



Statement of

BY

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At

The Press Briefing on NAMIBIA's participation to COP 27

We have called you to this press conference to inform the Public through you our progressive members of the media that Namibia is participating at the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP 27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to be held from 06-18 November 2022 in the Arab Republic of Egypt, Sharm El-Sheikh.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was founded in 1992 at the Rio-Summit on sustainable development in Brazil and came into force in 1994. Namibia ratified this convention in 1995. The ultimate objective of the Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) is to achieve ***"stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous interference with the climate system."***

Scientific findings has established that global warming is caused by a cumulative and historical emissions from developed countries in their pursuits to industrialize their economies. In addition, studies have also established that Africa did not contribute significantly to these emissions that causes global warming, however, the continent is highly affected.

The IPCC report shows that emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities are responsible for approximately 1.1 degrees celsius of warming since 1850-1900. Furthermore, it is anticipated that over the next 20 years, global temperature is expected to reach or exceed 1.5°C of warming. Therefore, If countries do not accelerate efforts in the next 20 years to reduce the greenhouse gases as required by science, there will be catastrophic climatic events that will threaten human existence on earth, particularly in the developing countries. In the meantime, there will be medium to severe adverse effects of climate change but this is just a manifestation of symptoms of an ailing climate. You may have noticed that globally and in Namibia to be specific we are experiencing amongst others

prolonged droughts and occasional floods due to variable rainfall patterns; Invasion of alien species and bush encroachment; Invasion by rare insects that attacks crops and Increase in heat stress and other vector water borne illnesses to mention but a few.

Ladies and Gentlemen

At this year's conference of parties, Namibia will be represented by a multistakeholder delegation headed by the Ministry and includes

Line Ministries: Office of the President, Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform, National Planning Commission; Ministry of Mines and Energy, Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation; Ministry of Urban and Rural Development and Ministry of Finance. The conference will also be attended by state owned enterprises: namely the Environmental Investment Fund, NamWater, NamPower, Development Bank of Namibia. The private sector will be represented by Bank Windhoek, Standard Bank, Triple Capital. The Academia sector will be represented by UNAM, SASSCAL and finally Namibia Nature Foundation and NACSO will represent the NGOs.

Namibia will have a pavilion to accommodate all side events arranged under different thematic areas as aligned to the COP Presidency themes. These themes are : Climate financing; Science and Youth, Adaptation and Agriculture, Green Hydrogen and renewable energy, and Water and Partnerships. Each theme will have a dedicated day where presentations will be done followed by an interactive sessions.

Developed countries country Parties have committed to a goal of mobilizing jointly USD 100 billion per year by 2020 to address the needs

of developing countries. Namibia urges the scaling up of the levels of climate finance, by providing concrete long term-targets for climate finance pathways and accounting methodologies for the collective goal by developed countries to reach USD 100 billion a year from 2025 and beyond, while striking a balance of the allocation between adaptation, mitigation and loss and damage through significant increase of grant-based support for adaptation. A considerable amount of finance is urgently needed to support NDC implementation in order to reach net zero emissions trajectory as soon as possible.

Furthermore, Namibia is concerned about the increasing devastating events associated with the adverse effects of climate change on the African continent. Loss and damages should be recognised as a separate pillar of climate action, in addition to mitigation and adaptation. By so doing an appropriate and consistent institutional and financial arrangement must be established in the form of a loss and damage facility. The facility will allow finance to be channelled which enables to address the loss and damage needs of vulnerable developing countries resulting from adverse effects of climate change.

Secondly, Namibia will follow closely, discussions on climate change mitigation. Under the Paris agreement Parties have committed to periodically prepare and submit more enhanced and ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to keep the global temperature well below 1.5-degree Celsius above pre-industrial level by mid-century. An IPCC report published in August 2021 reveals that, unless rapid and deep reductions in carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas emissions happens in the coming decades, achieving the goals of the 2015 Paris

Agreement will be beyond reach as the global temperature is likely to surpass the 1.5 degree by 2030 sooner than initial thought.

Namibia calls on all parties to submit more ambitious NDCs, and to adopt ambitious deadlines for achieving net zero emission. Namibia further calls on developed countries to provide the means of implementation and support for the effective Implementation and enhancement of nationally determined contributions by developing countries. Namibia has revised its NDCs to address shortcoming identified hampering effective implementation. The revised NDCs were recently validated at a stakeholder workshop held in Windhoek together with their Implementation Strategy and Action plan.

Ladies and gentlemen

Namibia has set a target on its updated NDC to reforestate about 20 000 hectares every year as from 2021 and at the same time to reduce deforestation rate by 75% by 2030. Namibia Believes that the Paris Agreement will facilitate greater financial support for reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation and potentially results-based payments under the Green Climate Fund.

In conclusion, climate change is a very sensitive issue both in terms of environmental, economic, social and political dimensions. The world is at a defining moment on the future of climate stabilization where urgent global commitment without further procrastination and reservation is needed.

Since the atmospheric dynamics have no borders, this makes climate change a global concern that needs a global solution. Hence, a

multilateral approach to fighting climate change is the only viable and effective option for us all the indigenous citizens of this planet. Thus, confidence building and unity of purpose is vital in the pursuit to fight global warming and its associated impacts to inform the post 2021 climate regime, and demonstrate commitment and ambition in reducing the negative impacts of climate change. Developed countries must acknowledge and accept, in line with the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC that they caused global warming and thus shall demonstrate clear leadership and decisive action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and also provide financing as well as technological transfer of mitigation and adaptation actions to developing countries who contributed less to the problem.

I thank you