

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي

UMOJA WA AFRIKA



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

UNIÓN AFRICANA

P. O. Box 3243, Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA Tel.: (251-11) 5525849 Fax: (251-11) 5525855

Website: www.au.int

DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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

Date: 15 February 2025

Time: 16h30-18h30

Venue: AU Headquarters, Addis Ababa

1- Background and Context

Africa is at a critical juncture, grappling with severe consequences stemming from climate change that disproportionately affects its communities and ecosystems. The continent faces a multitude of climate-related challenges, leading to profound humanitarian crises that threaten agriculture, food security, education, energy, infrastructure, peace and security, public health, and water resources. These issues not only jeopardize the well-being of millions but also stifle socio-economic development across the region.

Over the past sixty years, Africa has experienced a worrying trend of rising temperatures that outpace the global average. In 2023, the continent endured extreme heatwaves, heavy rainfall, destructive floods, tropical cyclones, and persistent droughts. These alarming events underscore the urgent need for concerted global action and support to mitigate these impacts and foster resilience, ensuring a sustainable future for Africa and its people. This pattern of extreme weather events continued in 2024. Parts of southern and Northern Africa have been gripped by damaging drought. The above-normal seasonal rainfall has caused death and devastation in East, West, and Central African countries. This exacerbates an already desperate humanitarian crisis. Without clear, concrete interventions to alleviate these impacts, communities in the continent will continue to suffer on all fronts.

It is estimated that, on average, African nations are losing 2 to 5 percent of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to climate change impacts, while many are reallocating as much as 9 percent of their budgets to address the challenges posed by climate extremes.

The recent pledge at the UNFCCC - COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, of USD300billion to be mobilized by the developed countries for the developing countries (Africa inclusive) by 2035 in the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on finance falls far short of the USD1.3 trillion requested by the developing countries to undertake their climate actions by 2030. This COP29 outcome has dire consequences for a continent that contributed the least (less than 4 percent to the global greenhouse gas emissions) to the cause of climate change and has the least capacity to adapt without significant international financial support.

By 2030, it is estimated that up to 118 million, extremely poor people (living on less than US\$ 1.90 per day) will be exposed to drought, floods, and extreme heat in Africa if adequate response measures (including new, predictable, and accessible climate finance and other means of implementation) are not provided. This will place additional burdens on poverty alleviation efforts and significantly hamper growth, according to the State of the Climate in Africa 2023 report.

The Committee of African Heads of State and Government (CAHOSCC), which holds annual meetings to evaluate the continent's interventions to climate action, was established in 2009 by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government to spearhead African Common Position on Climate Change and to ensure that Africa speaks with one voice in global climate change negotiations. The CAHOSCC coordinates climate-related decisions and programs, including those related to migration and security, and champions critical issues to the continent, such as; access to climate action implementation support, Africa's right to define its own development pathways, and Global carbon neutrality by 2050.

2- Objectives of the meeting

The CAHOSCC meeting is expected to consider the report of the CAHOSCC Coordinator, which will include a summary of the outcomes of the UNFCCC COP29, the report of the extraordinary meeting of CAHOSCC held on the margins of the 79th United Nations General Assembly in New York, updates from the Africa Climate Commissions, the operationalisation of the African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action borne out of the Africa Climate Summit held on 4-6 September 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya; the outcomes of the twelfth Conference on Climate Change and Development in Africa that was held in Abidjan 30 August to 02 September 2024 as well

as a status report on the implementation of the African Union Commission's climate change programmes, frameworks, and initiatives.

3- Participation and Dates

Attendance for the CAHOSCC meeting is by Excellencies, members of CAHOSCC and invited guests – their Excellencies, the Chairpersons of the African Climate Commissions and Climate Initiatives. The Proposed date for the meeting is **15 February 2025 from 16h30 to 18h30** on the margins of the 38th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government at the Africa Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

4- Expected Output

An adopted Decision of the Meeting of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC).

5- Invitations

Invitation letters to this meeting shall be sent to Heads of State and Government who are members of the CAHOSCC.

Invitations will also be extended to Presidents chairing African Climate Commissions and climate change initiatives. They are expected to give updates and report on progress at this meeting.

6- Contact Information

For more information about this meeting please contact Mr. Harnsen Nyambe, Director, Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy at the African Union Commission through this email – nyambeh@africa-union.org: and

Dr. Pacifica Ogola, Director, Climate Change Kenya through this email pacie04@yahoo.co.uk ,
[Tel:+254722296396](tel:+254722296396)

ANNEX 1: PROVISIONAL AGENDA

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE (CAHOSCC)

15 February 2025, 16h30 -18h30

Session 1: Opening

Moderated by H.E Amb. Josefa Sacko, AU Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (ARBE)

Opening Statements

- H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya and CAHOSCC Coordinator
- H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission
- H.E. Mohamed Ould Cheikh Mohamed Ahmed Ould Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Chairperson of the African Union (AU)

Group photo

Closed session – (Invited guests, observers and press leave the room)

Adoption of the Agenda - CAHOSCC Coordinator.

Session 2: - Updates and reports

- Outcome of the UNFCCC COP29 negotiations and implications for the Continent - Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) on Climate Change.
- Update on the operationalisation of the African Leaders Nairobi Leaders Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action by African Union Commission.
- State of the implementation of Climate Change frameworks and programmes by the African Union Commission.

Session 3: Reports from African Climate Commissions

- African Islands Climate Commission – President of the Republic of Seychelles
- Congo Basin Climate Commission – President of the Republic of Congo
- Sahel Climate Commission – Executive Secretary, Sahel Climate Commission

Session 4: Consideration and Adoption of the CAHOSCC Coordinator’s Report and Decision.

Closing remarks CAHOSCC Coordinator.