



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY
AMBASSADOR NOZIPHO MXAKATO-DISEKO AT THE MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (COP21), PARIS CLIMATE CHANGE
CONFERENCE, 5 DECEMBER 2015 (Paris, France, 5 December 2015)**

President,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. Once again, the Group wishes to reiterate its support to the COP President and our readiness to engage constructively with all Parties to reach a successful outcome here in Paris.
3. The ADP has now concluded its work with a text that is Party-owned and that is now the basis of further negotiations. The Group wishes to point out that, following the invitation made in the ADP closing plenary to submit any comments and proposals on elements that were missing from the draft text, members of the G77 and China submitted such proposals. However, not all of these are reflected in the Rev.1 document. We would, therefore appreciate it if these proposals could be included in the reflections note and released as a Rev.2 text with those comments and proposals included.
4. We now enter the next and final phase of our work under the guidance of the COP Presidency. The G77 and China is ready to engage.
5. The Group wishes to stress the importance of clarity and predictability of the process. During this new phase, we thank you for your proposal on how we will be moving forward.
6. The process, therefore, should be clear and transparent, inclusive and Party-driven. The format you suggested is similar to the one followed in Durban, which proved to be a useful format that will enable us to have the much needed and urgent discussion on cross-cutting issues that we have been calling for. These cross-cutting and highly political issues will need Ministerial discussion. We also need a central place where there can be an overview of progress made across all areas.
7. We remain open to the Presidency's suggestions how we can use different modalities for different issues. However, we note that the utilisation of facilitation, spin-off and informal informal groups, although with varying degrees of effectiveness, proved to be useful tools for the development of text and we should use such tools.
8. Ministers must engage on political issues. Their role should be to make the necessary policy decisions. On the basis of these discussions, they should instruct their negotiators to develop text reflecting their instructions.
9. As Ministers start working, we must ensure that there are no parallel processes. There cannot be a situation where negotiators and Ministers are working on the same issues at the same time in parallel. The management of this process is, therefore, important. We welcome your proposal of using individual Ministers as facilitators to resolve difficult issues.

President,

10. At this historic moment, where all Parties will take a significant step forward in the fight against climate change, we must remain focused on what we agreed in Durban. The Group of 77 and China wishes to re-emphasise its position that the Paris outcome must be under the Convention and in full accordance with its principles and provisions, in particular the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. The purpose of the Paris outcome is to enhance the implementation of the Convention and must not replace, rewrite or reinterpret the Convention and it must also be fully in accordance with the Durban mandate. The core elements mandated by the Durban decision (mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and transparency of action and support), as well as loss and damage and response measures must be addressed in a comprehensive and balanced manner, both in the agreement and in the COP decisions. Adaptation and mitigation must receive the same priority. These must be supported by finance, technology development and transfer and capacity-building by developed country Parties on a scale that matches the level of action required to achieve the objective of the Convention as set out in Article 2 of the Convention. In this regard, we urge developed country Parties to take the lead through undertaking ambitious emission reduction commitments and providing enhanced finance, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support to developing country Parties for their ambitious mitigation and adaptation actions. We also wish to reiterate our position that a fair and ambitious outcome of our work here in Paris must address both pre-2020 ambition of actions and support, as well as the post-2020 agreement. We are ready to negotiate and work as fast as possible on the basis of the text produced by the ADP.

Finally, President,

11. The Group wishes to express its support to you in guiding us to a successful conclusion of this conference and we assure you of our commitment to play a positive and constructive role.

I thank you.