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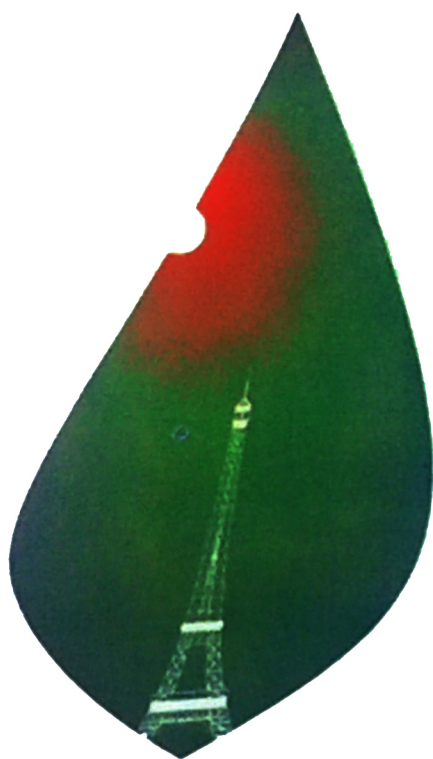


REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace - Work - Fatherland

CIVIL CABINET

COMMUNICATION UNIT

COP21



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Press Kit



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OF CAMEROON

I- GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION

Cameroon is a country in Central and West Africa. She shares her boundaries with Nigeria (west), the Atlantic Ocean (southwest), Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Congo (south), the Central African Republic and Chad (east), Lake Chad (north).

Situated at the heart of Africa, Cameroon has a diverse relief, climate and flora. It is for this reason that she is nicknamed «Africa in miniature».

II- CLIMATE

Cameroon offers a wide range of tropical climates because it stretches from Lake Chad towards the equator; eleven degrees latitude (2° to 13° of the north latitude).

• Temperatures

Cameroon is located around a hot climatic zone. Temperatures are high. It increases from the south to the north (24°C in Yaounde and 30° in Kousseri). The topography also influences the temperatures. It is hotter in Douala, in the coastal plain, than in Yaounde on the South Cameroon plateau.

• Rainfall

Rainfall is unevenly distributed, subject to the influence of the proximity to the sea, latitude and altitude. They decrease from south to north (Douala 4125 mm of water per year, Kousseri: 541 mm per year), from the coast to the interior (Kribi: 300 mm per year, Yaoundé: 1597 mm per year). They increase with altitude (Mokolo: 974 mm per year, Maroua: 815 mm per year).

• Air Masses

Cameroon's climates are influenced by seasonal swing of two air masses. The mass of continental air, which is stable and warm from the Saharan anticyclone called the Harmattan; and maritime air mass, which is unstable and wet, blowing of the anticyclone of St. Helena, called the monsoon. These air masses that move in latitude,

meet along the Inter-tropical Front (ITF), causing the rainy season.

Three climatic zones exist in Cameroon:

➤ Equatorial zone

The equatorial climatic zone on the South Cameroon Plateau extends to 6° of the north latitude. It is subdivided into: - a «Guinean type» with four seasons (one large and one small dry seasons ranging respectively from December to March and from June to August, a large and a small rainy seasons that last from September to November and from March to June respectively), and the average temperature of 25°C; and – a «Cameroonian type» on Mount Cameroon, particularly hot and humid, with abundant and continuous rains over nine months.

➤ Sudanese zone

The humid tropical Sudanese climatic zone extends from 7° to just over 10° of the north latitude. There is the classic Sudan type (Benue trough) with higher average temperatures, rainfalls lower than 1 meter and a dry season of six months. There is also the Sudano-Guinean shade altitude of the Adamawa with fairly cool average temperatures (22°C), heavy rains from March to November and a dry season of five months.

➤ Sudano-Sahelian zone

The Sudano-Sahelian climatic zone differs from the Sudanese climatic zone by a significant decrease in rainfall, and the dry season lasts at least seven months. 11° north of the north latitude, the Chad plain is an intense evaporation region where the rainy season is reduced to three months.

III- RELIEF AND VEGETATION

The Relief

Cameroon's relief is extraordinarily contrasting. In the north, there are lowlands bordering Lake Chad, the Logone and Chari, and the Mandara Mountains dominated by lava peaks. A wide and high volcanic shelf is at the centre, while

coastal plains, low plateaus are in the south. Finally, volcanic formations whose highest point is Mount Cameroon or the “chariot of the gods” (4095 metres) are found in the west.

Vegetation

Cameroon’s vegetation is a blend of Africa’s. It includes forest, savannah and steppe in different forms.

• Forests

The vast forest belt that extends from East Africa to the Gulf of Guinea covers the entire southern part of Cameroon to the Adamawa plateau. It can be classified into 3 categories:



The coastal forest

It covers the coastline from Mundemba (northern part) to Campo (south part). It infiltrates several tens of kilometres of Cameroonian shores and has its eastern limits in Kombo and Edea through Yabassi. This forest gives way to the mangroves.



The Atlantic Forest

It enters 100-150 km inland but it can go up to 200/250 km in the south especially in the Nyong and Kelle division. It is characterized by the abundance of Caesalpiniaceae (tropical and subtropical trees and shrubs. Only small forest fragments could be found in the western high plateau because the forest has been destroyed by man in search of new lands.



The Dja forest

The forest region of South East Cameroon merges with that of the neighbouring Congolese forests. This forest is dense and evergreen. It has a drainage density made up of the Dja, the Boumba, the Ngoko, etc.

• Savannahs

Cameroonian savannas can be classified into 3 categories:



The shrub savannah and tree Sudano-Guinean of Adamawa

They cover the Sudanese altitude (between 900 and 1500 metres). They are highly degraded by agricultural clearing, pasture, and bushfires.



The wooded savannas and dry woodlands mid-Sudanese

They are found in two strong blocks. One extends into the

southern Northwest region (border area with Nigeria). The other is located north or south of the Benue trough. The grass is essentially Graminea.



The Sudano-Sahelian savannah woodlands of the Benue basin

They extend further north in latitude around the Benue basin and advance to the 10th parallel south of the Diamare and Mayo-Danay divisions.

• The Sahelo-Sudanese «steppes»

The plants are short and sparse. Two types of steppes are found in the Far North: a locally dense Sahelo-Sudanian, and a smaller Sahelo-Saharan type, limited to the shores of Lake Chad.

• The coastline

Cameroon has a coastline of nearly 320 km long divided into two distinct parts:

From Rio del Rey to the Cameroon Estuaries of River Wouri and River Mungo (a low and jagged coast). This is the area of mangroves and creeks.

From the south of Nyong to Campo (a rocky coast with small sandy bays).

Cameroon’s coastline has the distinction of being an important tourist area.

IV- THE AGRICULTURE AND PART OF THE FOREST ECONOMY IN CAMEROON

This sector accounted for 21.1% of Cameroon’s GDP and contributed 0.8 points to growth in 2013 against 0.6 in 2012. In 2014, the GDP grew to 4.3%, supported by the consolidation of activities in agriculture for food products and recovery in forestry and logging.

The growth of food crops was 3.9% in 2013. Supervisory activities of farmers and distribution of plant material and fertilizers were implemented. In 2014, production of food crops increased by 4.1%. Production of agricultural exports increased by 65.9% due to increased acreage and improved yields. In 2014, industrial agriculture and export grew by 4.8%. Industrial agriculture and export consists mainly of cash crops namely, cocoa, coffee, rubber, cotton, banana and palm oil. The food crops are mainly cereals, roots and tubers, fruits and vegetables.

Regarding the forest, it should be noted that Cameroon has the second forest in Africa. The forest area is estimated at 22 million hectares, or 46% of the national territory. The exploitable area representing 89.5% of the forest area is estimated at 19.7 million hectares, of which 6.2 million are awarded in the form of forest management units (FMUs) and 5.4 million hectares are under development. The government's actions are focused on: development and forestry; reforestation; and the enhancement of wildlife resources.

At the end of 2013, revenues from logging (annual forestry fee, timber tax, factory head tax), were \$ 18.9 billion, up 33.9% from 2012. This change is mainly linked to an 84.3% leap of revenues from the annual forestry fee with the intensification of collection operations. The timber tax was up by 10.3% sequentially to increased production. The factory-input tax was removed during the year 2013. The adjacent communities and municipalities have benefited from a transfer of FCFA 4.6 billion corresponding to 50% of the annual forestry fee.

Regarding the use of wood and development of timber and energy sectors, the wood drying standards were developed and 290 technicians were trained on techniques of drying and manufacture of massive reconstituted wood products. In addition, 684 tonnes of charcoal were produced from sawmill scrap in the pilot site of the Eastern Region.

V- LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

In 2014, growth in the livestock sub-sector was 5%; and

the fishing sector stood at 3.4%. The herd of cattle grew by 5% and the quantities of meat from slaughter houses were up by 5.3%. The pig population was up by 7.5% compared to 2013. This increase could be explained by the decline of the outbreak of African swine fever which affected herds in 2012, and the renewal of the genetic material with the acquisition 73 pigs purebred sires.

As for fishing, it should be noted that fish production increased by 46.3% in 2013. It was estimated at 94,718 tonnes, of which 48.3% was from industrial fishing, 34.5% from artisanal sea fishing and 17.2% from inland fishing. The increase in production was the consequence of improved data collection in the various landing points and the intensification of maritime surveillance.

As part of the fight against illegal fishing, four canoes were acquired to monitor the Bakassi fishing zone. Moreover 28 permits were issued for the opening treatment facilities, storage and marketing of fish products, and 43 authorisations were made for the creation of such facilities. 54 fishing licenses and 31 import notification techniques have also been granted.

To develop aquaculture, a unit of fish feed production was built in Fouban with the Cameroon-Brazil cooperation. Seed farms are being rehabilitated to provide genetic material too. An aquaculture pilot plant was built in Meyomessala and seven others are in progress. A hatchery closed circuit was built in Logbaba. Raising fish in cages is being piloted in three sites (Mbalmayo, Lagdo and Ebebda).



GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

The Constitution of Cameroon provides, from its preamble that: *«Everyone has the right to a healthy environment. Environmental protection is a duty for all. The State shall ensure the protection and promotion of the environment.»* Thus, Cameroon is one of the few countries in the world to have inscribed the defence and protection of the environment in its Basic Law.

The national environmental policy defined by the Head of State and implemented by the Government encourages the participatory approach. Indeed, the law on environmental management, enacted in 1996, encourages community participation in protecting the environment through: free access to environmental information; consultative mechanisms to collect opinions; representation in environmental advisory bodies; production, education, training, research and environmental education.

The Government has taken a number of measures to preserve our environment, ranging from the creation of a relevant and coherent institutional framework, and actions to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, through the fight against Desertification.

Regarding the institutional framework, the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED), created by the President of the Republic in 2004, is responsible for the development, implementation and evaluation of the Government's policy on the environment, protection of nature and sustainable development. MINEPDED was entrusted with the implementation of the National Plan for Management of the Environment (NPME), general frame of reference for the various regional actions and strategies for environmental management in Cameroon.

The other structure that plays a key role in achieving the vision of President Paul Biya in the fight against climate change is the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF). Also created in 2004, MINFOF is a highly strategic administration in a country that has a large forest (40% of its territory, 22.5 million hectares, of which 17 million are exploitable). Cameroon is also home to one of the richest and varied fauna of the continent and ranks fifth on African rankings, in terms of biodiversity, after the Democratic Republic of

Congo, Madagascar, Tanzania and South Africa. MINFOF has also developed a National Forestry Development Plan (NFDLP) which includes measures to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

Apart from MINEPDED and MINFOF, other government departments play a significant role in environmental protection in Cameroon. They are: the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER), the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries (MINADER), the Ministry of Energy and Water (MINEE), the Ministry of Transport (MINTRANSP) and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT).

The National Observatory on Climate Change (ONACC) plays an essential role particularly in the fight against climate change. Created by a presidential decree on December 10, 2009, this public administrative body, under the technical supervision of MINEPDED, is tasked with *«monitoring and assessing the socio-economic and environmental impacts of climate change and propose preventive measures, mitigation and/or adaptation to the adverse effects and risks related to these changes.»* ONACC will therefore: establish the relevant climate indicators to monitor the environmental policy; establish Cameroon's global balance; collect, analyse and make available to policymakers reference information on climate change in Cameroon; propose preventive measures for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as mitigation and/or adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change.

The logic behind the actions of all public actors involved in the fight against climate change is the welfare of Cameroonians. Cameroonian authorities indeed consider the environment as a valuable asset that must be preserved for present and future generations. They also believe that actions to protect the environment must be compatible with the imperatives of the economic and social development of Cameroon.

Regarding concrete actions to fight against climate change, thousands of hectares of Cameroon's forests are classified today as «protected areas», which preserves them, and at the same time, reduce related emissions from deforestation. In addition to the preservation of forests, the

Cameroonian Government places particular emphasis on forest regeneration. For example, in 2009, MINFOF and the National Agency for Forestry Development (ANAFOR) planted nearly three million trees in Cameroon.

The Government has also put in place legal instruments to fight against the cutting of trees and illegal logging.

Government leads with the support of NGOs, a fierce struggle against poaching to protect wildlife. MINFOF also made efforts to protect endangered species. In terms of nature conservation, the Government educates people in rural areas on the adverse effects of intensive and excessive use of firewood. In June 2009, MINEPDED launched an outreach campaign of improved stoves that use less firewood. In December 2009, nearly 20,000 of these furnaces had already been distributed to the population of the northern part of Cameroon.

Cameroon has enormous potential in terms of renewable energy, including hydro, biomass and solar energy. MINEE, which is more concerned with protecting the environment, leads a discussion on the gradual decrease in the use of fossil fuels and the promotion of renewable energies.

The Cameroon Government restarted the operation «Green Sahel» in 2008 following the resurgence in the fight against desertification, which threatens the northern part of Cameroon. Nearly 12,000 fruit and forest trees were planted in 2009 in the northern region of Cameroon

by Parliamentarians of the Parliamentary Network for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa (REPAR). «Green Sahel» has already helped restore 500,000 hectares of land through reforestation in the Far North region. In addition, 16,000 hectares have been reverted to 26 municipalities in the region. There was also the creation of 35 forest reserves. All these activities are job opportunities to the unemployed youth. Similarly, the «Green Sahel» operation always involves the construction of drilling in the reforested sites. After implantation, the reforested sites are lent to municipalities for their management.

Cameroon is convinced that the global phenomenon of climate change requires global solutions. That is why our country is a founding member of the Central Africa Forests Commission (COMIFAC), political and technical body responsible for the direction, coordination, harmonisation and decisions for the «*conservation and sustainable management of forest ecosystems and savannahs of Central Africa*.” Cameroon has adopted the «Convergence Plan for the sustainable management of forests in the Congo Basin», prepared by COMIFAC in February 2004. It also adopted, in October 29, 2009, a «common position with Chad for the safeguarding of Lake Chad,» threatened with extinction. At the international level, Cameroon has ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol.



CHALLENGES OF COP21

The 21st Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) or COP21, to be held from the 30th of November to the 11th of December, 2015 at the Paris-Le Bourget site, will bring together close to 40,000 participants (delegates representing each country, observers, members of the civil society ...).

This is the largest diplomatic event hosted by France and also one of the largest climatic conferences ever organized.

Standing in a global context where consequences of climate change on our daily lives are increasingly noticeable, the challenges of COP21 are plural.

1. First challenge: Reverse the alarming trajectory towards a warming of 3 ° to 5 ° of our planet by the end of the century.

The stakes are high: it refers to resulting, for the first time, to a universal and binding agreement permitting effective action against climate change and impulse / speed up the transition to low carbon corporate and resilient economies.

For this, the future agreement should address in a balanced manner, the lessening - That is to say, efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions enabling to contain global warming at 2 ° C - and the adaptation of societies to existing climatic disturbances. These efforts should consider the needs and capacities of each country. Finally, the agreement has to take effect from 2020 and has to be sustainable in order to enable a long-term transformation. **(See datasheet on «Adapting to the impacts of climate change»).**

Before COP21, each country must publish a contribution presenting its national efforts. This exercise is a great innovation in the context of international climate negotiations. France helped countries that wished to prepare their contributions.

On the eve of Paris Conference, the UNFCCC secretariat made public a summary of these contributions, which enabled to see the cumulative effect of all these efforts. **(See details on «National Climate contributions (INDC)»).** Despite the good intentions announced by the most polluting powers like China or the United States of America, the series of ongoing negotiations do not predict any clear consensus on the guidelines of the international community in the fight against global warming. Only a real political start could help face the future with hope. How to reconcile the race for development and the urgent need to protect the environment? The stakes are high because of the specific interests of the numerous actors.

Furthermore, it should be stressed that laws of countries in the world on energy issues are highly disparate, at the very image of the specific interests of one another and to the same terminology of energy. It is in these terms, among others that declines the political and legal imbroglio that COP 21 must overcome.

II. Second challenge: Financing the fight against climate change.

Another key objective in Paris: the mobilization of \$ 100 billion per year by developed countries, both from public and private sources, as from 2020. This commitment, made at the conference on climate in Copenhagen in 2009, should enable developing countries to fight against climate change while promoting sustainable and just development. Part of these funds will transit through a special fund called Green Fund for Climate, destined to support mitigation and adaptation activities related to climate disturbances in the South. More broadly, the Paris Conference has to address the economic and financial actors, the signals needed to shift their investments in order to initiate the transition towards low carbon economies. **(More details on the «Financing and Green Climate Fund»).**

The question is to know whether, in a particularly difficult global economic context, developed countries are actually willing to finance the needs of poor countries in the fight against global warming. In this regard, it should be noted that six years after the promises made in Copenhagen, expected contributions are still rare. The first Green Fund capitalization was only \$ 10.2 billion, of which close to 1 billion was contributed by France.

On the occasion of COP 21, developing countries will want to have clarification on the level of mobilization in favor of the Green climate Fund. Moreover, they hope to have more visibility and readability on the movement of investment towards the green economy.

During his press conference on the 7th of September 2015, President François Hollande clearly indicated that there is failure risk of COP 21, if there is no firm commitment on the expected funding.

III. Third challenge: the establishment of a worldwide Regulation Authority of greenhouse gas emissions.

It is now accepted that in the absence of an international authority capable of centralizing quotas and to monitor compliance, international actors would lead an ostrich policy in this regard.

Although national voluntary contributions of States constitute an essential part, at the present stage, this refers to good intentions devoid of any binding nature, as not subject to international sanctions.

Facing poverty, for example, the goodwill of countries of the South can only suffer in favor of development efforts. It is not excluded for developing countries to hide behind the lack of international financial funds promised by the international community to justify non-compliance with their commitments.

IV. Forth challenge: the contribution of non-governmental actors.

Many initiatives are nowadays developed by a variety of non-governmental actors: cities, regions, companies, associations ... This is what we call Agenda of solutions, also known as Paris-Lima Action Plan (PLAP). Since the September 2014 summit in New York, a positive

dynamics of implementation of concrete actions, of exchange of good practices and of knowledge transfer in the field of green economy is gaining momentum. This set will complement the commitments of States, carry a message of economic and social opportunities and thereby contribute to strengthen the ambition of everyone. **(See datasheet on '«Agenda of the solutions»).**

V. Fifth challenge: the ambitions of France (host country of the conference) and of President HOLLANDE.

President François Hollande has made COP21 one of the highlights of his five years, insofar as these meetings would enable his country not only to position itself as one of the major actors of green growth and of sustainable development, but also to leave a mark in the history of the planet.

Indeed, COP21 will be one of the biggest international conferences ever held on the French territory. And to get there, the Hexagon is ready to face two major challenges:

Firstly: as the host country, France will have to welcome for two weeks, representatives of 195 member states, thousands of delegates and observers in the best working, transport and accommodation conditions. The task is not easy insofar as terrorist threats, which spare no nation, require exceptional security measures from the host country.

Secondly: as the country holding the presidency of the conference, it must ensure, with tact and method, the difficult role of facilitator besides negotiators in order to establish trust, reconcile points of view and to enable the adoption of a unanimous agreement.

In short, the challenges of COP21 are many pressing. With Paris Climate 2015, it is the credibility of the entire planet that is at stake, Copenhagen failure in 2009 still present in minds, and natural disasters are multiplying, like forests and arable land that are narrowing up, pollution which takes alarming proportions, not forgetting the repeated floods which presage the worst, if nothing is done.

No region of the world is spared, the preservation of climate and of our environment cannot wait nor accept

procrastination and selfish differences of international actors. A failure of COP21 would not only be the gateway to a global ecological disaster but also a real danger at the economic, environmental and human levels. Differences between rich and developing countries are numerous, but the magnitude of global warming challenges the entire international community. Such is the challenge for COP21.

Regarding the specific case of Cameroon, apart from an active participation in this event, our country should continue its policy aimed at providing the country with renewable energy sources thus opening doors to the green economy. That is, if she should try to get maximum benefit from the different funds that currently exist in this area.



ADAPTATION, LOSSES AND DAMAGES

Context and challenges

Works on alleviation (that is, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions) have long been the main subject of negotiations but, mainly because of the increasing number of climatic events and the recurring increase of greenhouse gas emissions, issues related to adaptation to climate change now occupy an increasingly important role. The most vulnerable countries (small island states, Africa Group and the least developed countries) are the main driving force behind this issue and support the establishment and financing of adaptation measures.

The various topics covered by adaptation range from understanding the impacts on issues related to adaptation practices (building dikes, elevated roads, etc.), through technologies needed to implement adaptation policies, support for planning or even the mechanisms of implementation and funding.

It is clear that efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are insufficient to avoid serious climate change impacts, as these result from one-off events (floods, storms) or of slow occurrence (rise of sea level, ocean acidification).

It is necessary to respond to the emergency, and that is why these subjects are now the work subjects under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and are supported by risks and disasters management actors or humanitarian assistance.

The subject of adaptation should be at the heart of discussions in the Paris agreement and thereby confirm their political importance of first rank, and contribute to a development resilient to climate change. This agreement could notably catalyze the implementation and propose concrete solutions for the most vulnerable countries, thanks to the agenda of solutions.

To note

COP20 of Lima confirmed that adaptation had to find its rightful place in the future agreement of Paris, at equal parity with mitigation.

As part of the Green Fund, it was decided that the allocation of funds would be at parity between mitigation and adaptation, and that, at least 50% of adaptation resources would be allocated to the most vulnerable countries, foremost among them the small islands and the least developed countries. Adaptation measures and responding to losses and damages are largely dependent on local circumstances. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) facilitates the implementation of adaptation measures and against damages and losses, consistent with the numerous implementation channels (multilateral and bilateral cooperation, national and private measures).

Calendar items

- 2004: Work program of Buenos Aires that encourages the pursuit of efforts on vulnerability and adaptation, information gathering and methods.
- 2006: Nairobi work program to develop scientific knowledge and methodologies on climate change impacts.
- 2010: Creation of the adaptation framework, to enhance action on adaptation, through a process of support to adaptation planning, especially for the least developed countries, including support to formulate and implement national adaptation plans if countries wish.
- Creation of a Committee for the adaptation and launching of the work program on losses and damages.
- 2012: Creation of an institutional arrangement aimed at reducing the losses and damages suffered by the developing countries.
- 2013: Establishment of the international mechanism of Warsaw on loss and damage, which aims to «Facilitate the implementation of approaches aimed at addressing losses and damages associated to the adverse effects of climate change»
- 14-18 March 2015: Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan
- From 2016, regular reviews of programs and institutions established, which will be based, where possible on information feedback enhanced by the new agreement.

Figures

On a global scale, the cost of adaptation could reach \$ 150 billion per year by 2030 and 500 billion per year by 2050, if the current trend of rising emissions do not bend under the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The Alliance of Small Developing Island States, called 'AOSIS' ('Alliance of Small Island States «) has 39 Member States. It represents 28% of developing countries, and 20% of all member countries of the UN, but less than 1% of the world's population.

Learn more

Adaptation Gap of UNEP report shows that CO2 contribution to climate disturbance due to human activities is increasing, leading in 2030 to a 50% uncertainty in climate sensitivity to these disturbances.

Source : www.cop21.gov.fr





EXPECTED CONTRIBUTIONS DETERMINED AT NATIONAL LEVEL (INDC)

Context and challenges

Since the Copenhagen Conference in 2009, developed countries made «commitments» to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) binding at national or international levels for Parties registered within the framework of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. Regarding emerging countries and developing ones, they favored the adoption of «national voluntary reduction actions», known as «NAMA» («Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions»).

As part of the process of negotiating an agreement on the post-2020 period, the term «commitment» was replaced by «contribution» in order to rally the participation of all countries for an ambitious and inclusive dynamics.

The intended contributions determined at national level, that is «INDC» («Intended Nationally Determined Contributions») are a new type of instrument in the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It refers to the «vehicle» through which the Parties intend to communicate their commitments for the period after 2020. **Their communication by Parties, provided upstream of COP21, will form a key part of the negotiations leading to the Paris agreement.**

INDC Content

The content of these contributions and the rules governing their delivery to the UNFCCC are based on the following principles:

- **Scope:** national contributions will be made depending on the choice of each country, mitigation objectives (reduction of emissions) and / or adaptation objectives;
- **Ambition:** contributions submitted should go beyond current commitments of Parties at 2020 (be it national or defined commitments for the second period of the Kyoto Protocol, or NAMA subscribed under the Copenhagen agreement and the Cancun Agreements). This is a virtuous dynamic impetus and «better-priced», avoiding Parties to go back over their current commitments.
- **Contents:** guidelines specifying the content of a mitigation component of an INDC; the adaptation component is voluntary. It is notably recommended to specify the reference

year, the commitment period and / or implementation schedule, the methodologies used to estimate and account for greenhouse gas emissions and how INDC is fair and ambitious and that it contributes to the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC.

- **Differentiation:** no specific treatment is intended to developing countries compared to developed countries, but contribution will be judged in the light of national conditions in each country. It is nevertheless recognized that the least developed countries and small island States enjoy a certain flexibility in developing their INDC, taking into account their limited capacity.
- **Transparency:** the UNFCCC Secretariat is responsible to publish on the website www.unfccc.int/2860.php contributions progressively as they are submitted and to prepare, by the 1st of November 2015, a synthesis report on the aggregate impact of these contributions on the basis of the transmitted INDC.

To note

In order to support developing countries wishing to be supported in the preparation of their national contributions, a technical assistance program was established by France. It is provided with funding amounting to 3.5 million Euros via AFD and France Expertise, and its action is coordinated with that of other donors.

A majority of countries have initiated a process of preparation for funding announcement before COP21. In mid-March, Switzerland was the first country to publish its contribution (-50% by 2030 compared to 1990 including at least 30% on Switzerland territory), followed by the European Union (at least - 40% by 2030 compared to 1990). Norway (-40% by 2030 compared to 1990) Mexico (objectives of mitigation adaptation), the United States (- 26 to -28% by 2025 compared to 2005) and the Federation Russian (between - 25% and - 30% by 2030 compared to 1990) also published their contributions before the March 31. Since, Gabon, Liechtenstein, Andorra and Canada sent their contribution. Cameroon's contribution was transmitted on the 28th of September 2015. On the 4th of October 2015, 148 countries (including the 28 in the European Union) representing 87% of global emissions of greenhouse gases, had sent their national contribution to the UNFCCC.

Calendar items

- **2013:** appearance of the term «contribution» in the decision of Warsaw. All Parties are invited to initiate or intensify preparations at national level in order to define their contributions in view of the adoption of a protocol, of another legal instrument or an agreed text of a joint agreement having legal value, developed under the Convention applicable to all Parties.
- **2014:** Decision in Lima («Call in Lima for Action on Climate») defines the outlines of «contributions» and the schedule of 2015.
- **31st of March, 2015:** Parties that are in a position to do it are invited to submit their contributions to the UNFCCC from the first trimester 2015, and all parties are required to submit them «well ahead» of COP21.
- **1st of November 2015:** Publication of the synthesis of the UNFCCC on the basis of INDC received on the 1st of October, aggregating the total contributions of the Parties.

Source: www.cop21.gov.fr



GREEN FUND AND CLIMATE FINANCE

Context and challenges

Through the voice of their Heads of States in Copenhagen, end of 2009., and in subsequent COP decisions, developed countries pledged to jointly mobilize US \$ 100 billion (from public and private sources, bilateral and multilateral, including other funding sources) per year between now and 2020 to finance adaptation and mitigation actions in developing countries, as part of a transparent implementation.

The issue of means of implementation, that is to say the funding, but also the technology and capacity building, is at the heart of negotiations to achieve an ambitious climate agreement in December 2015 in Paris.

Beyond the 100 billion commitment, savings should make a transition towards resilient and low emissions models, which will require the necessary investment to redirect all financial flows, which represent several «trillion» (thousands of billion) on a global scale.

COP15 in Copenhagen also led to the creation of the Green Fund, which aims to facilitate the necessary paradigm change towards resilient and low carbon societies by funding ambitious mitigation actions and adaptation in developing countries.

An ambitious initial capitalization was reached in 2014 as the pledges of contributions from 32 countries amounted to \$ 10.2 billion for the first funding period (2015-2018). Regular reconstructions are envisaged thereafter. The Fund has set itself the target of allocating its funds equally between mitigation and adaptation, and 50% of funds dedicated to adaptation will be directed to the most vulnerable countries (the least developed countries and small developing island states). The operationalization of the Fund is well underway and has set a goal to hire its first funds before COP21 in Paris. On May 21 thanks to donors' contribution agreements signatures, the Green Fund exceeded the threshold of 50% required for it to undertake its first projects: 5,47Mds USD promises were converted in to contribution agreement to date (58.5% of November promises).

The Green Fund is governed by a Council consisting of 24 members drawn equally from developed countries and developing countries. They are appointed for a renewable term of three years. Two co presidents are elected by the Board from among its members for a period of one year (a president from a developed country and one from a developing country). End of 2013 the Fund made the transition planned by the interim

secretariat, jointly insured by the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the secretariat of the Global Environment GEF), towards an independent secretariat, based in Songdo, South Korea.

Mrs. Hela Cheikhrouhou, former director of energy, environment and climate change of the African Development Bank, is the Executive Director. The World Bank provides trustee services to the Fund.

To note:

If the majority (the contributions of developed countries) of funds of the Green Fund should be recognized as part of the \$ 100 billion promised, the reverse is not true: only a non - predetermined portion of these \$100 billion will transit through the Green Fund. There is currently no approved operational definition of the «climate finance» that exists, but the COP bodies and bilateral and multilateral development banks and the OECD, working to harmonize their approach in order to facilitate the identification of public and private funds, bilateral and multilateral, including innovative, that can be counted as part of the 100 billion. This work should be concluded before 2015 summer and will be very important to ensure the «traceability» of climate finance, which is a key demand of developing countries.

Scheduled elements

- 1991: Creation of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- 1992: Creation by the UNFCCC of the Trust Fund for Climate Change and the Fund for least developed countries, managed by the GEF
- 1997: Creation of the Adaptation Fund by the Kyoto Protocol, managed by GEF
- 2009: COP15 Copenhagen: political will to create a Green Fund
- 2010: COP16 Cancun: official creation of the Green Fund
- 2014: initial capitalization of the Green Fund (\$ 10.2 billion)
- 31st of March 2015: IDFC Conference in Paris
- 22nd of May 2015: Climate Finance Day of CDC and EIB
- 13-16 July 2015: Conference on Financing for Development, in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)
- October 2015: Green Fund Council in which the first funds should be engaged
- 2020: year in which the target of \$ 100 billion per year will be reached.

Figures

- Between 2010-2012, the amount of «climate» funding from developed countries to developing countries rose between 40 to 175 billion dollars per year (UNFCCC report of the Standing Committee on finance (SCF) in 2014)

- Funding a low-carbon development and investment in green energy requires to mobilize between 700 billion and more than 1 000 billion per year (http://www3.weforum.org/docs/IP/2013/ENVI/WEF_GreenInvestment_Report_2013.pdf).

- Investment in infrastructure for the period 2015-2030 (about 6000 billion dollars per year) should be reoriented towards a low-carbon economy (2014 report Calderon - Stern <http://newclimateeconomy.report/>)

Source : www.cop21.gov.fr



AGENDA FOR SOLUTIONS OR LIMA-PARIS ACTION PLAN

Context

Legacy of the Climate Summit organized in September 2014 by the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon in New York, the «Agenda for Solutions» is now carried through the « Lima-Paris Action Plan » launched at COP20 organized in Peru.

Intended to facilitate the implementation of the agreement signed in Paris, this plan is carried out jointly by the Peruvian Presidency of COP20 and the French of COP21, the secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations General Secretariat of the (UNGS).

The Agenda for solutions covers cooperative initiatives, driven by governmental and nongovernmental actors (companies, local authorities, international organizations, NGOs, indigenous peoples, etc. or civil society at large) as well as individual commitments of local authorities and businesses.

What goal?

France and its partners are mobilizing themselves to entice stakeholders the more to join this dynamic and provide high visibility to their actions and commitments throughout the year for COP21 and beyond.

In close links with the agreement to be negotiated within the UNFCCC, the Agenda:

- presents solutions that exist today and can be developed,
- gives credibility to emission reduction targets and adaptation presented by the countries in Paris,
- shows how these objectives are based on action plans and investment strategies clearly identified by the various economic actors.

The Agenda for solutions should also be a way of strengthening, from 2015 and in the long term, the ambition of all States, by offering them solutions to fit into a low carbon development strategy. The scope is also political: send a strong signal that a broad coalition of state and non-

state is ready to act in the same direction, with a common goal. And that the fight against climate change is an economic opportunity in all countries, whatever their level of development.

What are the characteristics of the initiatives included in the Agenda for solutions?

They must :

- Respect a multi-stakeholder approach and involve various partners and all countries around a shared vision and goals;
- enroll in a deep transformation logic, with the stakes of their sector or theme of action, and based on a scientific approach with targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Seek and promote co-benefits of climate action, in the fight against poverty and sustainable development objectives;
- build a concrete and credible action plan, with clear objectives, quantified, by 2020, 2030 and 2050;
- Establish a governance framework allowing a part of the initiative in the long term
- Be transparent and bear witness to their achievements and progress made.

Examples

Some commitments derived from the New York summit: More than 130 governments, companies, groups representing civil society and indigenous peoples have pledged to halve deforestation by 2020, before terminating it in 2030.

More than 20 governments and 30 organizations and companies announced that they will join the Global Alliance for Climate and smart agriculture, recently formed.

Mayors of more than 2000 cities around the world have made a pact in which they pledge to reduce emissions of greenhouse gas by 454 megatons by 2020.

Calendar items

- 23rd of September 2014: Climate Summit organized by the United Nations Secretary-General in New York
- 11th of December 2014: Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Action in Lima
- 20th-21st of May 2015: Business, finance and cities of the Global Compact event in Paris
- 29th of June 2015: Meeting of the UN General Assembly president on climate in New York
- 1st and 2nd July 2015: Climate and territories World Summit in Lyon.



THE POSITIONS OF MEMBER STATES

• Historical

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted at the Rio de Janeiro Summit (1992) and came into force on the 21st of March 1994.

The aim of the signatories of this Convention was to stabilize the concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate.

Generally, developed countries proposed to reduce their GHG emissions by 2010, to the level where they were in 1990. However, this target remains non-binding.

In order to render the Convention effective, the signatories of the UNFCCC adopted the Kyoto Protocol in 1997, which calls on industrialized countries to commit themselves to greenhouse gas reduction. The Kyoto Protocol entered into force in February 2005.

Although initially, it is the industrialized countries that were targeted, States Parties are aware of the need to involve developing countries, whose involvement will make the search for solutions more relevant. It is thus that COP 15 of the UNFCCC, that held in Copenhagen in December 2009, was assigned the objective of involving all Member States and to replace the Kyoto Protocol, whose maturity was set at 2013.

The Copenhagen Conference is considered a failure, insofar as it did not lead to the adoption of a significant decision in the fight against global warming. Moreover, the goal of a binding regulatory framework did not find any positive response from the international community.

• Problematic

The debate remains keen on comparability of efforts both among industrialized countries and between the latter and developing countries. It is about determining the responsibility of each group of countries compared to its volume of GHG emissions. For example, industrialized

countries emit almost half of GHG emissions, while they constitute only 20% of the world population. At the same time, 150 countries, representing 80% of the global population, emit the other half.

As an illustration, we often present the case of two emblematic countries, namely China and the USA. Indeed, these two countries, although the top two emitters of GHGs, up to 20% each, have diametrically opposed statutes. If in China, emissions have increased by 152% from 1990 to 2006, they increased by 17% in the US. However, GHG emissions per capita of Americans are more than 10 times those of Chinese.

• The developing countries' problem (DCP)

Developing countries, including big polluters such as India (5th GHG emitter) and China (1st emitter with the US), have no reduction targets on the basis that:

- Their level of emission reduced the number of inhabitants is low;
- The stock of anthropogenic GHG, found in the atmosphere, results essentially from developed country emissions;
- It would be unfair to impose draconian hardships to populations with low living standards, aspiring to join that of developed countries.

They are not all in the same situation. The volume of GHGs remains marginal in many African countries.

Moreover, some Less Developed Countries even seem to have reached a level of access to modern energy resources permitting to accelerate their development and have to deal with desertification and scarcity of water resources. We can also quote the case of Small Island States, for whom global warming to only 1° C will threaten their development process and even their survival.

• The case of Africa

Climate change is a real issue in Africa because the climatic phenomena are already having devastating consequences in many African countries. Meanwhile, Africa has almost

not contributed to the current level of carbon emissions, but it is unlikely to become a major source of medium-term pollution, whatever its modernization pace.

Across Africa, voices have been raised (researchers, conservationists, politicians) to claim vehemently that measures be taken at the international level, to fight against climate change and to help poor countries combat its effects. The creation of the Green Climate Fund in 2009, at the Copenhagen COP, is welcomed, even if the operation of the Fund falls short of the hopes raised.

Africa is also pending an agreement which establishes the joint responsibility of all States, in terms of GHG emission reduction and which adjusts development pathways compatible with the preservation of the environment, while providing financial resources to support the efforts of the continent.

• **Country developments policies**

Although there are special cases, such as Canada, who withdrew after signature of the Kyoto Protocol, for economic reasons, but the general trend is seeking to lower GHG emissions. It is thus that on the 12th of November 2014, the US and China announced that they would set targets for GHG emissions. China is committed to achieving its GHG emission peak around the year 2030, while the United States planned to reduce from 26% to 28% their GHG emissions by 2025 compared to 2005 levels.

In this respect, President OBAMA, after a highly publicized campaign this summer in favor of a cleaner planet, launched on the 3rd of August, his plan for the energy sector of the

United States to reduce human impacts on climate change , with the main target, coal power plants which provide 40% of the country's electricity.

• **The position of the Catholic Church**

Pope Francis, in the Encyclical entitled « LAUDATO SI» calls upon all Catholic Christians of the world to train for the fight against climate change.

He said that the Catholic Church considers climate change as a moral issue that must be addressed to protect the most vulnerable in the world and on earth.

On the 25th of September 2015, Pope Francis asked from the UN tribune, "fundamental and effective agreements " at the next Paris conference on climate. He felt that " there is a real environmental law " that must be recognized. " Every environmental damage is damage to humanity " and " the ecological crisis can jeopardize the very existence of humanity, " he warned.

In conclusion, one could say that all Member States of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change require balanced solutions. The stakes being, firstly, to further decarbonize the economies of developed countries and secondly, to help developing countries to adopt less carbon intensive growth paths while helping LDCs to adapt to climate change.



COP 21: AFRICA MOBILIZED FOR CLIMATE

- Most African countries (Cameroon, Gabon, Eritrea, Madagascar, Ghana, Mauritania, Equatorial Guinea, Tunisia, Ivory Coast, Algeria, DRC, Djibouti, Benin, Kenya, Ethiopia, Morocco, etc.) presented their "proposed nationally determined contribution «(PNDC) or action plan for the reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG).
- CEEAC has announced the creation of a Development Fund for economy in Central Africa, which will have 20 billion FCFA. Congo plans to reforest a million hectares over the next decade. The DRC commits to reduce its emissions by 17% between now and 2030, by supporting the reforestation projects of 3 million hectares of forest. Gabon will reduce its GHG emissions by 50% between now and 2025, by protecting its forests.
- West Africa is also actively interested to fight against deforestation. Benin has planned to strengthen the potential of carbon sequestration of its forest cover.
- In North Africa, reforestation actions are planned in Algeria and Tunisia. Tunis predicts for example to enhance the carbon assessment of its agriculture by optimizing animal diets and recovering their waste.
- In East Africa, Ethiopia has a program to develop renewable energy sources (RES) that will allow populations use alternative energy sources different from wood. The objective of the country, which committed itself to divide by three its CO2 emissions, is to become, in the long term a « carbon neutral economy», particularly in agriculture, construction and transport.
- An emphasis is also placed on energy diversification in adaptation strategies to effects of climate change. Namibia opts for solar and wind projects. In order to reduce the CO2 emissions by 13% in 2030, Tunisian authorities rely on renewable energies (solar, solar thermal ...) with the objective of reducing the primary energy demand by 30% and to bring to 30% the penetration rate of renewable energies in electricity production. Algeria hopes to reduce its GHG emissions by 7-22% between now and 2030 and 9% of its overall energy consumption. For this, she aims to achieve 27% of national electricity production using renewable energies.
- Djibouti also bets on the development of renewable energies to reduce its GHG emissions by 40% between now and 2030. Benin, like Djibouti, decided to rehabilitate and modernize its railway network to fight against air pollution. Ivory Coast intends to reduce its carbon footprint by 36% between now and 2030 by opting for an electrical mix (coal / gas / hydro / renewable energy).
- African countries, whose responsibility in global warming is negligible (less than 4% of global CO2 emissions) expect financial contribution from the international community, particularly from the most polluting countries, as well as technology transfer. Morocco hopes to receive \$ 35 billion; Benin, 30 billion, etc.
- African contributions in the fight against climate change plan to further develop water resources. In Tunisia, wastewater will be used after treatment. In Ivory Coast the development of dams and reservoirs is the order of the day. In Gabon, a littoral adaptation strategy will be presented. Cameroon foresees the operationalization of the National Observatory on Climate Change (Naocc). This organ will play a key role in the evaluation of socio-economic and environmental impacts of climate change.
- Reducing greenhouse gas is also considered by waste recovery and reduction of air pollutants. This is the case in Tunisia, Algeria and Madagascar.



GREENHOUSE GASES: THE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE MADE THE GREATEST EFFORTS TO REDUCE THEIR EMISSIONS

- The G20 countries are making efforts, but this remains insufficient. Such is essentially what we can learn from the 7th edition of the annual study «Low Carbon Economy Index» published by PwC, on Monday the 12th of October, two months to COP 21.
- This study measures changes in carbon intensity, that is to say «the amount of greenhouse gases linked to the consumption of energy and emitted per million dollars of GDP.»
- The carbon intensity of the 19 countries of the European Union dropped by 2.7% in 2014 compared to 2013, according to the study. This is the best performance since 2000.
- But that has not however stopped the growth of emissions of greenhouse gases, an increase of 0.5% in 2014. According to the cabinet, to limit global warming to 2 ° C, the decline in carbon intensity should reach 6.3% per year globally.
- Only five G20 countries equal or surpass this threshold of 6.3%:
- The United Kingdom, whose rate of «decarbonization» consumption reached 10.9% between 2013 and 2014 (thanks to a milder winter and a drop in coal).
- In second place: France with a carbon intensity drop of 9.1% (she notably reduced her gas consumption by 16%).
- Italy, whose rate of «decarbonization» reached 7.8% (renewable energy represents 19.2% of consumption against 16.6% in 2013).
- Germany recorded a decrease in carbon intensity of 7.1% (the first European power enjoys an overall reduction in energy consumption of 4.5% and a drop in the demand of fossil energy).
- China is the best non-European student with a «decarbonization» rate of 6%. Its emissions intensity is the second highest of the G20 countries.
- The PwC study also points out that five countries appear to be bad students. They are :
- Turkey, worst student of G20, with a carbon intensity increase of 4.4%, particularly due to an increase in coal demand.
- Saudi Arabia, with an increase of emissions intensity of 4%.
- Brazil, whose emission intensity increased by 3.6%.
- India, with an emission intensity which reached 0.7%, driven by an 11 % increase of demand for coal.
- South Africa, with an increase of 0.2% between 2013 and 2014.

REDUCTION OF CO2 EMISSIONS: THE EU SETS ITS OBJECTIVES FOR COP21

The 28 ministers of the EU Environment agreed on the objective of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases by 40% between now and 2030. They also plan to lower them by 50% between now and 2050. «We have a long-term mandate,» «a strong and responsible mandate.» Carole DIESCHBOURG, the Luxembourg Minister of Environment, whose country chairs the EU Council, congratulated herself for the agreement of the 28 for the Paris Climate Conference (COP 21).

The 28 ministers of the EU Environment, met in a Council in Brussels, agreed on Friday the 18th of September on goals of climate, in particular, a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.

In October already, EU leaders agreed to cut emissions by «at least» 40% by 2030 at a European Council.

«Carbon Neutrality» by 2100

The ministers also set longer-term objectives: a «carbon neutral» by 2100. This consists of financing, through the purchase of carbon credits, a project to fight against CO2 emissions with an amount equivalent to all or part of greenhouse gas emissions.

But they have also set a 50% reduction by 2050. The latter proposal «consistent with the suggestions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),» recalls Euractiv.

But according to the website dedicated to European news, the European Commission was rather in favor of a 60% emissions reduction by 2050.

