

**Statement from The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on behalf of the DC Group  
Closing Plenary of the APA**

Thursday, May 26, 2016

LDCs, being one of the most vulnerable groups of countries, very much look forward to the early completion of the rule making process of the Paris Agreement and its early entry into force and implementation. At the outset, we call for all Parties to engage in the process with their utmost efforts to finish our work as soon as possible.

We congratulate you again co-chairs for your appointment to lead the work of the APA this year, and the leadership you have demonstrated so far. We are content with the adoption of the APA agenda. We understand that the considerable time invested in agreeing on a balanced agenda was necessary, particularly to ensure that all Parties share a common understanding on 3 key areas:

1. what we achieved in Paris
2. mandated work to be carried out by the APA, and
3. how we ensure synergy between mandated work of the APA, two subsidiary bodies and the constituted bodies in order for effective preparation of the entry into force and implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Co-Chairs, we would like now to express that the 48 countries in our Group are deeply disappointed that the APA conclusions no longer include provision for technical papers or workshops despite having a broad support for both technical papers and the technical workshops. We believe that it is a missed opportunity to help progress our technical work between now and Marrakesh in a constructive manner. However, we respect the difficult balance that the Co-chairs have had to navigate and We urge all parties to use the remaining time between now and the COP22 to prepare and be ready to make substantial progress in Marrakech.

As we all understand, there is a high possibility that the Paris Agreement will enter into force soon. We see this as a very positive sign and continuation of the Paris political momentum. We therefore need to send a strong signal incentivizing all Parties to advance the work of the APA to prepare for the first session of the CMA.

We take note of the useful options presented by the Secretariat to address legal and procedural implications in the event of an early entry into force. While we understand the differences in Parties' domestic processes for ratification, all Parties should send a positive signal of their full commitment toward enhanced climate actions. Ratification of the Doha Amendment of the Kyoto Protocol, as well as provisional application of the Paris Agreement pending its entry into force, will contribute to this positive signal.

This session reminds us how important the need for coordination is with all the other constituted and subsidiary bodies, trusted with a mandate to prepare for the entry into force of the Paris Agreement.

LDCs support the views expressed by many Parties that the COP in Marrakech should significantly advance our work on all agenda items.

We thank you Co-chairs for all your hard work. We also thank the secretariat for all their hard work in delivering this session smoothly and all the technical support there are providing. We will diligently engage in our homework by preparing submissions in the identified areas. We hope to continue to engage fruitfully with all Parties to ensure substantial progress in Marrakesh.