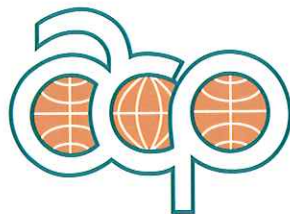


Groupe des Etats d'Afrique
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique
(Groupe ACP)



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

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Report of the Special Meeting of the Sub-committee on Sustainable Development on COP22 Outcomes and Roadmap to COP23

ACP Secretariat 14th and 15th March 2017

The Special meeting of the Subcommittee on Sustainable Development on COP22 Outcomes and Roadmap to COP23 was held on 14th and 15th March 2017 at the ACP Secretariat in Brussels, Belgium. The meeting was chaired by the Chair of the Subcommittee on Sustainable Development and Ambassador of Kenya, H.E. Mr. Johnson Weru. He was accompanied by two moderators: the Vice-Chairs of the Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development, H.E. Ms. Vilma McNish, Ambassador of Jamaica and H.E. Ms. Mpeo Mahase-Moiloa, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

The objective of the two-day meeting was to facilitate dialogue and discuss follow-up actions to COP 22, in collaboration with partners, focusing on key issues for the ACP Group of States. Furthermore, the meeting served as a forum to explore ways and means to support ACP countries implement the Paris Agreement (PA) and possibilities for an enhanced role for the ACP Group towards a successful COP 23, taking into account priorities in the *ACP Action Plan on Climate Change 2016-2020*.

Participants

The ACP Secretariat was represented by: Dr. Patrick I. Gomes, Secretary General; Mr. Viwanou Gnassounou, Assistant Secretary General, Department of Sustainable Economic Development and Trade (SEDTE); Mr. Olusola Ojo, Expert in Rural Development, Food Security and Environment; Mr. Edmund Jackson, Environment and Climate Change Programme Officer; Dr. Pendo Maro, Technical Advisor on Climate Change to the ACP Secretariat and Ms. Francesca Antifora, Junior Expert on Climate Change.

Regional organizations were present at the meeting, such as the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)/Regional Centre Agrhyment; the African Climate Policy Centre/ Climate for Development in Africa/UNECA (ACPC/ClimDev), the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC); the University of the South Pacific (USP); the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFs).

Participants also included delegates from ACP Embassies and Missions; the European Commission (DG DEVCO and DG CLIMA), South Centre, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);

representatives of negotiating groups to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) including the G77 and China Group (invited), the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) among others.

Day 1 - 14th March 2017 Opening session

The meeting was opened by the ACP Secretary General, Dr. Patrick I. Gomes, who welcomed the participants to the meeting and stressed the importance of providing support to ACP countries in the fight against climate change: “[...] *given the limited financial resources, the ACP Group would prioritise actions and determine the most effective implementation modalities to ensure the greatest impact on the ground in ACP countries*”. The provision of the means of implementation, such as finance for adaptation, capacity and technology development and transfer to developing countries is fundamental in order to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

The ACP Secretary General stated the full support by the ACP Group of States to the incoming Presidency of COP23, Fiji, an ACP country.

The Ambassador of Kenya delivered opening remarks underlining the importance of closely working with the COP23 Presidency to demonstrate political engagement and leadership and uphold the ambition, momentum and cohesiveness generated in Paris.

The Presidency of the upcoming COP23 was represented by the Counsellor of the Fiji Embassy in Brussels, Mr. Nidhendra Pratap Singh. He delivered a keynote speech echoing the statement made by the Ambassador of Kenya. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of working together with the ACP Group of States in order to achieve a successful COP23.

The last key note speech of the morning session of day 1 was delivered by the Deputy Director of DG DEVCO, European Commission, **Ms. Marjeta Jager**.

Ms. Jager highlighted the importance of the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement, the successful outcomes of Marrakesh and the launch of the Joint Communication Towards a renewed partnership with ACP countries at the end of 2016. She also underlined the strong relationship between the EU and the ACP Group of States based on common principles and objectives and the strong will to continue this collaboration. DG DEVCO stressed the strong EU commitment to support developing countries to fight climate change through the allocation of at least 20% of the overall EU

budget to climate action. The European Commission strongly stressed the role of the ACP group of States as a key partner in the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Day 1 - 14th March 2017 Morning session

Assessing COP22 Outcomes towards COP23

The first morning session, “*Assessing COP22 Outcomes towards COP23*”, aimed to analyse the outcomes of COP22 and the next steps towards COP23.

Ms. Yvon Slingenberg, the Director of Directorate A, *International & Mainstreaming*, at DG CLIMA, started her statement listing some of the main achievements of COP22, such as the agreement on the work programme and the timeline for reaching a conclusion on the Paris rulebook and a review of progress scheduled for COP23/CMA1 (first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement) in November 2017. The EU has endorsed the Marrakesh Action Proclamation adopted during COP22 and it is now implementing legislative and regulatory measures to be on track to reach the target of reducing economy wide emissions by at least 40% by 2030. Ms. Slingenberg also underlined several Commission proposals in the climate field, such as the reform of the emission-trading scheme for the industrial sector, a European strategy for low mobility, the review of the EU Adaptation Strategy by 2018 and several finance solutions for the transition to clean energy among others.

Showing its support to the incoming Presidency, DG CLIMA expressed that the EU priorities for the next COP23 are the Transparency Framework and the consultations on the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue (FD). Indeed, according to Ms. Slingenberg, one of the most important achievements that COP23 could deliver would be the completion of the design of the 2018 FD as “the start of the first ‘ambitious cycle’ under Paris in the form of a joint report by the Fijian and Moroccan Presidencies on their consultations on the FD 2018”.

After the European Commission, the ACP Secretariat, represented in this session by **Mr. Edmund Jackson**, Programme Officer for Environment and Climate Change, delivered a presentation on the ACP Assessment Paper on the Marrakesh Climate Change Conference, prepared for the meeting with the aim to compare the outcome of COP22 to the ACP Issues Paper.

The third presentation of the first session was delivered by **Ms. Mariama Williams**, Senior Programme Officer of the Global Governance for Development Programme at South Centre. Ms.

Williams delivered an overview of the outcomes of COP22 outlining the priorities for the African, Caribbean and Pacific Regions. She gave a brief overview of the current challenges under the Paris Agreement, such as the low mitigation ambition, the aggregate effect of submitted INDCs not consistent with the goal of limiting the temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius, the completion of the Paris rulebook and review and scaling up of ambition together with the design of facilitation of implementation and compliance.

Ms. Williams outlined some of the decisions taken by Parties at COP22 on the Adaptation Committee (AC), on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and on the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, but some challenges still remain. In fact, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) was established before rules of procedures and functional mechanisms are established; very little progress was made on the Paris rulebook and an ambitious work programme has been agreed during the conference to finish all the work by 2018. In detail, South Centre stated that COP22 did not deliver on an effective mechanism for the NDCs, on transparency of information and accountability process. Furthermore, the set of deadlines requires the preparation of technical and political groundwork.

Ms. Williams specified South Centre's views on follow up actions to COP22 and key actions on the road to COP23. She commented on the work of the Ad-hoc working group on the Paris Agreement (APA) on modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) and explained that there were still different interpretations of the Paris Agreement and debates on the scope of the NDCs.

The so called "orphan issues" such as those issues included in the Paris Agreement but that do not have an agenda item in the negotiating process, such as the definition of common timeframes for NDCs and the provision regarding finance, were mentioned during the presentation.

Ms. Williams also focused on the Global Stocktake (GST) - global moment of review of progress towards the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement to happen every five years starting in 2023 - as fundamental instrument to fill the gaps of the Convention and the Paris Agreement and to offer more information about costs and barriers to actions and open areas of international cooperation.

She stressed the importance of the transparency framework, the role of which is to show how developed countries are complying with their mitigation contributions and support compared to the needs of developing countries; how this support is commensurate with the actions to implement the PA. Furthermore, the Paris rulebook must deal with sustainable development, environmental integrity and double counting for market-based mechanisms (horizontal issues).

In the final part of her presentation, Ms. Williams highlighted what South Centre was doing in terms of implementation of the Paris Agreement. South Centre is supporting countries with their Intended

Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) review, helping them to access the readiness and preparatory support funds of the Green Climate Fund (GCF). It is also working with countries to ensure greater country ownership of the readiness and preparatory funds of the GCF for developing countries and finally is helping them to better integrate climate finance from several sources into effective national adaptation plans and other adaptation processes including Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs).

Regional perspectives on COP22 and Actions to Implement the Paris Agreement

The second morning session was called “***Regional perspectives on COP22 and Actions to Implement the Paris Agreement***”. Representatives of the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries delivered presentations on behalf of each region, sharing their views on COP22 and implementing actions for the PA.

The presentation for Africa was delivered by **Mr. Joseph Intsiful**, Senior Climate Science Expert at the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC). The presentation was prepared by ACPC, COMESA, African Union and Agrhyment.

Mr. Intsiful started with a brief overview of COP22 as the COP to maintain the momentum from Paris to show a united front in the implementation of the climate deal. The Marrakesh Action Proclamation has called for more transparency of action including the measurement and accounting of emission reductions, the provision of climate finance and the development and transfer of technologies. Despite the effort, COP22 concentrated on post-2020 ambition and the pre-2020 action was left behind.

After presenting the Pan African context, mentioning the institutions that lead the efforts to address climate change and development, such as the African Union, the African Development Bank, UNECA, ClimDev Africa and the regional organizations such as CILSS/Agrymet and COMESA, Mr. Intsiful focused on specific actions that the African region as a whole has put in place to date, such as the annual Climate Change and Development in Africa (CCDA) conference, which aims at the implementation of the Paris Agreement and its alignment with the African Union Agenda 2063 and the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework and the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) among others; support to some African countries in the implementation of their (I)NDCs; organisation of conference of ministers bringing together finance and economic planning ministers to mainstream climate change in budgetary processes and frontier research to address climate change challenges.

The African presentation included the regional views on the implementation of the Paris Agreement by CILSS/Agrhyment and COMESA.

CILSS identified the challenges existing on the ground, such as long term planning of adaptation and mitigation strategies, finance and monitoring, reporting and evaluation (MRV). There is the need to assist countries to study the real impacts of 2 degrees Celsius temperature and provide scientific evidence for the 1.5 degrees. CILSS also proposed to review adaptation and support together with other regional organizations as part of a common roadmap.

COMESA has been helping countries to mitigate and adapt to climate change through its regional programme, which enabled countries to increase their investments in climate resilient and carbon efficient agriculture, with links to forestry, land use and energy practises. COMESA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) are collaborating in the agricultural sector, where countries are supported to prepare bankable proposals and mobilize funding for NDC priorities in agriculture.

COMESA is actively helping countries to implement the Paris Agreement through:

- Providing support to mainstream resilience into Regional National Development Plans,
- Focusing on cities in sectors like infrastructure, transport, water and sanitation, urban climate smart agriculture, urban air quality and energy supply.

In order to increase climate resilience and improve competitiveness together with facilitating trade, there is an urgent need for harmonized standards for green technologies, minimum performance standards and CO₂ efficiency labelling for climate resilient technologies.

COMESA stressed the importance of trade as a vehicle for sustainable development through the Environment and Trade Hub, formally launched by UNEP in 2015. As a demand-driven mechanism, the Environment and Trade Hub offers capacity building and related policy advice on sustainable trade and investment that are tailored to local needs and circumstances.

To achieve low carbon growth, there is need to strengthen institutions, empower vulnerable parts of the population, as well as improve access to green options for small businesses.

Mr. Carlos Fuller delivered the presentation on behalf of the Caribbean region. Mr. Fuller is the International and Regional Liaison Officer at the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) as well as Chair of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). He started his presentation by mentioning the mandates of SBSTA according to the PA:

- Art.6 of the Paris Agreement states that “some Parties choose to pursue voluntary cooperation in the implication of their NDCs to allow for higher ambition in their mitigation and adaptation actions”. The same article establishes a mechanism to contribute to the mitigation of GHG emissions and support sustainable development to be used by Parties on

a voluntary basis. In addition, in the same article, a framework for non-market approaches to sustainable development has been defined;

- Art.9 of the Paris Agreement concerns the modalities of accounting of financial resources from developed countries;
- Art.10 concerns technology development and transfer;
- Art.14 focuses on the 'Global Stocktake (GST)' and the IPCC inputs to it.

The Caribbean representative provided details of the above-mentioned articles to give an overview of the steps already taken by Parties and the follow up actions on the road to COP23.

With regards to the IPCC inputs to the global stocktake, Mr. Fuller stressed the fact that the IPCC assessment cycles are considered key to the GST. The dialogue between the experts and the Parties on IPCC findings is very useful and the SBSTA-IPCC Joint working Group could be used to enhance coordination between IPCC and SBSTA in the context of the global stocktake.

In the context of technology development and transfer, SBSTA has considered views from the Parties, on key themes of the technology framework, such as innovation, capacity building and enabling environments, collaboration and stakeholder involvement. SBSTA has invited further submissions by Parties and will produce recommendations to COP23 by November 2017 (SBSTA47) and complete the framework for adoption by the CMA and provide recommendations to COP24 (2018).

With regards to Art.9 of the Paris Agreement, during the May 2017 session, SBSTA46 will develop an outline of the modalities of accounting for financial resources. SBSTA47 will later provide a draft with options in order for these guidelines to feed into the discussions on the Transparency Framework.

With regards to Art.6 of the Paris Agreement, the Parties have engaged in constructive conversations on common modalities and procedures for the three elements included in the article (cooperation, mechanism and non-market approaches) but further submissions have been fostered. A roundtable discussion between Parties and SBSTA46 will take place in May 2017 and will inform the negotiations.

Furthermore, Mr. Fuller reported on the Indigenous People's Platform: SBSTA46 will convene an open participatory dialogue on the operationalization of the platform. The UNFCCC will prepare a report and SBSTA47 (November 2017) will analyse the report and make recommendations to COP23 for the operationalization of the platform.

Some outstanding issues remain on the UNFCCC agenda, such as the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; some issues related to agriculture; matters related to science and review; impacts of implementation of response measures; some

methodological issues under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and collaboration with other international organizations.

Finally, Mr. Fuller provided a brief description of the Caribbean NDCs focusing on the fact that they are based on national policies and they are not project or programme based

Although some NDCs have already started, countries are facing several challenges to implement them or update them because of lack of funding.

The third presentation of the morning session on regional perspectives was delivered by **Prof. Elisabeth Holland**, Director of the Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development (PACE-SD), University of Pacific (USP). Prof. Holland started by giving an overview of the current status and future scenarios of global emissions from fossil fuels and industry, on the sea level rise and finally she provided a brief overview of the tragic consequences of Cyclone Winston.

Prof. Holland continued her presentation on the EU - Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) Programme for Pacific Small Islands States, carried out from 2011 until 2016 that has been very successful in delivering adaptation interventions, in mainstreaming climate change in national development policies and in strengthening the financial management systems in the countries. The Programme, carried out by the University of South Pacific, was based on three main pillars, such as applied research, capacity building and community engagement on climate and development issues. Within the EU-GCCA Programme, the Community Integrated Vulnerability Assessment (IVA) was carried out through a baseline that enables the identification of climate change impacts, monitoring and evaluation of resilience building, enables community-owned resilience development planning, implementation and adaptive management, provides a common reference tool that both the community and technical service providers can work from.

The European Union, USP and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) have established the Pacific Regional Federation for Resilience Professionals (PRFRP), which has the aim to boost the skills, education, training and employment opportunities for diverse professionals dedicated to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and maintaining ecosystem services in a highly vulnerable region.

The Pacific Climate Action Network, composed by 100 civil society organisations across the Pacific, proposed the Pacific Climate Treaty as a response to the Paris Agreement based on the Suva Declaration on Climate Change. The Treaty calls for limiting the temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius within a legally binding instrument, it imposes bans on new coal mines and fossil fuel subsidises,

commits to universal access to clean energy by 2030; it establishes a climate compensation fund for loss and damage and finally states the sovereignty and right of Pacific people and territories.

On the way forward, USP stated that there should be an increased climate finance access together with a funding mechanism for loss and damage; a review of the finance mechanism (balance between mitigation and adaptation, data on financial flows towards LDCs and SIDs to be disaggregated).

In order to keep the momentum at UNFCCC level, progress at national level in terms of implementation of the climate deal and the preparation of negotiations at regional level are urgently needed.

The Pacific region will continue to engage with the IPCC and with Pacific members on Global Environmental Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund boards and UNFCCC bodies to have a simplified access to finance. The region will pursue further integration of ecosystem-based adaptation into climate and disaster resilient strategies. It will focus on long term capacity building and will assist the Pacific countries to implement their adaptation programmes, for which the GCCA's support is needed.

A Conference of Parties hosted for the first time by a small island State and a Pacific country will certainly highlight the needs and the issues of the Pacific communities. The Pacific has already taken several important steps to lead by example. They have committed to low carbon development and net zero carbon emissions in the near future; they have created a framework for climate and disaster resilient development in the Pacific; they have invested in climate change adaptation integrated with disaster risk reduction, and in technical capacity building. They have also invested in building human capacity for leadership and research.

Day 1 - 14th March 2017 afternoon session

Partners' actions to implement the Paris Agreement and the ACP Action Plan on Climate Change 2016-2020

The session "***Partners' actions to implement the Paris Agreement and the ACP Action Plan on Climate Change 2016-2020***" was dedicated to statements and presentations by United Nations agencies on what they were doing on the ground in relation to the *ACP Action Plan on Climate Change 2016-2020*. The latter lists the areas of focus that the ACP Group of States has identified as main priorities for ACP countries: NDCs, mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity building and UNFCCC negotiations.

The afternoon session was moderated by H.E. Vilma McNish, Ambassador of Jamaica and Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on Sustainable Development. The Ambassador, while opening the floor to the panellists, expressed the importance of continued collaboration with partner organizations.

The first presentation was delivered by **Ms. Ermira Fida**, Programme Coordinator at United Nations Environment (UNEP). Ms. Fida started her presentation by providing an overview of UNEP's activities in three main areas: climate resilience (ecosystem based adaptation), low emissions development (renewable energy and energy efficiency fostered) and emissions reduction from forests (REDD+). UNEP assessed the outcomes of COP22 such as the development of the Paris rulebook in 2017 and 2018, the decision of the CMA to take forward the non-state actor agenda and the adoption of the Marrakesh Action Proclamation. UNEP provided a detailed description of what they were doing on the ground taking into consideration the areas of focus of the ACP Action Plan on Climate Change 2016-2020.

UNEP has supported 35 countries on their INDCs and is supporting more and more countries in their definition of NDCs in terms of enabling conditions (institutions, policy framework, finance, technology), guidance materials, partnerships and fundraising.

On adaptation, COP22 agreed on frequent adaptation reporting and communication and 30 countries have received UNEP's support and 3 have accessed funding for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). UNEP helps countries access finance for NAPAs, NAPs and ecosystem based adaptation and it works with the Adaptation Committee on metrics and to analyse support and efforts.

On transparency, Ms. Fida stated that UNEP continues engaging with the GEF Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency, with the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency and the Bonn Transparency Programme. UNEP supports countries in their Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and National Communications as well as Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs).

With regards to finance, UNEP continues to engage with the main funds (GEF, GCF, Adaptation Fund); it continues to support countries through the readiness programme of the GCF, through its work on private climate finance.

On technology, COP22 has started to negotiate the technology framework with some elements agreed by the Parties, such as innovation, enabling environments and capacity building among others. During COP22, countries pledged 23 million dollars to the Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN), hosted by UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Programme (UNIDO). Ms. Fida stated that, "over 60 countries requested technical assistance and 22 projects are under implementation but the funding available does not meet the demand".

On Facilitative Dialogue (FD) and Global Stock Take, the Parties in Marrakesh agreed that COP22 and COP23 Presidencies would hold consultations in 2017 on how to structure the Facilitative Dialogue. Although no details were provided on the global stock take, Ms. Fida mentioned that it is likely that it will include the main key elements such as mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation. UNEP is expecting that countries will approach them to support the Facilitative Dialogue. Furthermore, the UN Emissions Gap Report would be a very important input for the FD.

On the non-state actors' agenda, COP22 reached the "Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action " but the priorities areas need to be established in 2017.

UNEP stated the continuous support to the non-state actors' agenda and the importance of initiatives like the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) and UNEP's Climate Initiatives Platform that brings together international climate initiatives.

On capacity building, a Paris Committee on Capacity building has been created for the implementation of NDCs and the first meeting will take place in May 2017. UNEP is going to attend this meeting and engage with the Committee as well as continue its work with countries on NDCs and strengthen the capacity of LDCs negotiators.

The second presentation of this afternoon session was delivered by **Mr. Jan Kellet**, Special Advisor for External Engagement at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Mr. Kellet started his intervention by stating the need to interlink the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction and the Addis Ababa Agenda for financing development in order to act globally.

Furthermore, Mr. Kellet continued presenting UNDP's climate commitments in order to achieve zero emission growth and climate resilience. UNDP is working to implement NDCs, integrate zero carbon development, foster sustainable energy and reduce emissions through protecting forests. At the same time UNDP is working to foster integrated adaptation policies and strategies, to address climate and disaster risks and advance cross-sectoral adaptation actions.

UNDP has a climate change portfolio worth 2.8 billion of dollars covering 140 countries with 37% going to adaptation and 30% to mitigation, 22% to forestry and 11% to cross cutting issues, which translates in 737 million dollars directed to African countries, 407 million dollars to Latin America and Caribbean and 923 million dollars to Asia and Pacific countries. Mr. Kellet stated that UNDP supports countries in the development of INDCs through EU and other donors. Technical and financial support has been provided to strengthen the negotiation capacities of delegations at COP; to formulate INDCs 43 countries and formulate implementation plans for 38 countries.

UNDP helped organize workshops and two regional technical dialogues to facilitate INDCs development and NDC implementation, to develop the INDC and NDC Guidance Document and to formulate mitigation and adaptation strategies.

UNDP assessed the main key decisions of COP22 and underlined the importance of a Conference of Parties hosted by a Small Island Developing State to highlight the issues of the most vulnerable countries. In terms of COP23 support, UNDP is committed to provide technical and advisory support to presidencies, delegations and country groups on key issues under the UNFCCC; provide support for the rulebook and additional support for the implementation of UNFCCC outcomes, for NDCs mitigation and adaptation plans.

Mr. Kellet finally provided a short list of examples of EU funded INDCs and NDCs implementation support in ACP countries: Barbados, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Samoa.

The third presentation was delivered by **Mr. Alois Mhlanga**, Industrial Development Officer at the United Nations Industrial Development Programme (UNIDO). He presented the main objective of UNIDO, namely a sustainable and inclusive industrial development and its focus on Sustainable Development Goals (No.9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG No.n.7 affordable and clean energy and n.13 climate action), then focused on the main areas of intervention by UNIDO.

UNIDO fosters low carbon technology transfer, clean technology transfer, innovative financing instruments, capacity building and international cooperation and is proud of two important partnerships, one with the European Union and one with the ACP Group of States. Furthermore, UNIDO has established Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Centers (RECP) for eco-industrial parks, innovative chemical management and low-carbon industrial development together with the Global Network (RECP net) to disseminate best practises, information and knowledge. In order to support the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), UNIDO is part of the Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) together with the GEF to foster clean technology and entrepreneurship. Moreover, UNIDO is part of the Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN), which is a multilateral public private partnership initiated by the Climate Technology Initiative and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). PFAN identifies and nurtures promising, innovative clean and renewable energy projects by bridging the gap between investors, clean energy entrepreneurs and project developers.

UNIDO also focuses on sustainable cities through GEF's Sustainable Cities Integrated Approach Pilot (SC-IAP), which supports cities to address environmental degradation caused by rapid urbanization.

Mr. Mhlanga underlined the importance of the partnership with the ACP Group of States and areas of future cooperation, such as programmatic approaches for technology transfer and innovation;

international and regional cooperation; knowledge management and capacity building; public private partnerships and multilateral environmental agreements.

The last statement of this session was delivered by **Mr. Mark Davis**, Deputy Director of the Climate and Environment Division at the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

First of all, Mr. Davis underlined that the agricultural sectors (crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture) were among the foremost priorities for national climate action and sustainable development. The agriculture sectors are key in addressing climate change both in adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change to ensure food security, viable livelihoods and sustainable natural resource management, and also in realizing the mitigation potential of land use and food production systems.

FAO is committed to provide guidance and support to all Member States in implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions. This includes policy and regulatory aspects as well as institutional capacity development and technical support. FAO is leading the establishment of a Thematic Working Group on issues related to Agriculture, Food Security and Land Use under the NDC Partnership, in order to highlight and strengthen the role of the agriculture sectors in NDCs.

FAO will host a kick-off workshop “NDC and the agriculture sectors: International support under the NDC Partnership” in April 2017 where the Thematic Working Group will be formally launched.

FAO is supporting Member States to comply with the requirements of the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement and build their capacities in national greenhouse gas inventories of emissions from agriculture, forestry and other land-use.

In this specific context FAO provides country level support and public goods including:

- a. An E-learning course “The National Greenhouse Gas Inventory for Agriculture” developed jointly by FAO and UNFCCC;
- b. A manual for the estimation of greenhouse gas emissions in agriculture to address data requirements for developing countries (2015), developed under the Mitigating Climate Change from Agriculture programme;
- c. GLEAM-I, supporting calculations of livestock emissions using Tier-2 methods;
- d. FAOSTAT emissions database and the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments;

With regards to finance, FAO works with the relevant funding bodies to promote higher profiling of the food and agricultural sectors in financing decisions related to climate change.

FAO is an accredited agency of the Green Climate Fund. During COP22 FAO and GCF signed the Readiness Framework Agreement to enable countries to partner with FAO on activities enhancing their access to GCF, preparing national action plans and formulating GCF projects.

In its role as an Implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility, FAO has developed a substantial portfolio to support Member States in many technical areas including climate change adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction in agriculture.

FAO's work on climate change is guided by a new Climate Change Strategy that envisions food and agricultural systems and dependent livelihoods to be resilient to the impacts of climate change through both adaptation measures and the realization of their mitigation potential.

In order to strengthen and better consolidate FAO's work on climate change, a new Department of Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water was established in December 2016. The department will facilitate the delivery of cross-cutting work across the whole Organization on climate change adaptation and mitigation, climate policy and finance, environment and promoting sustainable bio-economies.

FAO is working with Fiji as incoming COP23 Presidency, to support the preparation of climate action days and other areas where FAO can use its available resources to support Fiji in relevant areas.

With the objective of contributing its expertise, FAO is also taking an active role in the Technical Examination Meeting (TEM) on Mitigation and Adaptation of the UNFCCC Joint Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and SBSTA workshop during its 46th Session.

FAO has conducted an in-depth study on the extent to which the agriculture sectors feature in NDCs, with the aim of better understanding developing countries' support needs, and identifying priority areas for NDC implementation in which the international community and FAO can scale up the availability of support.

Five priority areas for international support have been identified:

- Compliance with the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement;
- Coherent policy frameworks for climate action in the agricultural sectors;
- Research, analysis and tools;
- Capacity development for implementation and action in the agricultural sectors;
- Investment for the development of the agricultural sectors.

Overall, FAO is currently supporting 29 developing countries, of which 9 are LDCs across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, on the design and implementation of processes related to adaptation planning and related disaster risk reduction and management planning processes both at the national and sub-national level.

The FAO-UNDP programme "Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans (NAP-AG)" is supporting 11 least developed countries and developing countries to identify and integrate climate adaptation measures in the agriculture sectors into relevant national planning and budgeting

through the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process. Four of them belong to the ACP group of countries - Gambia, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia.

The presentations and statements delivered by all UN agencies provided a clear overview of the on-going work on the ground in relation to the priorities of ACP countries outlined in the ACP Action Plan on Climate Change 2016-2020. In their role as partners, the UN agencies can assist ACP countries to tackle climate change through technical and financial support.

Views on COP23 and Actions to implement the Paris Agreement

The last afternoon session was called ***“Views on COP23 and Actions to implement the Paris Agreement”*** dedicated to UNFCCC negotiators to share their views on the upcoming COP23 and further actions to implement the climate deal.

The first panellist was **Mr. Manjeet Dhakal**, Advisor to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) Chair at the UNFCCC.

Mr. Dhakal explained that the LDC countries have started to act in response to their adaptation needs through the adoption of a work programme for LDCs, an LDC Fund, implementation of NAPAs, communications of INDCs and NDCs and they are now in the process of formulating NAPs. They still face several challenges though, such as access to finance and support to implement NDCs and national plans.

The Least Developed Countries Group has some key priorities for the year 2017:

- urgent NDC implementation and finance to unlock greater ambition;
- intensive technical discussion in 2017 for the full Paris rulebook to be adopted in 2018;
- as per the facilitative Dialogue, to provide collective guidance on the global effort to increase the ambition of the next round of NDCs to achieve the 1.5°C pathway;
- Pre-2020 actions to lay important foundation for post-2020 actions;
- Loss and Damage - action and support, to advance the work under WIM;
- Adaptation - support for implementation, funding for NAPs;
- Finance: replenishment of the LDC Fund; continuation of the Adaptation Fund and easy and expedite access to Green Climate Fund;
- Concrete actions on capacity building and technology transfer.

With regards to the Facilitative dialogue, Mr. Dhakal stressed that it should clearly state the status of emissions reductions, what needs to be done to reach the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal and a clear

timeline of actions. The FD should also deliver a political declaration including political commitments.

On the road to COP23, the LDC Group has actively prepared a draft two-year work plan highlighting engagement at the negotiation process and promoting implementation strategies. The Group is currently planning for a possible Strategy meeting in April 2017 to prepare for COP23 and a LDC Ministerial before COP23 to discuss strategies and issues and priorities for COP23.

Regular participation and engagement to the UNFCCC inter-sessional (formal and informal) meetings to discuss, strategize and prepare for COP23 will be a priority for the LDC Group this year.

Mr. Dhakal finally outlined what the Group is expecting in 2017 and from COP23:

- Substantive progress on the preparation of the Paris Agreement rulebook.
- Notification from the Presidencies on how the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue will be organized;
- Substantive progress on action and ambition agenda across various themes;
- Adoption of five year rolling work-plan of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage;
- Decisions and finalization of the work on climate finance.

The second panellist was **Mr. Amjad Abdulla**, Chief Negotiator of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) to the UNFCCC. Mr. Abdulla started his presentation by analysing the outcomes of COP22. He clearly stated that COP22 had political outcomes, such as the first meeting of the CMA, the launch of the 'Island Renewable Energy Initiative' and the announced timeline for the completion of the Paris rulebook. At the same time, COP22 delivered some technical outputs, namely the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue, NDCs, Transparency Framework, the GST, the review of the WIM, the establishment of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building and the debate on the Adaptation Fund serving the Paris Agreement.

With regards to the necessary actions to put in place in order to implement the Paris Agreement, AOSIS focused on the financial aspect of the current discussions. Indeed Mr. Abdulla underlined the importance of receiving support by developed countries to implement NDCs, the fundamental role of the National Implementing Entities to directly receive funds from the Adaptation Fund and the need to simplify procedures to access the finance provided by the GCF.

AOSIS is looking forward to working together with the upcoming Presidency of COP23 and they are expecting further developments under the loss and damage issue, the Adaptation Fund serving the PA and the completion of the Paris rulebook.

The last speaker of this session was **Mrs. Selam Kidane Abebe**, Legal Adviser to the Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN). Mrs. Abebe echoed the statements made by the previous speakers mentioning the main outcomes of COP22, such as the development of the Paris rulebook, the completion of the work programme, the pending decision on the Adaptation Fund serving the agreement and the early implementation of Article 11 of the Paris Agreement on capacity building. She stressed that it was fundamental to maintain the political momentum on climate action and to ensure the right balance between mitigation and adaptation and means of implementation. Furthermore, the efforts by developing countries and in particular African initiatives, such as the African Adaptation Initiative and the African Renewable Initiative, need to be taken closely linked to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

On the road to COP23, AGN has the following priorities:

- Ensuring a comprehensive, balanced, fair and rules-based regime to reflect the PA and its implementing decisions to achieve the objective of the Convention;
- Operationalization of adaptation as provided under the Convention through elaborating the global goal for adaptation of the PA;
- Increasing the pool of finance for African countries, advancing fast track, and enhancing direct access to support climate action;
- Accelerating the elaboration of the technology framework to support implementation of climate action and early implementation of capacity building provisions to address capacity gaps;
- Enhancing pre-2020 action.

After the above presentations, **Dr. Pendo Maro**, Technical Advisor on Climate Change to the ACP Secretariat, gave a brief introduction to the draft *ACP Roadmap to COP23*.

The meeting was adjourned at 6pm.

Day 2 – 15th March 2017

H.E. Ms. Mpeo Mahase-Moiloa, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Lesotho, moderated the second day of the meeting. She underlined the importance of creating and strengthening partnerships, the key role for the ACP Group of States in working together with the incoming Presidency of COP23 and the importance of the ACP participation to climate change and other related discussions.

The moderator gave the floor to the ACP Secretariat, this time represented by **Mr. Olusola Ojo**, Expert in Rural Development, Food Security and Environment, who provided a brief overview of the key takeaways from the first day.

Discussions around the *ACP Roadmap to COP23* followed soon afterwards.

The discussions concentrated on:

- The work under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- The work under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- The high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (the so called “Ocean Conference”, which will take place on the 5th and the 6th of June 2017 in New York).
- The role of the ACP group at COP23 and support to Fiji Presidency;
- A list of main events that the ACP Secretariat, supporting the Fiji Presidency, will be organising leading up to and at COP23.

A revised *ACP Roadmap to COP 23*, taking into account input from these discussions, is the outcome document of this meeting.

The *ACP Roadmap to COP23* will be submitted to the Committee of Ambassadors for final approval.