

TALKING NOTE FOR UGANDA PRIME MINISTER, ROBINAH NABBANJA

- ❖ **Mithika Mwenda**, Executive Director, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (p)
- ❖ **Alison Parker**, Deputy Regional Director, Eastern and Southern Africa, UNICEF (p)
- ❖ **Richard Muyungi Chair**, Africa Group of Negotiators
- ❖ **Barnabas Nawangwe**, Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, Uganda
- ❖ **Rose Mwebaza**, Director, UNEP ROA (tbc)
- ❖ **James Kinyangi**, Director of Climate Change and Green Growth, African Development Bank (p)
- ❖ **Harsen Nyambe** Director, ARBE, AUC
- ❖ **Cosmas Milton Obote Ochieng**, Director, Climate, Food Security and Natural Resources Division, UNECA (p)
- ❖ **Jacqueline Amongin**, EALA MP and Chair, African Parliamentarians for Climate Action (p)
- ❖ **Beatrice Anywar Atim**, State Minister of Environment, Republic of Uganda (p)

Your excellencies ambassadors and representatives from various embassies

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning!

- It is with great pleasure that I welcome all of you to Uganda and to the 6th Africa Climate Talks. This is a noble initiative organized by Africa Union Commission, United Nations Economic commission for Africa, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance and of course hosted by the government of Uganda. Indeed, we must keep the conversation on climate justice alive as a community that has suffered the proverbial “tragedy of the common” orchestrated by climate crisis that is threatening our survival as a continent.

- Ladies and Gentlemen, climate change is a real threat to all of us but the impacts are felt more by the least contributors to the GHGs; the sad reality is that the rich industrialized countries are mostly responsible for climate change because of the development trajectory they took to amassed enormous wealth over the centuries, Africa on the other hand is bearing the brunt of a problem it did not create. There is no scenario in which this can be right or acceptable and this is why the concept of climate justice is relevant now more than ever before.
- Dear delegates, the IPCC AR6 report project more frequent and intense heat waves, droughts, floods, storms, and wildfires under all emission scenarios. This will shoot ongoing climate-related losses and damages in developing countries beyond the coping capacities of the already vulnerable and struggling economies and communities. These impacts have disproportionately burdened the poorest and most marginalized groups that have contributed least to global greenhouse gas emissions.
- The theme selected for this session “**Rethinking financing and ambition for climate action, green growth and development in Africa**” is well aligned with the Africa Union theme “***Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations***”. Time has come for Africa to stand and demand justice especially in our common pursuit of the ever-elusive climate finance to address adaptation and loss and damage needs of our people.
- Ladies and gentlemen, we are hosting this defining occasion just a few months after COP29 in Baku. This COP focused on climate finance and therefore the Agenda item on New Collective Quantified Finance goal was the main point of focus, we believe that NCQG agenda cannot be divorced from the adaptation agenda, indeed adaptation remains a top priority for Africa and we must not relent in our call for more than doubling of adaptation finance; Unfortunately, negotiations on NCQG have not been progressing at a speed commensurate with the gravity and urgency needed to address adaptation needs particularly for Africa. We stood in solidarity as the African community as we pushed for USD 1.3 trillion as a defining quantum for NCQG, however the voices of oppression which has characterized global geopolitical space have far too long prevailed upon us- the African people and the

negotiators ridiculously settled on USD 300 Billion as the new quantum.

- Ladies and gentlemen, the hinderances to mobilization and access of climate finance in the continent is just but a red flag that the current global financial architecture at it were is not fit for purpose; we must therefore challenge ourselves as African leadership and steer a deliberate and well-coordinated campaign at the global arena on reforming global financial architecture and global economic systems- this is the only way we can liberate ourselves from the yoke of massive debts and economic challenges that thwart our efforts in building resilience of our people.
- I also challenge African governments to guard our resources jealously and particularly our critical minerals. The world is transitioning and this cannot happen without critical minerals like Lithium and Cobalt; these are largely found in our continent but we risk being left behind as the rest of the world take advantage of these resource to facilitate their own transition journey.
- As I conclude, I urge all of us to remain vigilant as we prepare for COP 30, we must keep a sharp focus on key agenda relevant to Africa especially our clarion call on adequate, predictable, flexible and grant based climate finance particularly for Adaptation- which is atop priority for Africa and loss and damage.
- I wish you productive deliberations and hereby declare the 6th Africa Climate Talks Officially Launched!