

**MEDIA ADVISORY****Africa @ COP20/CMP10****INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA**

WHAT: Africa Day at the 20th Conference of the Parties (COP20) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 10th Session of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (KP), COP20/CMP10.

THEME: *Africa in a Post-2015 New Climate Change Agreement*

WHEN: 10th December 2014 at 11:30am

WHERE: Lima, Peru (Cuartel General Del Ejercito Del Peru/ CGEP)

WHO: African Union Commission (AUC); United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); and African Development Bank (AfDB); in collaboration with UNFCCC and the Government of Peru.

Objective: The main objective of the Africa Day Side Event is to provide a platform and opportunity to critically examine and bring to the attention of the world what the post-2015 climate change agreement could mean to Africa as a continent. In addition, it will open conversations on issues related to inclusive growth in Africa, on-going and planned initiatives to support African countries develop national development strategies that are inclusive and green. It will also support their implementation through building capacity to access the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other regional and international funds.

The Side event will also explore how Women and Youth contribute to Climate Change Adaptation as stewards of change and sustainable development in Africa. It will further identify gaps and challenges that limit the active involvement of youths and women in climate changes activities, success stories, and needs of women and youth in relation to climate change adaptation.

Expected Outcomes:

The following outcomes are expected during the Africa Day side event:

- Better understanding on what a New Post-2015 Climate Change Agreement would mean for Africa;
- Common understanding on issues relevant to women and youth in the face of climate change, including climate change responses for achieving inclusive growth;
- Best practices from African countries on climate change related initiatives are shared.

Participants:

The Africa Day side event is expected to bring together African Heads of State and Government; decision makers from African Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs); official representatives and negotiators; international and national researchers; climate change experts; International and non-governmental organizations; and civil society organizations; among others.

Background

The 20th Conference of the Parties (COP20) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 10th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (CMP10) to the Kyoto Protocol (KP) is underway in Lima, Peru, from 01 to 12 December, 2014. The COP20/CMP10 constitutes a very important milestone for climate change negotiations in a build up to COP21 (December 2015) in Paris where the new International Agreement on Climate Change would be adopted. This agreement will come into effect and be implemented from 2020. There is a great hope and optimism that the negotiations will move forward significantly on some of the important elements of the multilateral climate framework, building on what was agreed at the COP19/CMP9 in Warsaw, Poland, 2013.

Moreover, COP20 takes place at a time when there is high awareness across the continent about the impact of climate change on Africa, and the need for the international community to conclude a new international Climate Change Agreement that is legally binding to all countries, and properly considers Africa's concerns. COP 20 offers a real opportunity to bring to the attention of the world what does a new post-2015 climate change agreement mean for the continent

The Twenty-Third Ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in June 2014 adopted the Decision on the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa (WPCCAA) and Preparations for the Global Climate Change Events in 2014 (**Assembly/AU/Dec.538 (XXIII)**). The Malabo Summit specifically requested for the development of 'a CAHOSCC Women and Gender Programme on Climate Change (CWGPCC) to engage women and gender in climate change related actions', considering that Women and Youths are more vulnerable to natural and human-induced disasters including climate change related ones. This issue is underscored by the June 2014 Malabo Decision on the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa that requested the African Union Commission and other relevant African

institutions to amongst other issues: (a) Elaborate on the implementation of the CAHOSCC Youth Programme on Climate Change (CYPCC) including Youth participation in climate change negotiations; youth competition on climate change, and enhancement of youth engagement in climate change actions.

Journalists are invited to cover the Africa Day Side Event on 10 December 2014 at 11:30am (Lima time), at Cuartel General Del Ejercito Del Peru, (Paracas Room), Lima.

Further information;

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