TALANOA DIALOGUE:
The Nigerian Civil Society

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With a membership of 300 organisations cutting across the six geo-political zones in Nigeria, Climate & Sustainable Development Network of Nigeria (CSDevNet) brings together community associations, pastoralists, youth and women groups, media, faith-based and civil society organisations working on sustainable development goals to commonly promote and advocate pro-poor, climate-friendly and equity-based responses to climate change and sustainable development.

CSDevNet aspires to unify and coordinate isolated civil society efforts on climate change advocacy in Nigeria to ensure that people-centred response mechanisms are accorded desirable attention and relevance as climate change is increasingly mainstreamed into national and global poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies and actions.
ABBREVIATIONS

1. AMCEN  African Ministerial Council on Environment
2. COP  Conference of Parties
3. CSDevNet  Climate and Sustainable Development Network
4. CSOs  Civil Society Organisations
5. ERGP  Economic Recovery and Growth Plan
6. GAP  Gender Action Plan
7. IPCC  Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
8. KJWA  Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture
9. NDCs  Nationally Determined Contributions
10. PACJA  Pan-African Climate and Environmental Justice Alliance
11. PAMACC  Pan-African Media Alliance for Climate Change
12. PAWP  Paris Agreement Work Programme
13. SBs  Subsidiary Bodies
14. SIDS  Small Islands Developing States
15. SDGs  Sustainable Development Goals
16. UNFCCC  United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
POST-COP 23 & 2018 Talanoa Dialogue: Nigerian Civil Society Position

We, the representatives of Nigerian non state actors under the aegis of Climate and Sustainable Development Network of Nigeria (CSDevNet) held a one-day National Consultative Workshop on the 23rd session of the Conference of Parties (COP23) to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which was hosted by the Fijian government at the UNFCCC headquarters in Bonn, Germany.

The meeting which took place on the 30th of May 2018 in Abuja drew participants from Civil Society Organisations, Government, Ministries, Department and Agencies, Media, Regional and International Development Partners, grassroots community practitioners, trusts, farmer cooperatives, pastoralists, youth, women and faith-based organizations.

**Recognising** Nigeria’s mandate to speak with one voice along with other African countries at international climate negotiations and desirous that this one voice should be informed by realities of the local communities; and the fact that non-state actors contribution to the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) processes and its outcomes is essential for informed policy formulation and monitoring of its implementation at all levels;

**Appreciating** the progress Nigeria and other African countries have made in pushing the common African position at regional and global climate conferences;

**Acknowledging** the outcome of COP 23 which heralded preparations for drafting the rulebook that will bring the Paris Agreement to life and setting the stage for the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue on
the progress towards the agreement’s goal to limit the average temperature increase to 1.5°C/2°C, and the historic Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) that will help in developing and implementing new strategies for adaptation and mitigation within the agriculture sector;

**Affirming** the role of the Nigerian Civil Society, as the expression of the sovereign will and voice of many Nigerian people who are the most vulnerable to and impacted by climate change;

**Concerned** that the implementation process for Nigeria’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) require speed and scale with robust engagement of non-state actors;

**Noting** that the urgency for climate action in Nigeria is underpinned by climate science and the window of opportunity for avoiding dangerous climate disasters is rapidly closing;

**Believing** that the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue provides opportunities for accessing the latest scientific information based on the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C, evaluating the adequacy of collective efforts and collective progress already made, including the efforts of non-state actors, and identifying specific opportunities to enhance ambition and accelerate implementation, including sectoral, high-mitigation potential and regional opportunities;

*We hereby declare and adopt the following as our position on COP 23 the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue (Talanoa):*

- That while more work remains to be done, especially in the Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP). The Fiji Momentum for Implementation decision adopted by countries in Bonn underscores the importance of maintaining momentum as we move forward and the urgency of completing and finalising the implementation guidelines at COP24 in Katowice, Poland in December 2018.
• That we are concerned about fulfilment of the pre-2020 finance commitment on provision of USD 100 billion per year up to 2020 which has not been fulfilled yet by the developed country Parties. We are equally concerned that the discussion for the new finance goal has not even started even though it is expected to shape the Paris Agreement implementation.

• That the COP23 Gender Action Plan (GAP), which aims to ensure a role for women in all climate change decisions and projects, both at a national and international level should set the stage for increasing awareness and technical with financial support of government and the development partners for the effective implementation of gender-responsive climate policy/actions at all levels of government.

• That the historic Koronivia Decision on agriculture reached at COP23 will only remain a decision if it is not matched with concrete efforts aimed at helping least developed, SIDS and the African States to implement new strategies for adaptation and mitigation within the sector, to reduce emissions as well as build resilience to the effect of climate change.

• That Nigeria's preparations for the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue should be upscaled and broaden as the country is yet to experience sufficient mobilisation and involvement of all non-state actors in the build-up to the dialogue.

• That without the involvement of the civil society, media and private sector in Nigeria's 2018 Talanoa dialogue, the process would not be said to be fully underpinned by the four guiding principles of inclusion, equity, people-centred and environmentally sustainable.

• That now is the time to lay strong foundations for the future and ensure that Nigerian perspectives are strongly reflected through the engagement of non-state actors in the implementation of Nigeria’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), the SDGs and the Economic Growth and Recovery Plan (ERGP). Such engagements must anchor on a genuine global sustainability and low carbon development pathway, and must reflect the integrated link on social, economic, cultural and environmental dimensions of development.
Any implementation plan that fails to integrate these dimensions in a balanced way is not feasible for addressing present and future development challenges in Nigeria.

- That in the light of increasing rate of gas flaring, upsurge in soot and importation of generators across the country, the Talanoa Dialogue in Nigeria should address the issues of ambition in the country’s NDCs with regards to emission reduction targets from now until 2020 and post-2020.

- That a strong Nigerian voice is needed to ensure that the global Talanoa Dialogue truly reflects Africa’s priorities and needs as the time for Nigerian civil society to forge alliances and constructively engage all state and non-state actors in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and SDGs in Nigeria is now!

- That in recognition of the decisions of the 15th Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Council on Environment (AMCEN) held in Cairo, 2015 which recognised the role of the African civil society in actively participating and contributing to sustainable development process, we call on other Nigerian civil society organizations to join us, collaborate so as to build synergy among ourselves and come up with an extensive and collaborative framework that will orchestrate immediate and countrywide mobilisation and awareness activities on the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs at all levels in the country. CSDevNet as usual stands ready and will continue to contribute to Nigeria’s submissions to the different streams of negotiations towards SBs 49 and the UNFCCC –COP24.
WHAT WE WANT TO SEE IN THE TALANOA DIALOGUE

• ADAPTATION/MITIGATION

Given that the consequences of and responses to the 2 degrees warming challenge vary significantly across African countries, and are often concentrated where resources are the scarcest, a coherent and comprehensive approach on adaptation under the Paris Agreement is a precondition to an efficient and fair global response.

We strongly support adaptation fund to serve the Paris Agreement and the agreement on its modalities to serve the agreement should be concluded before or at the latest in COP24. The current discussions on the agenda should not be dragged to next year. Parties need to maintain the current governance structure as well as ensuring sustainability and predictability of its funding sources. Adaptation efforts in Nigeria and other African countries if well-resourced and supported have enormous mitigation co-benefits.

• FINANCE

Keeping global temperatures below the 2 degree warming ceiling will require an economy-wide shift in investments from business-as-usual to low-carbon, climate-resilient models. Predictable international support mechanism to addressing climate change especially in developing countries and switching to low- carbon development pathways by all parties should underpin the Talanoa Dialogue and in compliance with Article 9 of the Paris Agreement.
We want the Talanoa Dialogue to conclude talks on the new finance goal to show the urgency of the matter. Also, the new finance goal should be beyond the floor of the pre-2020 commitment of USD 100 billion. The goal should reflect the scientific requirements and needs of Nigeria and other African countries to, first and foremost, adapt, mitigate and cover loss and damage arising from climate change impacts.

• **LOSS & DAMAGE**

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. The 2018 Talanoa Dialogue should underscore the need for loss and damage and also come up with clear and credible information on efforts undertaken by Parties that would inform the Global Stocktake in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement matching actions by developing countries with support from developed countries.

*Signed*

30th May 2018, Abuja, Nigeria
 Appreciation

Our appreciation goes to the following for their support:

- Federal Government of Nigeria
- Federal Ministry of Environment
- ECOWAS Environment Directorate
- Pan African Climate Justice Alliance
- Pan African Media Alliance for Climate Change
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