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**African Ministerial
Conference on the
Environment**

**African Ministerial Conference on the Environment:
Preparatory meeting for the twelfth session of the Conference of
the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on
Climate Change and the second session of the Conference of the
Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

Nairobi, 14 November 2006

**Report of the preparatory meeting for the twelfth session of the
Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change and the second session of the
Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the
Kyoto Protocol to the Convention**

Introduction

1. The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) held a preparatory meeting for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the Convention (held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 6 November to 17 November 2006) at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Nairobi, on Tuesday, 14 November 2006.

I. Opening of the meeting

2. The meeting was opened at 9.15 a.m. on Tuesday, 14 November 2006 by Mr. Marthinus Schalkwyk, Vice President of AMCEN and Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of South Africa, who warmly welcomed all participants.

B. Attendance

3. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following AMCEN member countries: Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Chad, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Comoros, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Kenya, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
4. It was also attended by representatives of UNEP, and Global Environment Facility (GEF).
5. A complete list of participants is shown in Annex 1.

C. Officers

6. The participants agreed that Mr. Schalkwyk should act as Chair of the meeting.

D. Adoption of the agenda

7. The participants adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat:
 1. Welcome address
 2. Presentation of draft African position paper for COP12 and COP/MOP2 –Chair, African Negotiating Group.
 3. Ministerial discussions.
 4. Adaptation to climate change- *A pragmatic approach that links Adaptation to Development* by CEO of GEF.
 5. Adoption of African common position.
 6. Case Study from Egypt
 7. Closure of the meeting.

II. Presentation of draft African position paper for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the Convention

8. Mr. Samuel Adeoye Adejwun, the chair of the African Negotiators, gave a presentation on the draft African position paper prepared by African Group of Negotiators at a preparatory meeting held at Naivasha, Kenya in September 2006. He thanked the Governments of South Africa, Netherlands, United Kingdom and UNEP for providing financial support for the African Group preparatory meeting. He also expressed his appreciation to the Regional Office for Africa of UNEP for organizing the preparatory meeting for the experts. He said that the Naivasha meeting provided a forum that enabled the African Group of Negotiators discuss and reach consensus on priority issues of relevance to Africa including, inter alia, adaptation and adaptation fund, the five-year work programme of the subsidiary body on Science and Technology Advice (SBSTA), the geographical distribution of the

Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Technology transfer, capacity building, special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), Least developed Country Fund, Further commitments by Annex 1 Parties and avoided deforestation.

9. Referring to the ministerial statement on Africa's common position (see Annex 2), Mr. Adejebuon gave an update on the negotiated positions so far reached during the expert level segment of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP12 COP/MOP2). He stated that few issues had been concluded during the negotiations. He stated further that the adaptation fund, SCCF, financial mechanisms (entrusted to the GEF), and technology transfer were still being negotiated.
10. A representative from Uganda called for policy reversal since those countries that were polluting appeared to be rewarded with CDM projects. He also stated that the existing financial mechanism also favoured countries that were polluting. He said that in the case of considerations under adaptation, the polluter pays principle should apply.
11. A representative from Zimbabwe said that the basis of RAF allocation was worrying. She said further that since capacity was one of the criteria for RAF, GEF should make provision to build the capacity of African countries and make needs and vulnerability part of the criteria. She also said that the GEF procedures were rather complex.

III Ministerial discussions

12. A delegate from Nigeria also spoke on the adaptation fund noting that Annex 1 Parties wanted GEF to host it. However, African countries were suspicious since access to funding being managed by GEF had been a major problem for African countries. He said some of the criteria being used by GEF were very difficult to attain. In this regard, African countries wanted the procedures, guidelines, and criteria to be set before the issue of which entity would host the adaptation fund could be considered. He said further that if the hosting institution was made to take guidance from the COP then the interest of Africa would be protected.
13. On the issue of governance, he stated that agreement had been reached to the effect that one country would have one vote with regard to the adaptation fund. He expressed the view that this would ensure that authority and guidance would be vested in the COP rather than the hosting institution. He also said that mitigation was taking up most of the funds of the convention and its protocol. He said further that adaptation should at least be at par with mitigation in terms of funds disbursement. He noted that the advent of the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF) did not augur well for Africa and that the RAF should not affect the adaptation fund. He said that the hosting of the adaptation fund should not be limited to GEF.
14. The chair drew attention of the meeting to a letter sent by the Chief Executive Officer of GEF to the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations in New York. The letter articulated the viewpoints of the GEF CEO as to how the GEF could be effectively utilized as the manager of the Adaptation Fund established under the Kyoto Protocol. With regard to governance of the fund, the CEO submitted that the double majority voting system of the GEF-which is a hybrid of the decision making models applied in the UN and the financial institutions-could be tailored to ensure that the interests of developing countries were adequately reflected in the decision making process. This could take into account the fact that developing countries were contributors to the certified emission reductions (CERs) that would provide the resources of the Adaptation Fund.
15. On financing criteria, the CEO stated that recognizing the nature of the challenge posed by the impacts of climate change, it was clear that the concept of incremental costs for the achievement of global environmental benefits would not apply to the Adaptation Fund. Furthermore the Resource Allocation Framework would also not apply to the Adaptation Fund. Coping with adverse impacts of climate change imposes an additional cost on vulnerable countries in their efforts to achieve their development goals. In the view of the CEO of GEF, these additional costs were to met through the Adaptation Fund.
16. A number of delegates expressed the opinion that a decision on the SCCF was possible but the decision on the hosting of the Adaptation Fund should be deferred.

IV. Invited Presentations

17. The Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of Kenya and Chair of the COP, Mr. Kivutha Kibwana, addressed the meeting on issues related to climate change. In his presentation, Mr. Kibwana discussed adaptation, mitigation, clean development mechanism, technology transfer, and “future processes”. He drew the meeting’s attention to the devastating economic, social and environmental consequences that climate change was predicted to wreak on the world , and in particular on some vulnerable regions and groups, especially Africa. He noted that 30 percent of Africa’s coastal infrastructure could be inundated, and that between 25 and 40 percent of species ‘ habitats’ in Africa could be lost by 2085.
18. He called on his colleagues to bring their collective political weight to bear on the issues of adaptation to climate change as well as mitigation since recent data submissions to the UNFCCC secretariat indicated that greenhouse gas emissions of the major industrialized countries continued to increase. Referring to the unequal distribution of CDM projects, he said that it was a telling statement that Africa lacked the capacity to benefit from market-based mechanisms as evidenced by the fact that less than 10 of the 403 registered CDM projects were located in Africa. He said further that in the negotiations there was near –universal recognition of the need to advance regional equity in the distribution of CDM projects, and that those countries that did not have the capacity to attract CDM investment should be assisted to do so. The full text of his presentation can be found in Annex 3.
19. The Executive Director of UNEP, Mr. Achim Steiner, welcomed the ministers and heads of delegation and stated that climate change was the challenge of our times. He noted that COP12, COP/MOP2 was the first in sub-Saharan Africa. He said that climate change was affecting Africa but the region was generally unprepared. He also said that the melting of the ice cap on Mt. Kenya was an illustration of the seriousness of the climate change in the Africa region. He stated that Africa was ill prepared for what was happening emphasizing that the basic infrastructure, like weather stations, was not present in a number of countries. He also stated that the COP/MOP should, at the least, make an imprint on the global debate on climate change.
20. He said that UNEP had taken the issue of adaptation very seriously and this was reflected in its work programme and the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Transfer and Capacity Building. He referred to the UNEP-UNDP collaboration on adaptation, launched in the margins of the COP/MOP, and stated that this would lead to an enhanced assistance to developing countries to prepare and implement their adaptation projects. He referred to Dr. Klaus Töpfer, and reaffirmed that he would continue with the good work done by his predecessor with regard to AMCEN, NEPAD and the African Union.
21. In her address the Chief Executive Officer of GEF, Ms. Monique Babut, expressed her personal commitment to Africa, particularly to ensuring a positive link between environment and development. She applauded AMCEN’s leadership on African initiatives to protect the global environment, including the NEPAD Environment Initiative. Speaking on the effect of climate change on Africa, she stated that in spite of the fact that Africa contributed only 3 percent of greenhouse gases, the impact of climate change on African countries was severe. Indeed the African continent was most vulnerable to climate threats.
22. She also stated that international response to climate change must hinge on mitigation and adaptation. On mitigation, the GEF was helping governments provide clean energy and basic services for rural communities, taking renewable energy to places not connected to the grid. Additionally, nearly half of GEF’s photovoltaic projects were in Africa. Ms. Babut also presented the overall GEF investment portfolio, among others , in relation to climate change globally and in Africa (see annex 4). Responding to some of the earlier criticisms made against the RAF, she stated that RAF-4 attempted to address the imbalance of resource allocation to countries. She stated further that the RAF would be evaluated in two years time. In the meanwhile her office was holding bilateral discussions with countries.

V. Adoption of African Common Position

23. The document prepared by the drafting group containing the African common position was adopted, as orally amended, and is reproduced in Annex 5 to the present report

VI Any other business

24. A representative from Egypt made a presentation on some of the CDM projects that they had prepared with the technical assistance of UNEP-RISO.

VII Closure of the meeting

25. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.30 a.m. on Tuesday 14 November 2006.

ANNEX 1
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ANNEX 2

Zero Draft African Common Position

General

1. The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) affirms that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its related Kyoto Protocol constitute a vital mechanism for African countries to meet the Millennium Development Goals on poverty and the environmental sustainability in Africa. As the World Summit has recognized, the Convention and its Protocol serve as invaluable instruments for the widest possible cooperation and participation in an effective and appropriate international response to global climate change.
2. In view of the strategic importance attached to climate change, Ministers note that for Africa to effectively address the challenges posed by the adverse impacts of climate change and climate variability on national development efforts of African countries, there is an urgent need for enhanced human, institutional and systemic capacity building initiatives as well as the provision of adequate and predictable financial and technical assistance to assist our respective countries to effectively implement adaptation and mitigation projects consistent with national sustainable development priorities.
3. While noting the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Convention and its related Protocol, AMCEN strongly affirms the need for UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol to focus their energies upon development and or implementation of adaptation programmes and clean development mechanism projects in Africa.

Adaptation and the Adaptation Fund

4. AMCEN has noted that priority adaptation activities to be supported include early warning systems, disease control, capacity building, disaster management, information networks and rapid response to extreme event.
5. We wish to emphasize that operationalising the Adaptation Fund is a key priority for Africa. With regard to management of the Fund, Africa supports the idea of a structure that enables easy access to the Funds. Hence Africa will support an organization/agency having minimal bureaucratic procedures and or is willing to put in place user friendly procedures to manage the Adaptation Fund.
6. With respect to adaptation activities, Africa supports the principle of using a country driven approach in determining the adaptation activities to be funded. This will allow for the needed flexibility to address specific country priorities.

Geographical distribution of Clean Development Mechanism

7. We have noted with concern that Africa's share of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects is small. There are about 15 CDM projects under consideration in Sub-Saharan Africa accounting for only 1.7% of the total number of projects world-wide. AMCEN has noted that the following are some of the causes for the lack of CDM projects in Africa: Lack of enabling CDM investment environments; inadequate access to commercial credit; low level of fossil fuel use resulting in few opportunities to reduce emissions; the rapidly closing CDM investment window for pre-2012 credits which makes projects from other regions more attractive to international investors.
8. In view of this grossly unequal geographical distribution of CDM projects, we call for urgent measures to increase Africa's share of CDM projects. In this regard we urge that the rules of the CDM should be reviewed, particularly those related to: (1) The baseline for the non-renewable biomass; and (2) Flexibility in the application of rules on a project by project basis.
9. We also call on International Financial Institutions and donors to step up capacity-building efforts, using learning-by-doing approaches, that bring African CDM projects to market as they build necessary capacities in Designated National Authorities, and relevant public and private sectors.

10. We therefore recommend that a capacity building programme should be developed at sub-regional and national levels aimed at (1) Focusing on the development of actual projects; (2) Assisting the development of institutional capacity; and (3) Involving the private sector in the process of project development.

Technology Transfer

11. We reiterate the commonly held view that technology is a critical component of addressing climate change, for both adaptation and mitigation. AMCEN will highly appreciate better access to technology and a more enhanced progress on technology transfer agreements.
12. With respect to the new mandate for the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT), we highly recommend that the “new EGTT” mandate should come under the Scientific Body on Implementation (SBI) to drive implementation. Africa also requests that the Technology Acquisition Fund should be made operational.

Capacity Building

13. Capacity building is a top priority for African countries. We have taken note that capacity building activities have been consolidated into an overall framework in Marrakesh, Morocco. Capacity building should be a stand alone agenda item. Concerted efforts should be made towards monitoring the implementation of the capacity building framework.

Finance

14. We reaffirm that access to funding continues to be a major problem for African countries given the region’s limited capacity to meet the conditionalities of the

financial institutions. We urgently call for the operationalisation of the Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. It is our expectation that these will provide improved and predictable monetary contributions for the continent.

15. Africa is seriously concerned about the new resource allocation framework of GEF. This should be revised taking into account vulnerability index in the resource allocation framework formula. Furthermore, the decision making process of GEF as well as GEF assistance to Africa should be revised as a matter of urgency.

Other Items

On the Ad- Hoc working Group on Further Commitments:

16. Africa notes the need for tougher emissions reduction commitments beyond 2012 as this would be beneficial in reducing vulnerability and increasing opportunities for CDM projects. We support the broad themes being considered by this working group.

On the Long-term cooperative action under the Convention:

17. With regard to the dialogue on long-term cooperative action under the Convention, we envisage some concrete outcomes on implementation of adaptation measures, establishment of a multi-lateral Technology Acquisition Fund and policy incentives relating to deforestation. We wish to signal that such outcomes would contribute to reducing Africa’s vulnerability to climate change and facilitate sustainable development.

On Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries:

18. We highly recommend that the principle of avoided deforestation should be given serious consideration as a mechanism to save African forests and at the same time reduce emissions. We support the submission by the Congo Basin countries to the COP/MOP reiterating that activities aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation take into full account the need for Africa to achieve sustained economic growth and eradicate poverty.

ANNEX 3
Statement by H.E. Minister Kivutha Kibwana

President-COP 12 and COPIMOP 2, UNFCCC

Address to the African Ministers Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)

INTRODUCTION

Distinguished African Ministers for the Environment, honoured delegates, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me tremendous pleasure to welcome you to the beautiful city of Nairobi, and to the 2006 United Nations Climate Change Conference.

Climate change is one of the most pressing problems facing humanity today. In Nairobi, for the first time ever at a Climate Conference, we will be graced by the presence of Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations. His presence is a testament to the urgency of the climate challenge, as well as his personal commitment, and that of the United Nations, to advancing the climate agenda.

Ladies and gentlemen, I need scarcely remind you of the devastating economic, social and environmental consequences that climate change is predicted to wreak for the world, and in particular for some vulnerable regions and groups - not least among them Africa. Rising global temperatures will increase desertification in our countries, threaten our food security, and expose our populations to disease. In addition sea-level rise, coastal erosion and flooding will have significant impacts on African coastal cities. A new Report prepared by the UNFCCC Secretariat estimates that 30 per cent of Africa's coastal infrastructure could be inundated, and that between 25 and 40 per cent of species' habitats in Africa could be lost by 2085.¹ Climate impacts will also, if left unchecked, hamper Africa's ability to address extreme poverty and hunger, and meet the Millennium Development Goals.

It is truly unfortunate that nations, such as ours, that have done little thus far to cause climate change will bear the real brunt of nature's wrath. Adaptation is of critical importance to our nations. Yet a diversity of constraints facing our nations,

'New Report Underlines Africa's vulnerability to Climate Change, UNEP, 5 November 2006.

including infrastructural and resource-based ones, limit our capacity to adapt effectively.

This Climate Conference has the potential to be a historic one, not only because it is the first to be held in sub-Saharan Africa and to be attended by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, but also because the international community is poised on the brink of taking concrete action on Adaptation.

In addition, during my informal consultations with numerous regional and interest groups through this past week, I have detected a growing consensus on several key issues, which I believe to be a harbinger of a positive outcome here at Nairobi. However, for some issues, I will need your help and support in the coming days if we are to achieve meaningful and substantial outcomes.

Thematic Updates

In my opening statement earlier last week, I identified several central themes for this conference. The first of these themes, I have already referred to, is **adaptation to** climate change. There has been progress on this issue in our negotiations, and there are signs that this issue will be resolved here. It is very likely that the Conference will be able to adopt a five-year programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, which will be a landmark outcome.

The issue of adaptation, however, is by no means the only one that is critical to Africa's future. It is in our interest to bring our collective political weight to bear on the issue of **mitigation** as well. Recent data submissions to the UNFCCC Secretariat indicate that GHG emissions of the major industrialized countries

continue to increase. There is a limit to our capacity to adapt, even with help, and we need to ensure that, as we adapt to the climate change that is already occurring, we are also working to ensure that we reduce global GHG emissions, and limit the climate impacts that will occur. We as a group must therefore participate effectively and shape outcomes in the discussions on mitigation, and future processes.

A second theme I identified is the need to ensure the continuing success of the clean development mechanism, and to ensure that all countries share in its sustainable development benefits. . It is a telling statement of our lack of capacity to benefit from market-based mechanisms, that less than 10 of the 403 registered CDM projects thus far are located in Africa. In the negotiations, there is near-universal recognition of the need to advance regional equity in the distribution of CDM projects, and that those countries that do not have the capacity to attract CDM investment are assisted in some fashion to do so. Considerable attention has been devoted to this issue in this session. There is an inter-agency UN capacity building initiative in the pipeline to help address this issue. There are further signs of concrete outcomes in this area . I would encourage you to keep the pressure firmly on to ensure that these early indications of success are realized.

Distinguished colleagues, a third important theme I identified is the need for new thinking on the development and **transfer of technology**. The African group places strong emphasis on technology transfer. This COP is meant to

identify ways to enhance the framework for technology transfer adopted in Marrakesh in 2001. African negotiators were selected to be in the forefront of negotiations on behalf of the G-77. Delegates have been debating this issue for the last week, and I am concerned to hear that the negotiations have not been as fruitful as I would have liked. There is a large gap between the position advocated by the G-77 and that which other negotiating partners are willing to accept. Limited progress has been made in bridging this gap. This situation threatens to result in a setback in this important area. I appeal to you to urge your negotiators to temper their expectations, to explore creative options, and to display yet again the admirable negotiation spirit of Nairobi we have seen so far. Thus averting serious risk of failure. For too long we have waited for technology transfer commitments to become reality. Let us not miss this opportunity to take an important step closer to our objective.

Another issue under consideration that is important to many African countries concerns reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries. Parties are developing a plan to exchange information and experiences on this topic, including policy approaches and positive incentives. They are expected to agree to hold a second workshop prior to the next subsidiary body sessions and momentum continues to build toward concrete action on this important item in the coming years.

A fourth theme emphasized by many is the critical need for the “**future processes**” launched at COP 11 and COP/MOP I in Montreal to maintain, and even gather momentum in Nairobi. The Dialogue on Long-term co-operative action under the Convention is due to start tomorrow. It will run in parallel with the High-level segment, and I would encourage you to participate in its deliberations, and help shape the substantive outcomes that emerge from this important process. The work of the Ad Hoc Working Group (AWG) is promising as well. The AWG is expected to complete an ambitious work programme, which should send a strong political message on emission reductions by industrialized countries.

On the Article 9 review of the Kyoto Protocol, African countries must help ensure a successful outcome here in Nairobi. Many Parties have very strong, and very divergent, views on this issue of the review of the Protocol. The African group has proposed draft decision text for consideration which favours a short review here, and regular reviews thereafter in 2-3 year intervals.³ I see the African proposal as the most promising route to compromise. I would urge you to persuade our colleagues in the G-77/China to display flexibility and help Parties reach common ground on this issue here in Nairobi.

Conclusion

In conclusion, distinguished delegates, let me note that there has been considerable progress made so far in Nairobi.

Parties have displayed a spirit of cooperation that is heartening. There are, as one would expect, some issues that we need to devote our energies to and demonstrate greater flexibility on, but I am hopeful that the spirit of Nairobi that has brought us this far in these negotiations will carry us successfully to even more positive and concrete outcomes by the close of the high-level segment.

Review of the Kyoto Protocol pursuant to its Article 9. Draft Decision proposed by the African Group, 13 November 2006. Available at: <[http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2006/cmp2/eng/crp01 .pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2006/cmp2/eng/crp01.pdf)>.

ANNEX 4

The Challenge of Adapting To Climate Change
In Africa
by
Monique Barbut, CEO and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility

Your Excellency Minister Djombo, President of AMCEN, Honorable Ministers,

Distinguished Guests:

I am honored to have an opportunity to meet with you as environmental leaders of the African continent. As the new Global Environment Facility CEO, I have a personal commitment to Africa, particularly to ensure a positive link between environment and development. I applaud AMCEN's leadership on African initiatives to protect the global environment, including the NEPAD Environment Initiative.

The African continent is poised for a development renaissance. Economic growth is up, conflict is down. The World Bank estimates that 17 African countries have achieved growth rates of four percent, and some as high as seven to eight percent. Encouragingly, the number of countries facing conflicts has declined from 13 to five. Admittedly, progress is uneven across the continent, but huge opportunities are opening up for your economic and social development. Kenya's gracious gesture to host this meeting is a clear sign of Africa's commitment to engage in the global community.

Ironically, Africa's renaissance is threatened by climate change. Africa contributes only 3 percent of greenhouse gases; technically speaking, Africa is really not part of the problem. Yet ironically, the impact of climate change on African countries, especially the poorest, is severe. Several reports, including the recent Stern Report, name the African continent as the most vulnerable region to climate change threats.

It has become increasingly clear that international response to climate change must hinge on mitigation and adaptation.

On mitigation, there has been some success. In Africa, the GEF is helping governments provide clean energy and basic energy services for rural communities, taking renewable energy to places not connected to the grid. In addition, nearly half of GEF's photovoltaic (PV) projects are in Africa.

The overall GEF investment portfolio stands as an example of the shift countries are making on mitigation: in 14 years, the GEF clean energy portfolio has grown to more than 2,3 billion in grants with a total value of nearly \$12 billion. We

have invested more than 300 million in advanced clean energy technologies, more than 1 billion in renewable energy as the largest funder of renewable energy in the developing world, more than \$500 million in energy efficiency, and 100 million in sustainable transport. But mitigation is no longer enough. Adaptation is the other side of the climate change coin, and in Africa, arguably the most important. Vulnerable countries, communities and ecosystems around the globe already feel the effects of climate change as sea levels and temperatures rise, rainfall patterns change, and extreme weather events occur more frequently and intensively. These events not only adversely affect development needs such as access to drinking water, food security, irrigation, and health, but also entire ecosystems — and they exact the heaviest toll on poor people. Adaptation has become the watchword for the future of climate change. I think we need to move to a new level of action so that vulnerable countries suffering from the ravages of climate change can adapt and continue their development. At the GEF, under the Convention's guidance, we have laid the foundation through studies and assessments for engagement in adaptation. We are now at work helping countries determine how to move from climate vulnerability to climate resilience. Indeed, we are already actively engaged on the ground. The GEF Trust Fund is supporting a \$1 million grant for a UNDP-implemented regional project in Southern and Eastern Africa which integrates adaptation measures into sustainable development planning; a \$5 million UNDP-implemented community-based adaptation project with a pilot site in Niger; and a \$1 million UNDP-implemented adaptation learning mechanism at the global level, including Africa. In addition to the GEF Trust Fund, there are two special Funds which the GEF Secretariat is managing: the Special Climate Change Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund. Through these Funds, for which we have mobilized nearly \$175 million since the last COP, we have a growing portfolio of hands-on adaptation projects. Under the Least Developed Countries Fund, \$115 million is available to implement the National Adaptation Programmes of Action. The GEF is expecting Malawi to submit a National Adaptation Programme of Action shortly, the very first African NAPA submission, with African Development Bank assistance. Under the Special Climate Change Fund, nearly \$60 million has been pledged, with nearly \$34 million programmed for projects to achieve adaptation benefits on the ground. With World Bank implementation the GEF will

support a \$7 million adaptation agriculture project in Kenya's arid lands; and with UNDP implementation the GEF will support three \$1 million projects to help communities in Ethiopia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe cope with drought and climate change; a project in Tanzania to address climate change in integrated water resources management in the Pangani river basin; and a Kenya pilot project to assess and adopt adaptation measures in the health sector. Dear Ministers, I know that you also hold another grave concern for adapting to climate change, and this is the problem of desertification. I promised you that I would take this issue seriously, and I have. I fully took the commitment to the Convention on Desertification as a financial mechanism, and you will be pleased to know that I will present that to the December GEF Council meeting. But that is not enough. I am also firmly committed to programs to begin this urgent work. As a result, following the GEF's launch with the World Bank and African countries of TerrAfrica during the UN Convention on Desertification conference here in Nairobi, I am committing the GEF to invest over \$130 million over the next three years in this program, through which we hope to leverage over \$1.2 billion for investments in sustainable land management. Mr. Chairman, on my part, I intend to make GEF-4 a proving ground of effective investment on climate change, and to do that, I believe we must act with urgency on the adaptation front. Given the severity of the challenge, I find it alarming that countries at the COP table are willing to sacrifice action on the Adaptation Fund for the sake of parochial considerations. By delaying decisions today, we risk losing a year or more —precious time which could be spent on projects in your countries. Since its founding, GEF has evolved to meet the challenges of the times. Today, we stand poised to help Africa and other vulnerable countries create vibrant sustainable development even in the face of climate change. As we begin to put in place the global architecture to meet the threats posed by climate change, I will be counting on your support to chart the way forward together on adaptation issues.

Thank you for your attention.

ANNEX 5

AFRICAN COMMON POSITION PRESENTED TO THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN GROUP AT THE MINISTERIAL HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 12TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE UNFCCC AND THE 2ND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL NAIROBI, KENYA, 15 NOVEMBER 20006

1. On behalf of the African Group, I wish to congratulate you, Mr. President on your election to preside over the 12th session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC and the 2nd Session of the Conference of Parties, serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. We commend the Government and people of Kenya for the warm hospitality extended to us since our arrival in the beautiful city of Nairobi.
2. Mr. President, the African Group wishes to affirm that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its related Kyoto Protocol constitute a vital mechanism to meet the Millennium Development Goals on poverty and environmental sustainability for African countries. As the World Summit has recognized, the Convention and its Protocol serve as invaluable instruments for the widest possible cooperation and participation in an effective and appropriate international response to global climate change.
3. It is imperative that the African countries to effectively address the challenges posed by the adverse impacts of climate change and climate variability on their national development efforts, there is an urgent need for enhanced human, institutional and systematic capacity building initiatives as well as the provision of adequate and predictable financial and technical assistance to assist our respective countries to effectively implement adaptation and mitigation projects consistent with national sustainable development priorities.
4. While noting the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Convention and its related protocol, Africa strongly affirms the need for UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol to focus their energies upon development and or implementation of adaptation programmes.
5. Mr. President, the Group recognizes that progress has been made in this session to reach agreement on the principles, modalities and voting pattern for the Adaptation Fund. We strongly support the principle that the adaptation Fund should operate under the authority and guidance of and be accountable to the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Protocol and that the governance of the Fund will be based on one country one vote.
6. We wish to emphasize that operationalising the Adaptation Fund is a key priority for Africa. With regard to management of the Fund, Africa supports the structure that guarantees easy access to the Funds. Hence Africa will support an organization/agency having minimal bureaucratic procedures and or is willing to put in place user friendly procedures to manage the Adaptation Fund.
7. We reaffirm that access to funding continues to be a major problem for African countries given the region's limited capacity to meet the conditionalities of the financial institutions. We recognize the achievement of this session coming up with decision on Special Climate Change Fund and the Least Developing Countries Fund. We urgently call for the operationalisation of these funds. It is our expectation that these will provide improved and predictable flow of financial resources to our region for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocol.
8. Africa is seriously concerned about the new Resource Allocation Framework (RAF) of GEF. This should be revised taking into account vulnerability index in the resource allocation framework formula. Furthermore, the decision making process of GEF as well as GEF assistance to Africa should be revised as a matter of urgency. It is imperative that our view should take into consideration in the review of RAF in 2008.
9. We have noted with concern that Africa's share of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects is quite marginal. There are about 15 CDM projects under consideration in Sub-Saharan Africa accounting for only 1.7% of the total number of projects world-wide. We noted that the following are some of the causes for the lack of CDM projects in Africa: Lack of enabling CDM investment environments; inadequate access to commercial credit; low level of fossil fuel use resulting in few opportunities to reduce emissions; the rapidly

closing CDM investment window for the pre-2012 credits which makes projects from other regions more attractive to international investors.

10. In view of this grossly unequal geographical distribution of CDM projects, we call for urgent measures to increase Africa's share of CDM projects. In this regard we urge that the rules of the CDM be reviewed, particularly those related to the baseline for the non-renewable biomass flexibility in the application of rules on a project by project basis.
11. We also call on International Financial Institutions and donors to step up capacity-building efforts, using learning-by-doing approaches that bring African CDM projects to market as they build necessary capacities in Designated National Authorities, and relevant public and private sectors.
12. We therefore recommend that a capacity building programme should be developed at sub-regional and national levels aimed at (1) focusing on the development of actual projects; (2) assisting the development of institutional capacity ; and (3) involving the private sector in the process of project development.
13. We welcome the establishment of a Carbon Fund mentioned by Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations to assist African countries to participate CDM. We therefore urge for more resources to be put in this Fund.
14. Mr. President, African Group highly recommend that the principle of avoided deforestation should be given serious consideration as a mechanism to save African forests and at the same time reduce emissions. We support the submission by the Congo Basin countries to the COP/MOP reiterating that activities aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation take into full account the need for Africa to achieves sustained economic growth and eradicate poverty.
15. The African Group would like to put on record our disappointment regarding deliberations on the issue of technology transfer at he session. Our concern with respect to establishment of Technology Acquisition Fund; and Technology Development and Transfer Board has been met with Unparallel resistance. Yet, we are of the commonly held view that technology is a critical component of addressing climate change, for both adaptation and mitigation if we are never thinking of achieving the Millennium development Goals. The African Group therefore reiterates the needs fort he multilateral funding and institutionalization of technology transfer mechanism to implement technology transfer programme of activities.
16. We will also like to express our concerns on the discussion on addressing the impacts of implementation of response measures and economic diversification in this session. We observed with utter dismay the unwillingness of the Annex I Parties to undertake discussion of these very important issues. We are calling for urgent consideration of these issues in the next SBI session and the need to recommend concrete actions to address the possible impacts of implementation of response measures on African economic in the various sectors.
17. Capacity building is a top priority for African countries. We have taken note that capacity building activities have been consolidated into an overall framework in Marrakech, Morocco. Capacity building should be a stand alone agenda item. Concerted efforts should be made towards monitoring the implementation of the capacity building framework within the context of the Convention and the Protocol. Africa has the least capacity to adapt to climate change calamities due to its poverty and poor infrastructure.. Hence capacity building underpins the ability of Africa to be part of this process.
18. We need further programmes on education, training and awareness to sensitize our citizenry and enhance capacity for programme implementation based on the views of Parties on the implementation of the Works programme..We therefore call for objective review of New Delhi work-programme which is ending by the 2007. We also call for strengthening of the local points for Article 6.
19. With regard to the dialogue on long-term cooperative action under the Convention, we envisage some concrete outcomes on implementation of adaptation measures, establishment of a multi-lateral Technology Acquisition Fund and policy incentives relating to deforestation. We wish to signal that such outcomes would contribute to reducing Africa's vulnerability to climate change and facilitate sustainable development.
20. Mr. President, Africa believes that future commitment must be based on observable, concrete and substantial reduction of emissions by Annex 1 country Parties. The African Group supports the need for tougher

emissions reduction commitments beyond 2012 as this would be beneficial in reducing vulnerability and increasing opportunities for CDM projects. We endorse the broad themes being considered by the IPCC working group in this regard.

21. Africa believes that the continued degradation of our global environment demands for bold and urgent action by the international community to reverse this trend for the benefit of present and future generation of human kind. It is thereby incumbent on us in this session to take these hard decisions to ensure the survival of human kind.

Thank you.