



CIVIL SOCIETY POSITION ON STATE OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND COP 24/CMP 14/CMA 1.3

22 November 2018

Kampala

Preamble

Over 125 Civil society representatives under the umbrella organizations: Climate Action Network Uganda and Environment and Natural Resources CSO Network in collaboration with Climate Change Department of Ministry of Water and Environment held a dialogue from 20-21 November at Royal Suites- Bugolobi, Kampala, representing Youth, Women, Indigenous Peoples, Academia, Private Sector, NGOs and Media.

The National Dialogue on State of Climate Resilience and COP24 Consultations supported by Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), CARE International in Uganda, Environmental Alert (EA), Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda (ECOTRUST), Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility (EMLI), Uganda Community Based Association for Child and Women Welfare (UCOBAC), Actionaid, Caritas Uganda, Dan Church Aid (DCA), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Oxfam, provided a platform for multi-stakeholder platform to share, deliberate and develop key demands for enhancing climate action at national and global level.

The Civil society underscored,

- Uganda's state of climate resilience was notably low as evidenced during the latest landslide which hit Bududa district, resulting into enormous loss and damage in the sub-counties of Buwali, Bukalasi, Nalwanga and Bubiita, and loss of life, of more than 60 people.
- Mass influx of refugees negatively impacting on forests and other environmental resources in areas of dense settlement thus suppressing the regeneration capacity of natural resources contributing to climate change

- Over exploitation of natural assets coupled with illegal trade in endangered tree species e.g. *Azelia africana* (shea nut tree) and sandal wood in Karamoja Region, deeply affecting potential for ecosystem adaptation to climate change
- Context-dependent changes to the land use exacerbating land grabbing, forceful evictions and consequent encroachment on wetlands thus lowering potentials of wetlands in sequestering carbon and other emissions
- Carbon markets remain non-transparent, inflexible (encouraging pine and eucalyptus trees) and unresponsive to local initiatives and needs
- Domestic resource mobilization for climate resilience and adaptation actions still a challenge coupled with absence of legal framework to spur financing for adaptation, a priority of Uganda's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)
- Limited capacity (financial and technical) of civil society in ensuring resilient communities, understanding and integration of climate change in planning and budgeting
- **Shrinking space** for civil society participation at regional and global climate events, especially the COPs.

Having noted the aforementioned, the civil society resolved that:

Government of Uganda should

1. Provide significant number of slots to civil society representatives in the national delegation to COPs of UNFCCC, in accordance with provisions of the Paris Agreement encouraging Governments to work closely with non-Party stakeholders to catalyse efforts to strengthen mitigation and adaptation action.
2. Expedite the process of passing the Climate Change Bill into Law and make provisions for 'Rights based approach', polluter pays principle and safety nets for vulnerable communities and indigenous peoples
3. Strengthen systems and frameworks for building climate resilience by; consolidating discreet vulnerability assessments, updating risk assessment guidelines and mainstreaming climate resilience in planning and budgeting frameworks e.g. Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
4. Establish a National Climate Fund, similar to those of East Africa Community Member States (Rwanda and Kenya) and ring-fence funds for addressing impacts of extreme climate events under the 0.5 percent allocation to the Contingency Fund as provided in the Public Finance Management Act, 2015

5. Enhance capacity of civil society to develop effective and responsive proposals to access funding and establish a mechanism at national level to deliver funding to civil society in its diversity to implement climate actions
6. Establish a sessional committee on climate change due to the broad aspect of climate change, beyond the sector of water and sector, to oversee activities related to climate change policy, examine and provide regular checks and balances on matters relating to climate change in context of development and ensure compliance of Uganda's commitments to the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement.

COP 24/CMP 14/CMA 1.3

7. Ensure balanced robust and fully functioning set of rules under the Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP) is delivered as one package with provisions for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, gender, refugees and climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation
8. Urge Parties to take into account the revelations of the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C and communicate clear pathways to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels
9. Urge Parties to ensure a robust reporting framework by providing guidance for information, clarity, transparency and understanding to enable tracking progress towards achieving NDCs under the transparency framework
10. Encourage Parties to develop approaches for grant funding for small adaptation actions accessible to grass root organizations
11. Urge developed country Parties to provide adequate, predictable public grant based financing to developing countries especially to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) whilst scaling-up financial resources and providing incentives for carbon markets
12. Encourage Parties to initiate discussions on setting a new collective quantified goal from a floor of USD 100 billion per year, taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries