



REFLECTION ON UNEA 2 OUTCOMES AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION THROUGH A MULTI STAKEHOLDER APPROACH: POST UNEA 2 WORKSHOP FOR EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

20-21 September 2016 UNON Complex CR3

DRAFT PROPOSAL

BACKGROUND

The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), which represents the highest level of environmental decision making worldwide, held its second session (UNEA-2) on 23-27th May 2016. The Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, which is a preparatory forum for Civil Society, preceded UNEA-2. By the end of UNEA-2, Member States adopted 25 resolutions. This shows great effort, considerable progress and commitment to delivering on the environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda, which is an action plan for 'people, planet and prosperity' aims to achieve 17 Goals, dubbed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with further 126 targets within 15 years. SDG 13 calls upon all stakeholders to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

In 2015, the Paris Climate Conference achieved a universal, legally binding agreement on climate change during the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) and the eleventh meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP11). In Paris, Member States agreed to reduce emissions below 2 °C to reduce greenhouse gas, well below pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.

Sceptics are questioning the ambition and enforceability of the Paris Agreement. At least 55 Parties that produce over 55 per cent of the world's greenhouse still need to ratify the Agreement, before it can come into force. Currently, only 17 parties accounting for 1.14 per cent of total emissions have ratified the agreement. Setting emission reduction target is voluntary in the Agreement, without any binding enforcement and penalty mechanism. A number of developing countries have issued their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). Some stakeholders have raised concerns on the INDCs and their implications on the development of the global South. The Paris Climate Agreement received mixed reactions; for the host, it was a *historic turning point with ambitious and balanced plan*¹ while some termed the Paris talks as a *fraud*² with empty promises and no firm commitments.

In promoting the implementation of the Paris Agreement, it is important to understand the roles played by all stakeholders in reaching this goal as well as evaluating the implications of such agreements, particularly the submitted Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDCs) on developing countries.

After the adoption of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Paris, UNEA-2 brought together almost all UN Member States, mostly at ministerial level as well as international organisations. Participants of UNEA-2 also included representatives of civil society, the private sector and scientific experts who set and deliberated the environmental agenda for the United Nations. Out of the 25 resolutions adopted during UNEA-2, one is of specific importance in the context of climate change: UNEP/EA.2/L.7, focussing on promoting the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Although the phenomenon of climate change is global, its impacts are varied and mainly detrimental to the largely tropical arid and semi-arid areas as in sub-Sahara Africa that is most vulnerable, with negative developmental consequences for the continent and its people. This is because about 70% of the people of Africa live in rural areas and mostly

¹ Reuters quoting French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius (December 12, 2015). *With landmark climate accord, world marks turn from fossil fuels.*

² The Guardian (December 12, 2015). *James Hansen, father of climate change awareness, calls Paris talks 'a fraud'.*

depend largely on agriculture and natural resource based activities for their livelihoods. These livelihood options are dependent on climate-sensitive factors making the people vulnerable. Already, population increase is putting pressures on food production and climate change adds further stress because food production is highly dependent on the environment. Therefore, for Africa that is more dependent on climate-sensitive resources, change in climate is the occurrence that negatively affects its natural ecological systems to retard capacity for human development and food security. Adequate food production on the continent will ensure enhanced livelihood and nutrition security to achieve sustainable development and general welfare of the people. Climate change is thus a development issue and not only an environmental concern for Africa.³

Wildlife both animal and plants is part of the ecosystem and plays a major role in impacting climate change in terms of water, environmental habitat, land and its resources, animals and humans. All these factors individually play a key role in nature and interfering with their symbiotic relationship with each other affects both climate and the environment. Wildlife contributes to seed dispersal, cross-pollination, land enrichment and regeneration, and taking out wildlife through illegal trade in wildlife, flora and fauna therefore impacts climate change. Further, climate change and global warming directly affect wildlife in both their distribution and behaviour, leading to dwindling numbers and poor health.

Regarding climate change in general, Africa's emissions are negligible, yet it is the most vulnerable to climate change due to various factors, including low socio-economic development. The Paris Agreement requires countries to take action against climate change (Articles 3). To achieve implementation effectively, action should be premised on simultaneously actualizing socio-economic development priorities of food security, job creation and economic growth while ensuring Africa also meets its climate objectives under the agreement, as captured in respective country INDCs. This will ensure actions are representative of regional and national priorities and hence country-driven, thus ensuring their sustainability.

³ <http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/ghana/10518.pdf>

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop will serve as a debriefing session on the UNEA-2 resolutions and the Paris Climate Agreement. It will also link the outcomes of these two conferences to the SDGs in the African context. The workshop will provide participants with the opportunity to reflect on the role of non-governmental stakeholders in implementing these agreements, as well as on the implications of this commitment to developing countries in Africa.

The workshop will also assess the impact of climate change on Africa and explore solutions to mitigate effects of climate change, in particular regarding food security in Africa.

Against this backdrop the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Kenya in collaboration with the Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) Nairobi, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) and Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) shall organise a two-day regional workshop on **20-21 September 2016** to reflect on the UNEA-2 resolutions with a focus on climate change as well as the Paris agreement outcomes, while emphasising on the action points from these processes.

During this regional workshop, participants will specifically focus on the nexus between climate change and food security, illegal wildlife trade and deliberate on the implications of these for Africa, together with the necessary policy action required to harness Africa's potential to adapt to climate change.

The participants will also identify which partnerships need to be forged and what policy and legal frameworks are necessary to combat climate change and achieve food security in Africa will be addressed.

MAIN AREAS OF FOCUS

- Role of partnerships in implementing UNEA resolutions, the Paris Agreement, SDGs and Agenda 2030 focusing on climate change and food security.
- Solution based analysis of the Paris Climate change agreement in particular Ecosystem Based Adaptation approach to ensuring food security.
- An action plan to implement UNEA resolutions and the Paris Agreement in East and Southern Africa.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The two-day meeting is expected to be attended by a wide range of stakeholders from East and Southern Africa including : Government representatives, Civil society representatives, private sector, United Nations Organisations, Media, members of the judiciary, and other stakeholders with an interest in climate change ,food security as well as other areas relating to environmental conservation and governance.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES & OUTPUTS

- The conference outcome is to forge strong networks and partnerships to enable the proper implementation of the UNEA 2 resolutions, Paris Agreement and Sustainable development goals in Africa.
- Action points to combat climate change and achieve food security in Africa.
- Influence policy decisions in the region and promote the mainstreaming of climate change mitigations and adaptation measure across the various sectors in the African region.

In this regard, the following outputs are expected:

- Meeting Report, including relevant policy issues and action points to combat climate change and achieve food security in Africa.

PARTNERS

UNEP will collaborate with the following partners to meet the objectives of this workshop:

1. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Kenya
2. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) Kenya
3. Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) Kenya



Date: September 20-21, 2016

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Workshop Programme

Chair: Alexander Juras, UNEP

20.09.2016

Time	Item	Venue	Responsibility
9:00-10:00	Arrival and Registration	Visitors Pavilion	FES UNEP, UNON DCS
10:00-10:30	TEA BREAK	Outside CR3	Safari Park, Kabawa Ng'ang'a
10:30-11:00	Opening and Introduction Welcome Remarks	CR3	Jorge Laguna-Celis , Secretary of Governing Bodies and stakeolders- UNEP Heinz Bongartz, Director, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) Kenya
Session I UNEA-2 Outcomes			
11:00-12:00	Introduction: Summary of UNEA-2 and its Outcomes	CR3	Jorge Laguna-Celis , Secretary of Governing Bodies and stakeolders- UNEP
12:00-13:00	Summary presentation of relevant Action points from each UNEA-2 Resolution	CR3	UNEP Division Focal points TBD
13:00-14:00	LUNCH BREAK AND INFOMAL NETWORKING		
Session II UNEA-2 Outcomes			
14:00-15:00	<i>Cont'd</i> Summary presentation of relevant Action points from each UNEA-2 Resolution	CR3	UNEP Division Focal points TBD

15:00-16:15	<p>Role of stakeholders in the implementation of the UNEA-2 outcomes from the action points</p> <p>Group Work Participants form discussion groups to discuss their roles and how to implement the UNEA-2 action points in their work, challenges and opportunities</p>	CR3	<p>Facilitator: Ken Mwathe, Birdlife International</p> <p>Discussion groups focal points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNEP resource persons to be available for guidance and support - Meeting organisers to sit in various discussion groups
16:15-17:00	<p>Plenary: Participants report back from their discussions and on areas on cooperation as identified</p>	CR3	Moderator: Ken Mwathe, Birdlife International
17:00	Tea & Departure	In parallel presentation on Accreditation to UNEP- CR3- Lucy Mungai UNEP	

Chair: James Donovan- CEO, ADEC Innovations

21.09.2016

Time	Item	Venue	Responsibility
Session III			
Climate Change/Agriculture Food Security/Trade			
9:00-9:30	Opening remarks and setting the agenda for day 2	CR3	<p>-Arne Wulf- KAS</p> <p>- Hon. Justice (Prof.) Otieno-Odek- Justice of the Court of Appeal Kenya & Director, Judiciary Training Institute</p>
9:30-10:00	Presentation on Summary of Paris Agreement and Salient features for Africa, and effects of Climate Change in Africa	CR3	Richard Munang, UNEP
10:00-10:30	The nexus of Climate Change , Food Security and Trade : Case of East Africa		Daniel Asher, Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) Kenya
10:30-11:00	TEA BREAK		

Session IV Climate Change/ Wildlife & Illegal Trade In Wildlife			
11:00-12:00	Panel discussion on Impact of climate change on Wildlife and Illegal Trade in wildlife	CR3	<p>Panel Moderator: Prof. Oguge Nicholas Otienoh- Lecturer University of Nairobi.</p> <p>Panellists: Kitili Mbathi – The Director General; Kenya Wildlife Service</p> <p>Rodah Ogoma – Senior Asst. Director – Officer of the Director of Public Prosecutions</p> <p>Kahindi Lekalhaile – Director; Public Affairs; Africa Network for Animal Welfare & University Lecturer</p> <p>Hon. Lady Justice Jacqueline Kamau – Judge of the High court of Kenya</p>
Session V Climate change and Policy formulation in Africa			
12:00-13:00	Panel discussion on existing policy frameworks to address climate change and its impact in Africa, gaps and areas of action	CR3	<p>Moderator: KAS team (Peter Wendoh/Arne Wulff)</p> <p>Panelists: Hon. Eddie Cross, MP National Assembly, Republic of Zimbabwe – From the Legislative perspective</p> <p>Prof. Rev. Aidan Msafiri, Climate Change Ambassador for Tanzania – From the multi-disciplinary perspective</p> <p>Prof Tumai Murombo,</p>

			Director, Mandela Institute, School of Law University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa – From the SADC regional perspective
13:00-14:00	LUNCH BREAK		
Session VI			
Partnerships to deal with impact of climate change in Africa			
14:00-15:00	Group Work Participants form discussion groups to discuss their roles and how to implement the Paris Agreement action points in their work, challenges and opportunities	CR3	Moderator: James Donovan- CEO, ADEC Innovations
15:00-16:00	Plenary: Discussion of role of stakeholders in the implementation of action points of the Paris Agreement and linking to UNEA-2 outcomes	CR3	Moderator: Mithika Mwenda Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)
16:00-16:30	Meeting reports presented for adoption	CR3	Josphat Ngunyo- Exucutive Director ANAW
16:30-17:00	Closing remarks	CR3	Alexander Juras, UNEP
17:00-19:00	Networking cocktail	Outside CR3	