

# AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY PRE-AMCEN CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP

8<sup>TH</sup> -10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017; LIBREVILLE, GABON

## CONCEPT NOTE

### **Theme: Towards Effective Implementation of the Paris Agreement, SDGs and Agenda 2063**

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

African Ministers of Environment from across Africa will be converging in Libreville, Gabon, from 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 for the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) on the theme *"Investing in Innovative Environmental Solutions to accelerate implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 in Africa"*. The Conference, coming after the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of AMCEN held in Cairo, Egypt, March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016; UNFCCC –COP22 held Marrakech, Morocco in November 7<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and UNFCCC- Bonn Climate Change Conference (SB46) held in Bonn, May 8<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This meeting will not only provide an opportunity for African Governments to discuss on challenges of the implementation of SDGs and Africa Agenda 2063 for the continent but also take stock of their performance at UNFCCC-COP22 and Bonn SB46 on the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Other key focus at this meeting will be on the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), Africa Adaptation Initiative (AAI) among others. All these issues are also closely linked with the Paris Agreement which came into force on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2016.

At COP22 in Marrakech, countries of the world demonstrated commitment as the Agreement had come into force faster than anticipated. Due to this reality, COP 22 negotiations focus in Marrakech was on matters relating to entry into force of the Paris Agreement. Dubbed ‘COP of Action’, the Marrakech Climate Change Conference affirmed the trajectory the global leaders seek to follow in the climate-constrained world when they launched the Marrakech partnership for global climate action, coming on the backdrop on rapid ratification which saw the Agreement coming into force earlier than anticipated.

The first part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1) took place in Marrakech, Morocco in conjunction with COP 22 and CMP 12. Many negotiations at Marrakech were opened as agenda items but not much progress was made as such discussions were to be continued in SB46 ahead of UNFCCC-COP23 to be held in Bonn. Some of these issues relates to the Paris Rule book and 2018 Facilitative Dialogue among others.

On the Africa continent, AMCEN since its establishment in 1985 continued to provide guidance on key regional policies and other related initiatives that touches on environment,

sustainable development and climate change issues to some extent. Unarguably, the African CSOs have over the past 8 years being part of the critical stakeholders in the AMCEN processes and sessions. PACJA being the African civil society representative to AMCEN sees the AMCEN session as yet another opportunity to contribute towards Africa's development agenda. It is imperative that African governments together with civil society continue to engage themselves and strategies jointly to carry the voice of African peoples forward, especially framing the narrative of various development paradigms in the African context. This meeting will also afford African CSOs an opportunity to contribute to the continent agenda and towards the theme of the conference *"Investing in Innovative Environmental Solutions to accelerate implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 in Africa"* The Pre-AMCEN Major Groups and Stakeholder Forum to be held in Libreville from 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 will definitely contribute to the AMCEN discussions.

The Pre-AMCEN Consultative workshop is also part of maintaining the momentum on the call to action by PACJA on the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the global Agenda 2030 and the Africa Agenda 2063 and chart a way forward for the continent's continued engagements on the issues at the national, regional and international levels.

## **2.0 JUSTIFICATION**

At UNFCCC level as always in other negotiations, array of interests shaped conversations that either resulted to convergence or divergence on negotiation agenda items. For instance, from COP 22, decisions were made and adopted, actions that resulted to formation of various initiatives taken and statements issued in a bid to forge an agreement and joint action on implementation work at hand within the Paris Agreement implementation. Various outcomes from such negotiations were also realized. To note is the 'Marrakech Action Proclamation' that was delivered by the Heads of State, Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, taking forward the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) among many other decisions and actions.

The Pre/AMCEN will thus accord an opportunity to the African civil society representatives and other actors drawn from diverse backgrounds – women, youth, and indigenous peoples, smallholder farmers – to interrogate emerging global perspectives and actions on climate change and the implications of the Paris Agreement for Africa as well as the SDGs and Africa Agenda 2063.

In a nutshell, we are at implementation stage of the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030 and the Africa Agenda 2063, a process which should be bottom-up, inclusive and transparent. All stakeholders - government, civil society, development partners or private sector should actively participate in the march towards the paradigm shift required to accompany the unstoppable transformation toward low-carbon, climate-resilient communities and countries.

Civil Society engagement in this topical discourse over the years has been in a bid to ensure that development, climate and other environmental crisis facing the world is tackled justly within the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and collective global efforts and solidarity.

African civil society has a key role to inform these processes and influence decisions taken by parties and member States. For this reason, it is crucial that their involvement contribute to a common African agenda is also crucial and should also inform decisions that touch on the lives of the people. Since Marrakech, PACJA has vigorously engaged with different stakeholders across Africa on the urgent need to take forward and operationalize the Paris Agreement, implementation of AREI, SDGs and Africa's Agenda 2063. To mention but a few, the Alliance between January and April, 2017 have undertaken the following engagements:

- The African Policy Dialogue on Climate Change
- The High Level Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Energy and Energy Access
- Media Training Workshop for Environmental and Climate Change Journalists in Africa
- The African Parliamentary roundtable on climate policy and legislation
- The Africa Regional Post-COP22 Consultative Forum, SDGs and Agenda 2063

Notably, the launch of the African Climate Legislative Initiative (ACLI) during the African Parliamentarian roundtable set the stage for structurally continuous partnership between CSOs and Parliamentarians in driving climate-related legislative agenda in respective Parliaments in Africa, where PACJA has already a strong foothold through its thriving network of national Platforms acting as pillars of advocacy both at sub-national and national levels.

It is essential that all these actions including the outcome of the SBSBTA-46 and moving towards UNFCCC-COP23 are nurtured and navigated to deliver on the mandate of both the Paris Agreement, SDGs and Agenda 2063. This workshop will also help to reflect on the agenda, familiarize the civil society with the Bonn Climate Change Conference agenda, discuss and equip them with knowledge on the latest developments in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and ultimately contribute to AMCEN, Africa's positions on the various climate negotiations and related processes.

The 2017 *Pre-AMCEN Consultative workshop* will be held alongside the UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum and as usual, ahead of the main 16<sup>th</sup> Session of AMCEN on 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> June, 2017.

Hosting the workshop at the sidelines of AMCEN is a recognition of the need to strengthen non-state actors analysis and contributions to respond in a timely and resolute manner to these key issues, focusing in particular on the role they must play vis á vis governments, the AGN and related inter-governmental institutions, such as African Union, UNEP, UNECA and

Regional Integration Economic Blocs, etc<sup>1</sup>. It is also in further recognition of the need, potentials, and contributions of Non- State Actors (NSAs) to the processes that there is a compelling reason to tap the expertise and organizational capacity existing in sectors such as trade, finance, food security, ecological debt, human rights, wildlife and biodiversity, the rights of indigenous peoples and gender equality to bear in the processes.

### **3. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

The workshop will identify key issues for actions and gaps and discuss the steps needed for further action for the Post-Paris period and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and Africa Agenda 2063. It will then chart a short-term, medium-term and longer-term strategy. Participants will define the actions in different geographic regions and sectors in Africa, as well as at national and community levels. Expert analysis will be presented, and participants allowed adequate time to share their perspectives, experiences, challenges and their views on how to chart the common course for the continent.

#### ***Specific objectives:***

- i. To evaluate the challenges and opportunities for Africa in the implementation of Paris Agreement, SDGs and Africa Agenda 2063 and their implications;
- ii. To explore the nexus between climate change, SDGs and Agenda 2063;
- iii. To further interrogate the overall African performance in COP22 strategize towards UNFCCC COP23 later in the year in Bonn.
- iv. To examine the overall APA-1.3 process, Africa's challenges and achievements and how its lessons can be used to inform future engagements.
- v. To explore and deliberate on converging areas of lobbying, advocacy and mobilisation at international level among non-state actors and government actors.
- vi. To identify and define the action agenda for different stakeholders towards COP23, during the COP, and for the period beyond COP23.

### **4. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- i- Sufficient understanding of the implications of Paris Agreement, SDGs and Agenda 2063 on Africa and its implementation.
- ii- Sufficient understanding of the state of play in the conversations towards the implementation of the provisions of the Paris Agreement, NDCs, geopolitical obstacles at play and way forward for the African continent.
- iii- A strategy on the consultations and engagements on the implementation of Paris Agreement, Agenda 2030 and 2063 at the regional level strengthened.
- iv- Recommendations on how to strengthen African common position on various sectoral issues.

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<sup>1</sup> PACJA has been a close partner of UNEP-Regional office for Africa, which serves as the Secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment. By strategically hosting the CS workshop at the sidelines of AMCEN, participants will be able to interact with Government and other actors, and thus contribute to the agenda and ultimate policy positions of the African governments.

#### 4. KEY ACTIVITIES

Key civil society activities related to the process		
Activity	Target	Dates
African Civil Society / UNEP MGSF Consultative workshop	Representatives from National Platforms, Sector-based Networks, Experts from working Groups, regional representatives	10 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> June, 2017
African Ministerial Conference on the Environment	Selected representatives from Civil Society participants in the Pre-AMCEN African Civil Society workshop	12 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> June, 2017

#### 5. ORGANISATION

The Workshop will be organized by PACJA and it is expected to bring together around 35 participants from the civil society with a common shared vision.

**AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY PRE-AMCEN - POST PARIS CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP**

**8<sup>TH</sup> -10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2017**

**Libreville, Gabon**

**Theme: Towards Effective Implementation of the Paris Agreement, SDGs and Agenda 2063**

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

TIME		
DAY 1: 8TH JUNE, 2017		
17.00 – 21.00	Arrivals, Registration and Dinner	
DAY 2: 9TH JUNE, 2017		
<b>SESSION MODERATOR – John Bideri</b>		
8:40 -9:00	Welcome remarks	Nicaise Moulombi, President ROSCEVAC, Gabon  Mithika Mwenda, Secretary General, PACJA
	Remarks from African Parliamentarians	Hon. Awudu Mbaya, Pan African Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (tbc)
	Photo session	
<b>ANALYSIS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND DECISIONS, SDGs, AGENDA 2063 &amp; UNEA-AMCEN UPDATES</b>		

09:00—9.45	<p>Paris Agreement, Marrakech &amp; SB46 Outcomes and Africa: The African Group of Negotiators (AGN)/Govt. perspectives.</p> <p>Key Highlights of the Paris Agreement &amp; Marrakech Outcome: Africa CSOs perspectives</p> <p>Adaptation, L&amp;D and Finance at the COP 23</p>	<p>Representative from the AGN/Govt. (tbc)</p> <p>Dr. Shaddad Mauwa</p> <p>Obed Koringo/Julius Ngoma</p>
9:45 – 10: 00	<b>TEA/COFFEE BREAK</b>	
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Designing a robust and effective Paris Rulebook:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of the challenges and opportunities – including the linkages between</li> <li>- Key/priority issues (including transparency, GST, compliance, accounting)</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: Sam Ogallah, PACJA</p> <p>Presenters: Yamide, Dagnet,</p> <p>Augustine Njamnshi (BCDP), Cameroon</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Capacity Building: CBIT	Presenter: Representative from GEF,
11:00 – 11:40	<b>Group Discussion</b>	Session Facilitator: Rajen Awotar (MAUDESCO), Mauritius
11: 40 -12:15	<p>Facilitative Dialogue (FD 2018)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities and Challenges</li> <li>- Implications for COP23 and COP24 outcomes</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: Sam Ogallah, PACJA</p> <p>Yamide Dagnet, WRI</p> <p>Tracy Sonny (BCCN)</p>

12: 15 -13:15	SDGs, Africa Agenda 2063 and the linkages with Paris Agreement  Paris Agreement, Sustainable energy and the AREI  Paris Agreement and gender  Paris Agreement and the youth  Paris Agreement and the media	Emile Bela KOUAKOU (WACSO)  Benson Ireri, Christian Aid  Tracy Sonny, BCCN  Henry Bayo (SCCSD)  Isaiah Esipisu/Atayi Babs (PAMACC)
13: 15 -14: 00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
14:00 – 15: 00	<b>Group Discussion</b>	Session Facilitator: Yonas Gebru
15.00 – 15.30	AMCEN Agenda Issues  Outcomes of 2 <sup>nd</sup> UNEA and CPR Meeting  Update on the Regional Representatives participation in UNEP/UNEA	David Ombisi, UNEP (tbc)  Mohamed Atani, UNEP (tbc)  Fazal Issa/Tracy Sonny - Major Groups Representatives
15.30 – 15.50	Drafting of Key messages to AMCEN  Special Session	Drafting team  Julius, Melisa, Obed, Yonas, Tracy, Monday, Calisto, Issa, Alemu
15:50—16.00	Presentation & Adoption of Statements/Key messages to AMCEN	Drafting team
16.00 – 16.20	Closing	PACJA & WRI
	<b>Working dinner on the FD 2018 (Tbc)</b>	PACJA & WRI
<b>DAY 3: 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2017: Regional Consultation Meeting (RCM) for Africa Major Groups and Stakeholders</b>		



**PACT**  
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