

**Opening statement by Democratic Republic of the Congo on behalf of the
Least Developed Countries Group**

**Twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United
Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

7 November 2016 | Marrakech, Morocco

Mr. President,

1. I have the honour of delivering this statement on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group. The Group aligns itself with the statements made by Thailand on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, Mali on behalf of the African Group and Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States.
2. First of all, let me express our greatest appreciation to the Kingdom and people of Morocco for your tremendous hospitality.
3. Mr President, three days ago, we congratulated ourselves as we witnessed a historic moment in multilateral treaty making through an unprecedented rapid entry into force of the Paris Agreement. We are committed to working with all Parties over the next two weeks make substantive progress on implementing this Agreement, in an inclusive manner.
4. Mr. President, such substantive progress on the rulebook requires Parties to move urgently beyond the conceptual stage and into the operational phase. We understand that some strands of work of the rulebook could be progressed quicker than others.
5. We also believe that bodies under the COP tasked with work to develop decisions for CMA1 should not pre-empt the CMA's authority to decide its future work plan. And we need to capture progress along the way in the APA negotiations.

Mr President,

6. The Group urges strengthening the effectiveness of the Adaptation Committee but we are concerned about the lack of available resources for the Committee's work.
7. In Marrakech, we look forward to the approval of the indicative framework for the five-year rolling workplan as the basis for developing corresponding activities that will be undertaken by the ExCom starting at its first meeting in 2017.
8. We encourage parties to provide financial support for the work of the ExCom, especially for the full implementation of five-year work plan.

9. Parties can also start the mandated review of the WIM by formulating and approving ToRs with clear scope, objectives and modalities. The review process should not impede the adoption of the work plan in Marrakech and should be completed by the next COP.
10. We look forward to concrete outcomes from the discussion on potential linkages between the technology mechanism and the financial mechanism to support the technology needs of developing countries.
11. The Group looks forward to an appropriate decision on the elaboration of the technology framework. Technology action plans (TAPs) developed as part of the Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) process should be viewed as a platform for NDC and NAP implementation.

Mr President,

12. Climate finance must be scaled up to meet the \$100bn target and then move beyond this floor.
13. Simplified access and support for LDCs will be critical for the implementation of climate action. In particular, we must ensure adaptation support is provided, especially from predictable public sources.
14. The LDC Fund is critical for our Group and urgently needs additional resources to support LDCs. In its report to the COP, we note the SCF's request to the GEF to adopt an additional LDCF programme priority for strengthening institutional capacity in LDCs).
15. The Group emphasises the importance of support to progress the formulation and implementation of NAPs through simplified access to GCF funding.

Mr President,

16. The Group also looks forward to progress on capacity-building under the Convention and the finalisation of the terms of reference for the Paris Committee on Capacity-building.
17. Our Group welcomes the work of the LDC Expert group (LEG) under its new mandate and acknowledges the LEG has been instrumental in supporting LDCs. We call for the continued support of the LEG's work.
18. We are concerned that a total of 32 NAPA implementation project proposals have been cleared by the GEF secretariat but are still waiting for resources.

Mr President,

19. Further work needs to be done to achieve enhanced participation by women and gender responsive climate actions. Our Group believes development of an action plan that identifies and prioritizes measurable and

achievable objectives with monitoring targets and adequate resource allocation will strengthen the work on gender. We look forward to having a decision at COP22 to continue this work.

20. The Group welcomes and supports the work of the High-Level Climate Champions on global climate action.

Before I close, Mr. President,

21. Let me express my Group's full support to the COP presidency in its work during this COP. I wish to reiterate the importance we place on a transparent and inclusive process to ensure all voices are heard. We look forward to the COP generating concrete action, implementation and support.

We thank you.

**Opening statement by Democratic Republic of the Congo on behalf of the
Least Developed Countries Group**

**12th session of the Conference of the Parties Serving as the Meeting of the
Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

7 November 2016 | Marrakech, Morocco

1. I have the honour of delivering this statement on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group. The Group aligns itself with the statements made by Thailand on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, Mali on behalf of the African Group and Maldives on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States.

Mr. President,

2. Throughout the years, parties have channelled incommensurable efforts to craft the Paris Agreement, building a truly universal agreement that is able to deliver tangible, long-term results.

3. We adopted the Paris Agreement in December 2015 and have succeeded in bringing it into force last week at an unprecedented speed.

4. However, we must not forget that the Paris Agreement was built on the trust that emissions in the period before 2020 would be covered under a 2nd commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. Bringing the Paris Agreement into force does not address this gap.

5. Therefore, we must ensure the Doha Amendment comes into force as soon as possible; achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement depends on pre-2020 action.

6. 15 LDCs have ratified the Doha Amendment and many others are in the process of doing so. We call on all Parties to put the same efforts in ratifying the Doha Amendment as they did for the Paris Agreement.

Mr. President,

7. Regarding the Clean Development Mechanism, we would like to welcome the recommendations on the Clean Development Mechanism Loan Scheme by the Executive Board of the CDM.

8. The LDC Group looks forward to engaging in discussions on how to address the current challenges faced by the CDM Loan Scheme as a result of repayment issues arising from the low demand for certificates.

9. The LDC Group is of the view that the Loan Scheme should be paused until the market recovers, possibly as a result of the implementation of article 6

of the Paris Agreement. Loans disbursed that cannot be repaid need to be written off.

10. Furthermore, the LDC Group is deeply concerned with the lack of adequate and predictable resources to the Adaptation Fund. The Adaptation Fund is a crucial source of finance for our Group.

Mr. President,

11. Our Group is also concerned with the uncertainty around the future of the Adaptation Fund.

12. On this point, we expect the COP to request the APA to undertake preparatory work concerning the issues of the adaptation fund serving the Paris Agreement and to forward a recommendation for considerations by the CMP through the COP. With the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement we hope that this process will be expedited. We see no reason why this cannot be done by the end of 2017.

13. Finally, Mr. president, it is important that here in Marrakech we adopt the Terms Of Reference for the third review of the Adaptation Fund to ensure it is completed in time for CMP 13.

I thank you.