

CONCEPT NOTE

NATIONAL CSO CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON PREPARATION FOR THE TWENTY THIRD CONFERENCES OF PARTIES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC – COP 23)

DATE: MONDAY, 16TH OCTOBER, 2017

VENUE: NGONG HILLS HOTEL

1.0 BACKGROUND

In December 2015, countries party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) unanimously adopted the landmark Paris Agreement bringing together all nations to a common cause of addressing climate change. Since then, countries have been engaged in developing the “Paris Rulebook” that will guide countries in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The guide should be ready for adoption at the 24th Conference of Parties in 2018.

Presided over by the Government of Fiji, countries will this year converge in Bonn, Germany from 6th – 17th November to advance the work on the modalities, procedures and guidelines for implementation of the Paris Agreement. Also convening concurrently will be the 13th session of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 13) and the Second part of the First session of the Conference of Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA1-2). The 47th session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 47), the 47th session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 47) and the fourth session of the first part of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement will also be convened.

2.0 RATIONALE

Climate policy is anchored on internationally negotiated principles and frameworks that are then to be implemented by individual countries. The role of civil society organizations in these processes cannot be understated. From providing oversight, building and enhancing capacities, ensuring human rights are respected, and advancing climate action in a transparent, participatory and effective manner, CSOs remain vital in the climate change discourse at all levels.

Civil society engagement in the climate change discourse should be enhanced by building the requisite capacities to enable effective and meaningful participation and policy influence. Additionally, CSOs voice should be heard in the different agenda items and their inputs considered in the decision making process. Engagement of county level actors also remains important since all climate cation will be implemented at the county level.

It is with this background that Transparency International Kenya, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance have organized a national stakeholder consultative workshop that will bring together national and county level actors to deliberate on the CSO expectations of the upcoming COP and develop a CSO position. In addition the workshop seeks to enhance the capacities of CSOs to engage with the UNFCCC processes and influence decision making processes. Finally, the workshop will assign duties and responsibilities to participants of the COP on what agenda items each will be following.

3.0 OBJECTIVES

- i. CSO briefing on the agenda for the 23rd Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- ii. Develop a Civil Society Position on the different agenda items for the COP.
- iii. Enhance a coordinated approach and with county level actors on engagement with international climate policy and scaling that to the county level.
- iv. Assign duties and responsibilities to the participants of the COP.