



PAN AFRICAN CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE

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PRESS RELEASE

African Civil Society Demands for UNFCCC-COP23

(THE ULTIMATE CHOICE: YOU ARE EITHER WITH THE PEOPLE & PLANET OR WITH TRUMP & PROFIT)

We, the African civil society attending the Bonn Climate Change Conference hosted by the Government of Fiji, wish to articulate our concerns about the emerging threat to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, and single out the statement of the delegation of the United States of America during yesterday's Opening ceremony.

Though statement by various delegations, particularly from industrialized countries did not signal anything from "normal" in raising ambition to reduce emissions, the sarcastic Statement from the United States points to a threat of the reversal of the minimal progress we have already attained.

The US delegate was confident in "recalling his country's decision to withdraw from Paris Agreement, but stressed intent to continue engagement, ...including in laying the foundations for guidelines for implementing the Paris Agreement..."

We want to reiterate our disagreement with Parties' handling the US with kind globes. The US intention, led by the Climate Denier-in-Chief President Donald Trump is poisonous to negotiations. The Trump agenda is to dismantle the Paris Agreement, the same way they did with the Kyoto Protocol. Time has come when the global community should be brave enough and call a spade a spade, and not a big spoon. It is the time to put Trump and his government where they belong – not to the community of nations.

It is thus our submission that delegates keep out Trump and his government out of the negotiations of the Paris Agreement. We warn that keeping the US in negotiations will be dangerous in the long-run as the intention of President Trump is to cultivate a coalition of climate deniers, and with its economic might, anything is possible. Let us not give him the platform to rock the boat from within.

For more information please contact: Lisa Kamau | Communications Officer | Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) | Email: kamau@pacja.org, info@pacja.org, karanja@pacja.org

Within this COP23 negotiations, we will circulate petitions to “kicking Trump out of negotiations” and call upon like-minded people, from governments, civil society, indigenous peoples, private sector, academia, UN Agencies, and anybody concerned about the health of the Planet and survival of humanity to join us in this struggle against Trump, Profit and his profligate lifestyle that has poisoned the Planet.

We decided to dedicate this press conference to specifically address the emerging “Trump effect” in negotiations. More details of our other demands can be found in our demands which will be circulated soon after this press conference.

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