

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF AFRICAN
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE
(CAHOSCC) GENDER AND YOUTH PROGRAMME ON CLIMATE
CHANGE**

HELD AT

**AFRICAN UNION INTER-AFRICAN BUREAU FOR ANIMAL
RESOURCES (AU-IBAR)**

NAIROBI, KENYA

7 - 10 JUNE 2016

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

I. Background

The Assembly of the African Union during its Twenty –Third Ordinary session in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea made a decision on the high level work programme on Climate change events in 2014. The heads of State agreed among others as follows:-

- i. Endorsed the high level work programme on Climate Change Action in Africa and
- ii. Requested the African Union Commission in collaboration with the relevant specialized Technical Committee (STCs) and other relevant Institutions to among other things;
 - Elaborate on the implementation of the CAHOSCC Youth Programme on Climate Change (CYPCC) including youth participation in climate change negotiations and continental wide youth competition on climate change aspects to enhance youth engagement in climate change actions,
 - Develop a CAHOSCC Women and Gender Programme on Climate change to engage women and gender in climate change related actions

The meeting held at the African Union (AU) regional headquarters in Nairobi on the 7th – 10th June 2016 was organized by the African Union Commission Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA). The meeting was planned to commence the implementation of the African Union Decision that arose from the proposal and recommendation from the Committee of African Heads of State and Governments on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) in 2014 on the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa then chaired by His Excellency Dr. Jakaya Kikwete, former President of Tanzania.

II. Objective of the meeting

The main objective of the meeting was to invite different agencies advocating and representing women and youth voices around Africa to discuss the possibilities of building a unique climate voice for women and youth in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Specifically the meeting was to help come up with the development of innovative strategic plan of actions placing Women and Youth at the frontline and allowing them to paly an important role in climate change resilience in accordance with the Africa Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals 2030. The meeting was to discuss the possibilities of building a unique climate platform for women and youth.

III. Participation

The following countries participated at the meeting. Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan, The Gambia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The meeting was also attended by representatives of Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Civil society groups, development partners including African Development Bank, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, United Nations Agencies, and the AU

Commission Departments of Rural Economy and Agriculture (REA), Women and Gender and Human Resources, Science and Technology (HRST).

IV. Opening Ceremony

The meeting was officially opened on Tuesday 7th, June 2016 by Dr. Pacifica Achieng Ogola, Director of Climate Change Directorate, who represented the Kenyan Minister of Environment and Natural Resources. In her opening remarks, she emphasized on the negative impacts of climate change on the livelihoods and economy of African society and hence the need of a gender responsive climate change policies and plans for African countries as the changing climate continues to affect the most vulnerable groups, especially women and youth. Additionally, she expressed the urgent need for capacity building of countries delegates on gender mainstreaming, increasing the number of women delegates in order to promote gender balance at the UNFCCC negotiations platforms as envisaged by decision 23/COP 18.

Other remarks were made by Prof. Ahmed Elsawalhy of Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), briefed the participants on the establishment of AU-IBAR before the birth of the African Union and the impacts of Climate Change on the animal resources in Africa, Mr. Ibrahim Ceasay of African Youth Initiative on Climate Change (AYICC) who informed the stakeholders that AYICC was celebrating its 10th anniversary. Mme Monica, the Coordinator, China gender program expressed her deep excitement to see how women are taking the lead in international negotiations, planning processes and are involved in ensuring gender responsive climate policies.

Ms. Olushola Olayide of African Union Commission highlighted the vulnerability of women and youth in Africa. She attributed this to the challenges of accessing funding for climate change initiatives. She commended and acknowledged that the meeting was made possible by financial support from the Climate Information for Development in African (ClimDev-Africa) Programme, which is a joint initiative of the AU Commission, African Development Bank and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). She reiterated that there was need to take urgent action to involve women and youth in Climate Change planning and implementation in the various African countries as provided in the Malabo Decision of 2014 and to further reinforce the African position on Climate Change, be involved in the global negotiations, and implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Dr. Dina, Embassy of Egypt representative in capacity of the Chair of AMCEN, observed the role and contribution of woman and youth in climate change and reiterated that they are the most vulnerable group thus the reason why attention is needed to integrate them in climate change actions. She noted that there is need for financial support and consideration of the differentiated responsibilities of men and women. She reassured the stakeholders that the Egyptian government reaffirms its support to the President of Morocco in hosting the COP22 in 2016.

PART 2: DELIBERATIONS

The meeting deliberated on the following issues:

- a) Inclusion of women and youth platforms to the Climate Change negotiations in the implementation of the Paris Agreement in Africa.
- b) New and innovative solutions to mitigate against climate change and increase women's and youths adaptive capacity.
- c) Implementation of the CAHOSCC women and gender program on climate change (CWGPCC) and the CAHOSCC Youth program on climate change (CYPCC).

a) Inclusive Women and Youth platform to the climate change negotiations in the implementation of the Paris Agreement in Africa

The participants noted that there is progress in promoting gender responsive climate change policies and dialogues within the climate change agreements, e.g., gender was mainstreamed in the Paris agreement (specifically in the Preamble, Article 7 (adaptation), and Article 11 (capacity building); gender workshops have been organized in response to the Lima work programme on gender, and gender was a standing agenda under COP through Subsidiary body of implementation (SBI); an existing focal person on gender at had been recruited at the UNFCCC secretariat.

However, despite the achievements made so far, gaps still exists in pushing for gender, youth and climate change. Notably there is lack of gender language related to technology, mitigation and finance, lack of progress towards achieving a concrete outcome under the Lima work program and no clarity on climate finance flow especially to women and youth. The two-year Lima work programme comes to an end during COP 22 and there is anxiety on whether it would be renewed and the elements of such renewal.

b) New and innovative solutions to mitigate against climate change and increase women's and youths adaptive capacity

Representatives from the African Working Group on Gender and Climate Change (AWGGCC) highlighted some of the initiatives that women across Africa are engaged in to improve their livelihoods in the changing climate. These were; the climate resilient dairy value chain in Eastern Africa and smallholder farmers' diversification that involves use of drought tolerant crop varieties and livestock breeds, water harvesting for small scale irrigation. In addition, use of briquettes as a source of clean, safe and affordable energy sources.

The youth emphasized on the professionalism of the AYICC members, and the need to harness the capability of youth to transform and enable change. The youth were urged to participate in research programs by joining the African Youth Climate Connect Portal, a program under the African Union. The youth further highlighted innovations such as water management and agroforestry and emphasized the need to integrate adaptation and mitigation in agricultural practices with reference to a project in Cameroon. Small Island States (SIDS), were recognized as part of the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

The participants also visited success stories of climate change activities in Kenya (Part 4).

c) Implementation of the CAHOSCC women and gender program on climate change (CWGPCC) and the CAHOSCC Youth program on climate change (CYPCC)

Key action plans were outlined for gender, women and youth as Africa prepares for COP22.

In reference to Pre COP 22 preparations, it was agreed that the groups would endeavor to:

- Organize the second African Youth Conference on Climate Change in October 2016 in Kenya
- Draft an African position statement on “**youth and Climate change in Africa**” and “**gender and climate change in Africa**”.
- Develop an African Youth Engagement Strategy on Climate Change
- Strategically align the youth into their respective National agenda’s in order to enhance preparation, and accelerate engagement/involvement of youth in COP22 events.
- Source for funding to support youth and women to attend COP22.
- Train women and youth negotiators and ensure inclusion of indigenous people.

In respect to CoP22, it was agreed that the groups would endeavor to:

- Host a side event at the African Pavilion.
- Present the gender, women and youth African position papers on climate change in Africa during the CoP.

For Post CoP22, it was agreed that the groups would endeavor to:

- Identify funding opportunities for women and youth led climate smart initiatives.
- Develop a repository of good practices and projects strategic interventions that address gender and climate change and scale up the interventions.
- Convene climate change policy dialogues at regional/sub-regional levels.
- Push for the inclusion of women in **GIEC??** (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).

PART 3: CONCLUSIONS

The following were the agreed conclusions from the meeting;

- It is vital to position the African Working Group on Gender and Climate Change (AWGGCC) within the AUC as a think tank comprising on gender experts around the region to ensure that the gender decisions are integrated, mainstreamed and implemented.
- Increased participation of the youth and women at national, regional, continental and global platforms on climate change is critical.

- There is a need for capacity building and awareness creation on climate change issues in Africa.
- It is prudent to ensure that the youth are recognized by National governments as critical actors in climate change discourses and call for their inclusion in all programming including as negotiators was made.
- The meeting enabled the creation of a resource mobilization team comprising of six volunteers representing the 5 sub-geographical region to work with the AWGGCC, namely: Benson Attah- West Africa; Madame Sidibe -West Africa; Thelema Mvnhequete - Southern Africa; Sawsan Ali - East African (Sudan); Caritas Barankariza - Central Africa (Burundi); and Small island representative.
- Ensure inclusion of women and youth (especially rural residents) in decision-making processes at all levels.
- The AWGGCC to support the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and the African Climate and Sustainable Development Expert Support (ACSES) on strengthening the African position on gender and climate by creating a ‘think tank’ group to play the advisory role on gender and youth issues within AUC.
- National governments should adopt green growth behavior and create awareness amongst its citizens and partners.
- Dissemination of government policies related to climate change (with the focus on Paris agreement) to the grassroots’ level.
- The African Youth group issued a statement (Attached)

PART 4: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

Remarks were made from various representatives. The International Development Research Center (IDRC) representative, the United Nations Environmental Program Representative, the UN Women representative made remarks in support of the initiative to implement the CAHOSCC decision on youth and women.

Ms. Olushola Olayide appreciated all the participants on behalf of the AUC for their active participation and valuable contribution. She expressed gratitude to the Host – Kenya, AU IBAR and the local organizers for the diligent preparations. She also extended the appreciations to the Meeting moderator – H.E. Mrs. Winnie Lichuma for the excellent performance and the AUC colleagues. She finally re-assured all participants on the commitments of the AU Commission to take forward the recommendations through the relevant Specialized Technical Committee (STC), to CAHOSCC and the AU Policy Organs.

Dr. Pacifica Achieng Ogola, Director of Climate Change Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Kenya thanked AUC for organizing the meeting and all participants for being actively engaged in the deliberations.

A closing statement was delivered by Mr. Ussen, the representative of the CAHOSCC Coordinator (Egypt) based at Egyptian Embassy in Kenya (Egypt is the current President of AMCEN and CAHOSCC Coordinator). He emphasized the role of the civil society in

climate change and gender in the international arena. He further stated, that Africa has 27 resolutions that were adopted in the general assembly during the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA). He reiterated that this demonstrated a great achievement. He congratulated the participants for the good work and resilience during the deliberations of the meeting.

The meeting ended on Thursday, 9th June 2016.

PART FIVE: VISIT TO CLIMATE CHANGE SUCCESS STORIES

The participants also had a chance to engage in a field excursion visit on Friday, 10 June 2016 to learn and share experiences of the innovative strategies to mitigate climate change in Kenya. They visited Alpha's farm in Kiamumbi, the Kenya Climate Innovation Center located in Strathmore Business School, Human Needs Project in Kibera and the Nairobi National Park for wild life conservation.

List of Annexes

Annex 1- PowerPoint Presentation by Commissioner Winfred Lichuma, **EBS??** on behalf of the African Working Group on Gender and Climate Change

Annex 2: African Youth Statement

Annex 3: Gender Draft Action Plan

Annex 4: Youth Action

Annex 2: African Youth Statement

AFRICAN YOUTH STATEMENT ISSUED AT THE END OF THE CAHOSSC GENDER AND YOUTH MEETING ON CLIMATE CHANGE NAIROBI – KENYA. JUNE 7 – 10, 2016

We group of African Youth climate activists, development workers and scholars,

In line with the 23rd African Union Summits of Head of State and Governments Decision on the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa (WPCCAA) **Assembly/AU/Dec.538(XXIII)**, Malabo 2014;

Recognizing the need to elaborate on the implementation of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) Youth Programme on Climate Change (CYPCC) including Youth participation in climate change negotiations and continental wide youth competition on climate change aspects to enhance youth engagement in climate change actions;

1. *Having* participated in the “CAHOSCC Gender and Youth on Climate Change” Meeting organized by the African Union Commission from June 7 – 10, 2016 at AU-IBAR, Nairobi – Kenya, we welcome the opportunity for engagement and appreciate the space to have our voices heard;
2. *Recognizing*, that youth are among the groups most vulnerable and at risk of climate change and natural disasters; and aware of the huge population of African youth impacted by unemployment, poverty, violence, human rights violations, migration and inadequate basic social services and public utilities;
3. *Convinced* that youth constitute a great asset for Africa’s transformation in line with the Africa Agenda 2063;
4. *Concerned* about the under-representation of youth in policy design, implementation and monitoring frameworks;
5. *Strongly encouraged* by the decision of the Committee of African Heads of States on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) on the elaboration of youth engagement within the climate change negotiations;

Hereby agree as follows:

ON ADAPTATION, MITIGATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING,

Call upon our African Government and partners to:

6. Invest in capacity building of African Youth on Research and Advocacy on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation, REDD+, Climate Change Resilience, Renewable Energy, Waste Management, and biodiversity;
7. Integrate youth in climate-related policies and plans at national and regional levels;
8. Build capacity of youth on climate science and negotiations in order to increase their participation and influence on climate governance;

ON CLIMATE FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER,

9. *Urge* the Green Climate Fund Facility to dedicate a specific **Youth Fund** to support youth to undertake and/or upscale their youth-led or youth-focused climate actions and projects;
10. Identify youth best practices on climate change, waste management, climate smart agriculture that can be replicated across Africa using eco-friendly technology;
11. Provide incentives (grants, exchange programmes, scholarships, speaking roles, loans, among others) to encourage youth to identify and document innovative ideas, exchange ideas and best practices on climate change;

ON MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION, INTENDED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (INDCs) AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS

12. *Calls for integration, capacity building and Financing Youth* participation in climate change negotiation processes at national, regional and international levels;
13. Support the Creation of a CAHOSCC Youth Group of Negotiators (CYGN) to be integrated in national and regional government delegations to Climate Negotiations especially the forthcoming UNFCCC COP 22 in Morocco, November 2016. The CYGN should be supported by existing African frameworks such as the African Group of Negotiators, African Youth Initiative on Climate Change and the ClimDev-Africa Youth Platform;
14. *Advocate* for the support of innovative and creative campaigns for and by the youth who are walking the talk on action against climate change. Examples include: The Arts and Media for Climate Campaign and The African Youth Conference on Climate Change (AFRIYOCC) held annually.

We are young leaders of today and trustees of the future for the next generation. We need your support to take concerted actions to protect our planet.

We acknowledge Africa Union Commission and UNECA for the financial and technical support and creation of the convening platform for youth in climate action in Africa.

Annex 3: Gender Draft Action Plan

S/NO	AGENDA	ITEM	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES/DUTIES	FUNDING
1.	Presentations of COP22	African pavilion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sponsor women organizations with projects to exhibit good practices in terms of studies, programs and projects 2. Include country specific on impact in Africa 3. Show experience and adaptation measure that women have done through, pictures, slides, videos 4. Gender integration through policy briefings, scientific decision, calls for proposals etc. 5. Repository of good practices of program and projects/intervention that address gender and climate change 6. Mapping of existing resources on women and gender 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the people that will be involved directly on the project, Africa pavilion. 2. Have a strategic action plan 3. Support 5, one from each sub-geographical region and the small island(SIDs) to participate in COP 22 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mapping resources available for women and gender on climate change 2. Funding for building capacity of AGN 3. Capacity building for accessing funds provided at African level and under UNFCCC 4. Funding for clean running water
		Concerning African position	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gender and climate change mainstreaming in development plans and programs across the continent 2. National and continental legal framework for disaster response 3. Gender sensitive infrastructure and tools 4. Capacity building on women on energy, access good food production water and health and 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize a meeting to develop a position paper. 	

			<p>also impacts on climate change and health</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Women to get access to funds for adaptation (funds, loan etc.) 6. Women to be part of decision making at all levels of government also the rural women should be included. 7. Develop gender policy at specific country and at a continental level. 8. Women to get access to information, knowledge and new technologies 9. Submit on Extension of LIMA work programs 10. AWGGCC to support AGN to strengthen the Africa position on gender and climate change 11. Government should work on environmental education 12. Introduce and explain the notion on green growth behavior 13. Adoption of green growth Behavior 14. Introduce alternative source of energy 15. Management of waste and water pollution through recycling 16. Avail, explain and educate on documents related to climate change and gender with a focus on Paris agreement 		
--	--	--	--	--	--

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17. Disaster and risk management and early warning systems be put in place 18. Training of more female negotiators 19. Increase more women in delegations 20. Research on climate change issues that affect women and gender and possible solutions 		
2.	Beyond COP 22	Post COP22 Outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Based on the outcome of COP22, implement the Lima program extension elements 2. AWGGCC to engage in recruitment and develop mentorship structure in terms and resource mobilization 3. Funding for clean transport technology and sanitation 4. Mobilize resources for adaptation Of cleaner technology in different sectors of the economy. 5. An Africa narrative on women gender and climate 6. Support the AGN as ‘Think Tank’ group 7. Push for the inclusion of women in GIEC?? (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A structured follow up programme with key element for the follow up. 	

		Policy Dialogue at Regional /sub-regional	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AGN to hold bilateral jointly with G77 in China for ratification of Paris agreement by Parties States 2. Intergovernmental policy dialogues 3. Capacity building for parliament to develop gender responsive legislation 4. Show best practices and scientific policy dialogues 5. Civil society and private sector engagement on policy dialogue 6. Push for gender and climate change initiatives 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CSOs to Improve policy interpretation and implementation at grass root level 2. Policy formulation informed by grass root evidence 3. Scale up corporate social responsibility from private sector 4. Commission a study report for policy dialogues and institutional strengthening 	
		Long term	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Socio-economic gender analysis of impact of climate change on women in terms of health, energy etc. 2. Advocacy, campaigns and awareness rising on climate change. 3. Mandatory government report on implementation of program. 4. Access to climate information and service for adaptation for women and gender 5. Train women for use of new technology such as climate smart agriculture, renewable energy, cooking clean stove domestic west for biogas, improve charcoal 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage ACCESS, in developing evidence based good practices 	

			<p>production using technology that help reduce emission</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Disaggregating actions by sex, age, gender ability, or geographical 7. Support diversified livelihood options and scale up 8. AUC to establish a platform/center to show case African innovation (electronic and/physical) 9. Blue-print upscale projects and agriculture, energy, water and sanitation. 		
--	--	--	---	--	--

Annex 4: Youth Action

	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES/DUTIES	FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES/POTENTIAL	TIMELINES
Pre COP22	Accreditation and Visa	Get in touch with your national focal point. Database	National Government AUC	Accra – July; Visa – October 2016
	Caravan within the regions	Documentary Video making during the caravan Online 60secs audio-visual – campaign.		October 2016
	COP22 Communication Strategy	CAHOSCC COP22		July 2016
	National activities hosted by organizational.	National Youth pre-COP22 Day (Take advantage of International Youth Day August 2nd) Plugging into the national working groups. Consultation with stakeholders Local training on knowledge development Recognizing young people leading in climate change combating processes University dialogue while inviting national negotiators to share their models and experiences	AUC/National Governments	June 2016
	Artists and Media intervention	Exhibitions Conversations with artists to share perspectives Creation of songs		July 2016
	AfriYOCC	African youths position (presenting zero draft) Call for abstracts and have young academicians present papers		June – October 2016

		Youth Caravan Green space Launching of the African youth climate connect App Book launching Awards Build national youth position on Paris agreement and COP22		
	CCDA	1 st day Research 2 nd day green space 3 rd day high level plenary African youth video in the main event	AUC/UNECA	June – October 2016
	Consolidate good practices in Africa on Youths.	Climate change Handbook developed by AYICC Database to be developed by CLAYP		June – November 2016
	Sub regional meeting in West, Central, North, Eastern, Islands and Southern Africa.	Regional positions on COP22	AUC/UNECA/AGN/JVE/ACLYP/National governments	June – October 2016
	ADF	Youth event	AUC/UNECA/ACLYP/National governments	June – October 2016
	Training on climate negotiators for youth	Those who are interested in pushing the youth agenda should be indicated	AUC/UNITA/ECA/AGN	
	Reaching out to other fragile countries		CAHOSCC	
COP 22	COY	Ask for African youth as session facilitators and presenters during COY (Conference On Youth)	UNECA/AGN/ACLYP/AYICC/CAHOSCC Youth Program	June – November 2016
	Africa Pavilion	Encourage African Youth in all relevant panels and sessions at the Africa Pavilion Include youth in the organisation process	AUC/UNECA/AGN/ACLYP/AYICC/National governments	June – November 2016

		Include African Climate Artist Ambassadors		
Post COP22	Sub regional meeting in West, Central, North, Eastern, Islands and Southern Africa.	An evaluation and review meeting to charter the way forward for youth engagement and implementation	AUC/UNECA/AGN/JVE/ACLYP/AYICC/National governments	January 2017 (pre-event to the AU Heads of States meeting)
	Engage with INDC Processes at the National Level.		NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS	January 2017
	Policy Dialogue at regional/sub-regional		AUC/UNECA/AGN/JVE/ACLYP/AYICC/National governments	January 2017