ADP: pre-2020 ambition

- With regard to the work of the ADP in particular, the Group of 77 and China regards Workstream II on pre-2020 ambition as an integral part of the ADP that has direct bearing on the successful adoption of the 2015 agreement. Workstream II is essentially about accelerating the implementation of existing commitments and ways to promote enhanced ambition and will be critical for an agreement in Paris.
- This includes honouring their commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, including the acceptance of the Doha Amendment, as well as substantially increasing their ambition for the second commitment period and their Copenhagen/Cancun pledges.
- It also includes developed countries' commitment to mobilise US\$100 billion in climate finance by 2020, a clear pathway to achieve this and pledges made to the Green Climate Fund.

Post-2020 Regime

- With regard to the Paris agreement, the G77 and China call for a comprehensive and equitable outcome dealing with all the agreed element, inter alia mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and transparency of action and support in a balanced manner.
- To achieve this, we need the commitment of our partners to work towards a multilaterally agreed outcome in Paris that is inclusive and rules-based, applicable to all Parties under the Convention and based on its principles and provisions.
- There can be no backsliding from existing commitments. There should also be no attempts to redefine the regime, including by using processes outside the Convention to shift the goal posts. Any attempts to redefine, rewrite, renegotiate or reinterpret the Convention and its principles and provisions that would result in a watering down or weakening of the Convention will not be acceptable.
- The Group also wishes to reiterate the crucial importance of appropriately, effectively and meaningfully addressing adaptation, finance and the need to secure progress in addressing the issues of loss and damage in the 2015 agreement. Other issues such as the adverse impacts of response measures and anchoring specific implementation mechanisms and frameworks in the 2015 agreement should be addressed.

Co-Chairs,

The Group of 77 and China, realising the gravity of the situation already facing them, are committed to ensure that developing countries are protected against the risks of a changing climate, while being enabled to contribute their fair effort to global action. Although the Group of 77 and China is large and diverse group of Parties, there are critical and fundamental issues that unite us. If these issues are not accommodated, there can be no agreement in Paris. The unity of this Group is to the benefit of everyone. A divided G77 is in no one's interest.

Thank you.

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