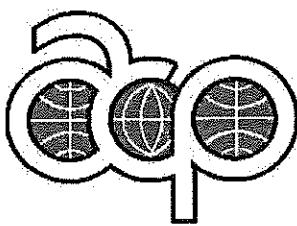


Groupe des Etats d'Afrique  
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique  
(Groupe ACP)

African, Caribbean and  
Pacific Group of States  
(ACP Group)



ACP/84/110/16   
SEDT Dept.

Brussels, 25 November 2016

**ACP SECRETARIAT NOTE ON THE MARRAKESH CLIMATE CHANGE  
CONFERENCE (COP 22)**  
*Marrakesh, Morocco*  
*November 7– 18, 2016*

## **BACKGROUND**

The 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 12<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP12) took place from the 7<sup>th</sup> until the 18<sup>th</sup> of November in Marrakesh, Morocco.

The ACP Group's Delegation to COP 22 included the Chair of the Sub-committee on Sustainable Development H.E. Dr. Kaire Munionganda Mbuende and H.E. Mr. Deo Saran, Ambassador of Fiji who represented the ACP SIDS Forum. The ACP Secretariat was represented by a Delegation headed by Assistant Secretary General of the Department of Sustainable Economic Development and Trade, Mr. Viwanou Gnassounou. Other members of the Delegation were: Mr. Olusola Ojo, Expert for Rural Development, Food Security and Environment, Mr. Edmund Jackson, Programme Officer for Environment and Climate Change, Dr. Pendo Maro, Technical Advisor on Climate Change to the ACP Secretariat and Ms. Francesca Antifora, Junior Climate Change Expert.

## **ACTIVITIES**

The Delegation took part in the numerous events organized for COP 22 and side events, some of which the ACP Secretariat co-organized with partners (see attachments). The Delegation engaged in networking and partnership enhancing activities with relevant negotiating groups and partners including the European Union, the different United Nations agencies such as UNDP, FAO and UNIDO, Conservation International, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and others, on how best to work together to strengthen the collaboration with the ACP Group in order to support implementation of the Paris Agreement and efforts to address climate change in ACP countries and Regions, among others. The Delegation held bilateral meetings with some ACP Countries including Belize, Benin and Togo. They also widely distributed the ***ACP Issues Paper on COP22*** at all events and side events they attended, as well as sharing it with partners.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

It is worthwhile to note the achievements of the strengthened and focused presence and participation of the ACP Secretariat to recent COPs. Based on the good track-record set at COP 21, notably the catalytic effect of the joint ACP-EU press release and press conference in contributing to an ambitious Paris Agreement, and efforts carried out in the previous COPs, the ACP Secretariat's visibility has immensely improved. This was noted at COP 22 as exemplified through the various calls for collaborations from partners, calls to speak at side events and the recognition of the

ACP Secretariat as a central player in Brussels as far as ACP countries were concerned such as in terms of the ACP Secretariat's anticipated role for COP 23 when Fiji will host the COP in Bonn.

While there was no formal ACP - EU declaration at COP 22, the two partners engaged very closely and were in very close permanent contact, with face-to-face conversations and exchanges of views on COP 22 and their collaboration.

The outcomes of COP 22 itself included the world leaders' declaration on climate change and Sustainable Development, the *Marrakesh Action Proclamation for our Climate and Sustainable Development*, which reaffirms their commitment to the full implementation of the Paris Agreement; a decision to finalize the rules for the implementation of the Paris Agreement by 2018; adoption of a five-year work plan for the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage which will deal with impacts other than those addressed under adaptation such as migration, displacement, risk management. Other issues addressed include climate finance, adaptation and capacity building, with some countries pledging some \$81 million to the Adaptation Fund (above the Fund's target for the year). A more detailed assessment of the COP 22 Outcomes will be carried out separately by the ACP Secretariat.

## **WAY FORWARD**

Two main issues stand out. One is the continued necessity for the ACP Group to participate and actively engage with relevant negotiating groups and partners in order to ensure that issues relevant to the ACP Countries and Regions are clearly articulated in the various negotiating texts and climate change and related discussions. The role of the ACP Secretariat in following the international negotiations and preparations for COPs through the various dialogues and preparatory meetings with ACP Countries and Regions at the ACP Secretariat and beyond cannot be overemphasized.

The ACP Secretariat welcomes Fiji's Presidency of COP 23 and sees this as an opportunity to further enhance the Group's presence at COPs, reinforce its collaborations with various partners and negotiating groups, as well as intensify intra and inter ACP dialogue and coordination on climate change and related matters.

The second is for the ACP Secretariat to work closely with the incoming COP 23 Presidency, Fiji, to prepare for a truly "ACP COP" with an emphasis on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and land-locked countries in Africa. One possibility is to start having regular early consultations with the current and incoming Chairs of the Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development, together with the Ambassador of Fiji and the ACP Secretariat Team (composed of

members of the ACP Delegation to COP), including representatives from the Departments of Macro-economics, Development Finance and Intra-ACP Programming (MDFIP), Department of Political Affairs and Human development (PAHD), to design a plan of actions to be carried out at the Secretariat, and elsewhere as relevant, in preparation for COP 23. A post-COP 22 meeting organized by the ACP Secretariat in early 2017 could partly provide a platform to further these discussions with the ACP representatives in Brussels and other relevant stakeholders and partners.

In parallel, the ACP Secretariat could also support Fiji with the different activities, inputs, logistical and organization aspects for COP 23.