



BONN

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Press Statement

## **DELIVERY OF SUFFICIENT CLIMATE FINANCE IS A PRE-REQUISITE TO AMBITIOUS ACTION IN AFRICA**

During the press conference we held at this Press conference room 2, last week, we raised a number of issues of concern, among them the slow progress of negotiations and inertia among parties. Today, we are joined by Parliamentarians from Africa under the auspices of the Pan African Parliament, as a way of demonstrating our determination to strengthen our voices to secure the best deal for our people, mostly affected by the changing climate.

Having evaluated the progress in week one of the negotiations, and appreciating that little progress has been done, we regret that there many substantive issues especially regarding the means of implementation of the Paris Agreement.

We are worried that the aspect of differentiation relating to climate finance is vanishing in the negotiation so far. Noting that the implementation of the Paris Agreement is tied to the means of implementation and in this instance; climate finance is one, we are worried that negotiations so far have not addressed the following concerns: -

**Finance Goal:** we are concerned about fulfilment of the pre-2020 finance commitment on provision of USD 100 billion per year up to 2020 which has not been fulfilled yet by the developed country Parties. While the discussion for the new finance goal has not even started. The new finance goal is very important as it will shape the Paris Agreement implementation.

We urge COP Presidency to initiate talks of the new finance goal here in Bonn to show the urgency of the matter. Also, the new finance goal should be beyond the floor of the pre-2020 commitment of USD 100 billion. The goal should reflect the scientific requirements and needs of African countries to, first and foremost, adapt, mitigate and cover loss and damage arising from climate change impacts.

**Adaptation Fund:** we strongly support adaptation fund to serve the Paris Agreement and the agreement on its modalities to serve the agreement should be concluded here at the COP23. The current discussions on the agenda should not be dragged to next year. Parties need to maintain the current governance structure as well as ensuring sustainability and predictability of its funding sources.

**GCF:** for the Paris Agreement to be fully implemented, the role of the funding bodies established under the Convention is vitally important. We are very much concerned about difficulties in accessing fund from the bodies especially the GCF. The GCF was expected to be a democratic and simplified funding body for the developing countries to access funds but the situation has been the opposite. The criteria for approval of funds have been very prolonged and stingy. Also even if the programs are approved, it takes long time to access the funds with a number of paper works to be completed which may even take more than two years.

**Standing Committee on Finance (SCF):** the SCF has been and is playing key role on finance issues prior to the Paris Agreement and we expect it to do the same in Paris Agreement era. We are supporting the idea of SCF to priorities mobilization of funds as one of its functions. Also, further support the suggestion of having the alternate member during the SCF meetings so that they can fill in when the permanent member is not able to participate.

We are calling on the Ministers during this second week of High Level engagement here in COP23 to eject fresh energy and push the negotiations towards concrete outcomes that will address this grave concern to Africa here in Bonn. The world is watching and the outcome from this COP23 will determine whether the Paris Agreement will be a reality or a mere rhetoric.

For further information, please contact:

Julius Karanja,  
Ass. Programme Officer  
PACJA  
[karanja@pacja.org](mailto:karanja@pacja.org), [info@pacja.org](mailto:info@pacja.org)

Ntsiuoa SEKETE  
Senior Media & Communication Officer  
Pan-African Parliament  
[ntsiuoa.sekete@panafricanparliament.org](mailto:ntsiuoa.sekete@panafricanparliament.org)