

Reflections on the preparatory phase of the TD

The mandate of the Facilitative Dialogue or Talanoa dialogue from Paragraph. 20 Decision 1.CP/21 that convened the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue, to take stock of collective efforts of Parties in relation to progress towards the long-term goal referred to in Article 4.1 of the Paris Agreement, to inform the preparation of NDC pursuant to Article 4.8.

The African Group has welcomed the preparatory phase of the Talanoa Dialogue and its outcomes. The process has provided an opportunity to understand the views of other parties in taking stock of current progress in implementing NDCs. It has provided a necessary platform for a collective reflection by Parties, on where we are and how we are fulfilling pre-2020 climate ambition, and to have meaningful discussions that encourage learning from each other's ideas, and finally to share aspirations for 'where we all want to go'.

The AGN commends the participatory and consultative approach of the Talanoa Dialogue, and recognizes the role this approach and the guidance provided by the Fijian Presidency, has played in provoking similar dialogues at the national level. This has encouraged participation of national actors, both Government and non-Government to contribute to the discussion.

Reflecting on the synthesis of inputs by Parties into the preparatory phase, and on the submission by the African Group, it is evident that the road to where we want to go is consistent across Parties, and the direction is clear.

The AGN commends the Presidencies for the synthesis paper on the inputs under the Preparatory phase of the Talanoa Dialogue. It provides a good synthesis of ideas and solutions for achieving sustainable development and the 1.5C goal, therefore compensating for the imbalance and lack of focus on solutions and responses within the IPCC 1.5 Special Report. For the African Group however, implementation of these responses, how we get there, and enhancing action by developing countries requires enhanced support as per Article 4.5 of the Paris Agreement.

On the IPCC 1.5C Special Report- the African Group recognizes that the report clearly outlines and provides the necessary scientific evidence of the existing and more importantly, rising vulnerability of African countries to temperature rises above 1.5C and associated impacts.

The report highlighted four major sectors to focus on as primary areas for achieving substantial climate change action, in particular in relation to energy, urban development, land use and industry, all of which are major sectors for the

African continent, and together they represent both opportunity and challenge for transforming Africa to a sustainable continent. However, it is clear that the current level of resources, and support, both at national and international level are insufficient. This is in addition to the challenge some of the instruments whereby support is provided, poses to African countries, in particular when it comes to loans as main instrument for channeling finance.

Furthermore, we need also to be cognizant that the current geopolitical situation and latest developments in some developed countries raises concerns on the ability of countries to take ambitious actions on their own, taking into consideration the social and economic challenges such actions pose on the national level.

The IPCC report further stresses the need for urgent and ambitious action. The African Group hopes that the ambition reflected in the stories of the preparatory phase renews Parties' ambition in the update of the NDCs post 2020. The stark outcomes of the IPCC report provides the scientific basis for sense of urgency for action and should raise ambition. From the AGN perspective we hope that the IPCC will raise ambition of developed countries to support developing countries to respond to these impacts.

The IPCC 1.5 report is not without its gaps. As previously mentioned, the report provides comprehensive information on the impacts but falls short of providing recommendations and responses for developing countries to these impacts, and to what extent there will be provision of support to do so. The report also looks at the fact that ambitious mitigation action could have a negative impact on sustainable development aspirations of developing countries. We also note that the IPCC Report does not mention or provide for differentiation and operationalization of issues of equity. From the AGN perspective we expect that the political phase will start to bring in some of these elements.

In closing, the Africa Group expects conclusions acknowledging the Talanoa process and to send a strong message, on the basis of the scientific evidence, for developed Parties to take leadership in raising ambition consistent with the 1.5 degree report.