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PRESS RELEASE

Africa, which emits low amounts of greenhouse gases, is the continent most affected by the consequences of global warming. At this very moment, the effects of climate change are already affecting the people of Africa. Studies suggest that the change in temperature affects health, livelihoods, food production, water availability and the overall security of Africans.

Seven of the ten countries most threatened by climate change are in Africa.

Climate change and poverty

Precipitation has decreased in a large part of the Sahel and southern Africa, and has increased in some parts of Central Africa. Over the past 25 years, the number of meteorological disasters such as floods and droughts has doubled. This explains why Africa has the highest drought-based mortality rate in the world.

For example, Lake Chad, the economic and environmental center of Central Africa (Niger - Chad - Nigeria - Cameroon) has been drying up since 1950.

Climate change has already affected marine and freshwater ecosystems in Africa.

The landscape is changing all over the continent. Droughts, heat waves and floods have reduced crop yields and livestock productivity.

The impacts of climate change on agriculture and other food processing systems increase malnutrition rates and contribute to poverty.

Climate change and immigration

The accentuation of poverty causes many young people in immigration with dramatic consequences. On the one hand, our young people die in the Libyan Desert or in the Mediterranean; on the other hand, we have the rise of populism in Europe. Like Slavery at one time, immigration is emptying Africa of its lifeblood.

Climate change and terrorism

Terrorism flourishes on the ground of poverty. Thus, drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism are largely due to climate change.

Research shows that the change in temperature affects the overall security of Africans.

The impacts of climate change can exacerbate national security problems on the continent and increase the number of international conflicts as well as develop terrorism.

Conflicts are often caused by the use of natural resources, fertile land and water which are already rare. Continuous access to water sources is of crucial importance in many parts of Africa. Changes in timing and of intensity of precipitation, however, threaten the availability of water, a rare resource now causing conflict.

*"According to a United Nations report, access to water could be the main cause of conflicts and wars in Africa **over the next 25 years**. Such wars are most likely to occur in countries that share rivers and lakes. "*

Changes in precipitation and temperature are already affecting crop yields in sub-Saharan Africa. This has led to food shortages that have sparked cross-border migration and **intraregional conflicts**, which have themselves led to political instability and international terrorism.

Courtesy
Unofficial translation

The African continent, even though it is less responsible than others for the anthropogenic factors causing climate change, is however the one that suffers most directly; for all these reasons the African Union urges the international community And accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreements. The AU will take advantage of the G20 summit to raise U.S. President Donald Trump's awareness of global warming challenges to interest him in this issue and to further involve his country in the global effort to address this challenge that calls out more African nations than those of the rest of the world.

The African Union, which played a leading role during the COP 21 meeting and endorsed all commitments, reaffirms its full and unconditional support for the Paris Agreement.