



Final

THE 7TH PAN AFRICAN FORUM ON MIGRATION

MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE

We the Ministers responsible for Environment, Migration, Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation from AU Member States meeting in Kigali, Rwanda; during the Ministerial Session of the 7th Pan African Forum on Migration (PAFOM) on 21 October 2021 under the Chairpersonship of Hon. Judith UWIZEYE, Minister in the Office of the President, the Republic of Rwanda; under the theme “***Addressing the Impact of Climate Change on Migration and human mobility in Africa: Building Adaptation Strategies and Resilient Communities.***”

1. Express their appreciation to the Government of Senegal for hosting the PAFOM 6 in Dakar, Senegal in 2021 and further congratulated the Republic of Rwanda for assuming the PAFOM 7 Chairmanship and successfully hosting the Forum in Kigali, Rwanda.
2. Further appreciate the Commission as the Secretariat of the Forum for successfully working with the Republic of Rwanda to host the meeting and expressed profound gratitude to IOM and IFRC and all partners; for providing necessary support for hosting the meeting.
3. Commend the leadership of the AU Commission, closely collaborating with UN in supporting Member States and RECs in addressing the agenda of climate change and human mobility in the continent; especially in the implementation of the Africa Climate Mobility Initiative (ACMI).
4. Express deep concern that the adverse dynamics of climate change coupled with rapid changes in demographics with their intricate relationship with development, were amongst the most pressing challenges that dominated the continent's socio-economic development and has an impact to the continental

developmental gains, aspirations of the AU Agenda 2063 and realization of the UN Sustainable Goals.

5. Note with concern that drought, floods, cyclones and extreme temperatures have caused extensive damage to infrastructure, disrupted economic activity and affected livelihoods of African citizens thereby causing people to move or to be uprooted from their communities in search of opportunities for better livelihoods;

ON REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES AND POLICIES ON ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON MIGRATION AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT

6. Urge the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to bolster data generation, information and experience sharing for evidence based policy development.
7. Emphasized the importance of RECS in promoting inter-regional specificities and their respective initiatives including the Kampala Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change; to address the impact of climate change on human mobility in a coordinated, collaborated and integrated manner, as well as to raise the issue of climate-induced mobility at COP 27 and beyond.

ON ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON MIGRATION AND MOBILITY IN CITIES AND URBAN AREAS

8. Note with concern the impact of climate change on African Cities and urban areas that is compounded by the rising urbanization leading to population explosion causing a strain in social service provision.
9. Request Member States, local authorities, and traditional leaders to provide incentives that encourage citizens and all stakeholders to support cities' move to transition into green economies and also roll out of interventions that scale up climate financing projects in the cities.

ON ADDRESSING PROTECTION CONCERNS OF GROUPS IN VULNERABLE SITUATION WHO HAVE BEEN DISPLACED BY THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTERS

10. Note with concern the disproportionate climate change on vulnerable groups, especially women, youths, children, migrants and refugees and other categories; and the need to develop protection sensitive approaches and initiatives for sustainable durable solutions.
11. Request Member States to address the knowledge gap by reviewing education curricula to mainstream issues of climate induced mobility into Member States education system.

ON STRENGTHENING AFRICA'S POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS ON MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

12. Take note of the importance of strengthening Africa's policy and legal frameworks on migration and displacement related to climate change and further commend Member States that have developed or revised their national legal and policy framework to address climate change induced mobility and displacement.
13. Emphasize the importance of including all concerned stakeholders, displaced persons, indigenous communities, young people in the designing of policies, decision-making processes and actions to ensure inclusive development and sustainability. “
14. Request the fast tracking of the ratification of relevant continental and international legal policy frameworks to ensure protection for climate induced migrants on the continent.

ON ADDRESSING DATA AND RESEARCH GAPS ON THE CLIMATE CHANGE-HUMAN MOBILITY NEXUS FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION IN AFRICA

15. Recall recommendations from PAFOM 5 which focused on the need to strengthen migration and displacement data and research for evidence-based policy development, implementation and enhanced migration governance in Africa.
16. Request the Commission to fast track the operationalization of the African Observatory on Migration in Morocco and the African Research and Training Centre in Mali and the Continental Operation Centre in Sudan; to support Member States and RECs in addressing this gap.
17. Request the Commission to enhance coordination, cooperation, collaboration a partnership with to improve the quality of AU data and research through building the capacity of the AU Migration centers and STATAFRIC. to ensure enhanced, timely and comprehensive data collection and analysis in line with current and future migration, displacement and broader societal trends.
18. Note with concern the existing lack of data and research on the nexus of migration and climate change in Africa that has affected the effective policy development and implementation in Africa.
19. Encourage AU Member States to establish data and research centers on Migration at national level; with the aim promoting data-based national policy making and implementation, as well as to feed in to our continental migration data and research centers.

**ON CLIMATE CHANGE INDUCED MIGRATION AND HUMAN MOBILITY
ACCOUNTABILITY, ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**

- 20.** Encourage Member States to take responsibility of developing innovative solutions to enhance accountability, adaptation and resilience in Africa.
- 21.** Urge Member States to develop resilience strategies and redirect resources to livelihood programs that target reduction of climate induced migration including social protection programs to insulate citizens from the effects of the disruption of livelihoods by climate change.
- 22.** Urge Member States to take transformative actions to avert, minimize and address climate change induced displacement through adaptation and further enact loss and damage policies at community levels.
- 23.** Underscore the need to strengthen solidarity with countries and people most vulnerable to climate change impacts, facilitating their access to just transition processes, as well as significantly scaled-up sustainable and predictable financing for adaptation and resilience. especially in the context of communities affected by climate-induced migration.

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