

## **STATEMENT OF DAKAR: RECOMMENDATIONS TO WEST AFRICAN NEGOTIATORS FOR COP22**

We, representatives of West African civil society organizations, Carbon Market Watch, academics, local authorities and citizens gathered in Dakar, Senegal, on October 11-12, to discuss the Paris Agreement impact on sustainable development.

- Stressing the importance of adaptation to climate change for the already heavily impacted African countries. As it is too often made a lower priority, especially in the framework of the Green Climate Fund, we reiterate that adaptation is as crucial as mitigation.

- Welcoming the recognition of non-state actors in the Paris Agreement and their role in its implementation through NDCs.

- Considering the need to link the sustainable development agenda with the climate agenda.

- Noting the collective awareness of the limitations of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in Africa and the establishment of a new sustainable development mechanism (SDM) and cooperative approaches (Article 6).

Past experiences with the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) have demonstrated a number of flaws. CDM projects were concentrated in emerging countries, such as China and India, and failed to benefit less developed countries, particularly because of its complexity. Similarly, the CDM failed to meet its dual objectives of reducing emissions and contributing to sustainable development. The weakness of its modalities and procedures has led to negative impacts on both environmental integrity (increase in global emissions due to non-additional projects) and social impacts (affecting communities living in the vicinity of projects) in many projects.

### **Recommend on the mechanism created by Article 6.4:**

The SDM must take into account the lessons learned from the CDM by including in its modalities and procedures the following elements:

1 – The reinforcement of Designated National Authorities functions and operation so that they act as a facilitator between State and non-State actors and in order to ensure communication and reporting mainly on sustainable development impacts

2 – An increased and effective participation of non-state actors, in particular local and regional authorities and NGOs, and the strengthening of their capacity for more ownership

3 – Use of the SDM as a financing tool. This would allow to shift from a market based and offsetting approach to a result-based climate finance approach. Credits from emission reductions would be canceled and the funding provided would be counted towards international climate finance commitments.

4 – Prioritized access to the SDM for countries that are the most vulnerable to climate change, in particular Least Developed Countries and Small Island Countries

5 - Appropriate sustainability criteria for the monitoring of projects financed by the SDM.

6 - Respect of Human Rights, as stipulated in the Paris Agreement. The SDM must have a system of institutional safeguards that will determine the project eligibility as well as a grievance mechanism that will deal with stakeholders' claims.

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Agreed in Dakar on 12 October 2016

