



Climate and Sustainable Development Network (CSDevNet)



THE ABUJA DECLARATION ON WARSAW COP 19

We, the representatives of Nigerian Civil Society under the aegis of Climate and Sustainable Development Network of Nigeria (CSDevNet) with support from Heinrich Boll Stiftung, Pan-African Media Alliance for Climate Change (PAMACC) and the Journalists for Climate Change (JCC) met at HBS Hall in Ruqayyat Plaza, Jabi - Abuja at the Post-Warsaw and Post 2015 National Consultative Workshop, from 7th – 8th of March 2014 with participants drawn from Government, CSO, Media, and International Development Partners to review and analyze the outcomes of COP19/CMP9 and their implications for us in Nigeria as well as drawing strategies and action plans for COP 20/CMP10.

Recognizing the role of Nigeria to speak with one voice along with other African countries during the last COP 19 in Warsaw, Poland and desirous that this one voice should be that of and be informed by realities of the local communities; and the fact that non-state actors contribution to the UNFCCC process and its outcome is essential for informed policy formulation and monitoring of its implementation at all levels;

Affirming the authority of the Nigerian Civil Society and communities, as the expression of the sovereign will and voice of the people;

Concerned that Africa contributes

negligibly to the phenomenon of Climate Change accounting for less than 3% of the World's greenhouse gas emissions, her People however continue to suffer the most from the consequences of Climate Change ;

Noting the latest report that Africa is a "vulnerability hot spot" for climate change, with limited adaptive capacity due to high levels of poverty (IPCC, 2013). With two degrees of warming, total crop production could be reduced by 10 per cent in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the undernourished population could increase by at least 25 per cent by 2050 (World Bank, 2013).

Taking into account the urgent need

for Africa's adaptation and the need to prioritize loss and damage through international mechanism because of the impact of climate change on indigenous communities, the poor and marginalized communities ;

Acknowledging, as a positive step, on the COP19 outcome on decision on ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and the degradation of forests with pledges of \$280 million;

We hereby declare that:

1. There is no tangible outcome of Warsaw climate talks that climate justice is any closer than before the COP was inaugurated as the delays in countries disclosing how they will address reducing greenhouse gas emissions continue. It would seem that we are moving almost inevitably to a 4°C warmer world.

2. Having taken the form as a climate finance COP, Warsaw failed to deliver on its key premise. Warsaw failed to deliver on finance though the adaptation fund achieved its \$100 million fundraising goal with promise of more money flowing to countries that can stringently prove they are reducing emissions from deforestation, no clear deadline was set to make the first payments into the Green Climate Fund and the road towards the \$100 billion a year by 2020 commitment is murky, with no timelines, pathways, and sources outlined. Thus leaving developing countries without a predictable flow of funds to take climate action.

3. Developed countries should begin to manifestly honour and deliver on their pledge of providing US\$100 billion by 2020. Further, they must scale up their pledges to fulfill their obligation to provide adequate, new and additional funds as this amount is far from all estimates of climate finance needed by developing countries.

4. The establishment of an international mechanism to provide expertise to help

developing nations cope with loss and damage caused by climate impacts will remain an exercise in tokenism until the mandate and scope of the mechanism are strengthened to meet the needs of the vulnerable. In agreeing to establish a loss and damage mechanism, countries have accepted the reality that the world is already dealing with the extensive damage caused by climate impacts, and requires a formal process to assess and deal with it, but they seem unwilling to take concrete actions to reduce the severity of these impacts.

5. Developed countries must compensate Africa and Nigeria in particular for the full costs of avoiding harms, actual harms and damage, and lost opportunities for our development resulting from climate change. We oppose any efforts to establish adaptation as an obligation not a right, or to use adaptation as a means to divide or differentiate between developing countries.

6. Developed countries must remove intellectual property rights, pay full incremental costs of technology transfer to protect developing countries and contribute for peaking and declining of global emission. We oppose efforts to sell rather than transfer appropriate technologies, or to strengthen rather than relax intellectual property rights. Developed and developing countries should support the adoption and development of indigenous and locally innovated technology as well as ensuring efficiency in technology transfer and deployment.

7. Agriculture as a major contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions still reels under the warming effect of climate change especially in developing countries through higher temperatures, greater demand for water for crops, more variable rainfall and extreme climate events such as heat waves, floods and droughts. We therefore call for concerted action and climate resilient mechanisms and strategies that will strengthen food security, adaptation and mitigation as well as contribute to

sequestering green house gas emissions and capturing carbon in the soil.

8. Adaptation efforts should systematically and effectively address gender-specific impacts of climate change in the areas of energy, water, food security, agriculture and fisheries, biodiversity and ecosystem services, health, industry, human settlements, disaster management, and conflict and security.

9. With many countries, cities, and states billed to hold elections this year and next, civil society Civil society calls on citizens of such countries to pile up pressure on their aspirants until climate change becomes embedded in their manifestoes, not just as an environmental issue but a political agenda necessitating urgent attention of all. Climate action bordering on climate-smart agriculture, re-shoring the economy, sustainable land planning, alternatives to the car-culture, energy sobriety, eco-housing, ethical finance, social and environmental conversion of manufacturing, ethical consumption, a new share of wealth and work, community support, waste reduction and recycling, preservation of common goods such as water, soil, and forests should be on the

front burner as 2015 beckons.

10. We rue the missed Warsaw opportunity to put the world on a clear pathway towards a comprehensive climate action plan in 2015 that would keep the climate safe but we will continue to call out our leaders on the dramatic consequences of the absence of a global, ambitious, efficient, binding, and fair climate treaty. We will also be about calling populations to start the social, energy and environmental transition without delay, to avoid the point of no return before complete disruption of the climate.

10. The Nigerian Government should as matter of urgency begin to prepare for a robust participation in this year's African Ministerial Council Meeting on Environment (AMCEN) and the 2014 Lima Climate Conference to avoid a repeat of its perennially poor participation in international climate negotiations marked by late-coming and poor preparation. Nigeria should develop a systematic approach with input from all stakeholders and go to every COP with concrete and common National position.

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