

Africa-wide Civil Society Climate Change Initiative  
for Policy Dialogues  
- ACCID -



The Position of African Civil Society

**FANRPAN**  
Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network



A service (1-18 December 2009) alerting readers to key policy documents and perspectives, with a special emphasis on agriculture and climate change, brought to you by Mr Sindiso Ngwenya, Secretary General, COMESA and Chairman of FANRPAN Board of Governors

Alert: COP15 - 18 December 2009

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## Copenhagen: 'A deal without agriculture, is no deal'

### Zenawi's African Group statement to COP15

*African Union*

Global warming is happening. The rise of catastrophic climate change is very real. The science is as clear as it could ever be as to what the causes of such change are. It is no exaggeration to say that this is our best and perhaps our last chance to save our planet from destructive and unpredictable change. This is a test as to whether we as a global community are able to rise over our parochial interests to protect our common destiny...

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### Beyond Copenhagen: Agriculture and forestry are part of the solution

*IFAP*

Copenhagen: Forestry and agriculture are where poverty reduction, food security and climate change come together and must be addressed in an integrated fashion. This was the key message to negotiators from agriculture and forestry communities at COP15. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and sequestering carbon from agriculture and forests must be an essential component of any strategy to keep global warming below the 2 degree Celsius threshold...

### **Building climate change adaptation capacity at African universities**

*OSI*

New York: The Open Society Institute invites a range of proposals to build climate change adaptation capacity at African universities. We seek to support the development of African intellectual and institutional capacity to address the scientific, economic, sociological, and political issues, among others, that Africa faces in order to adapt successfully to the significant threat climate change poses on the African continent...

### **African Union Group submissions to COP15**

*African Union*

Addis Ababa: The [African Union website](#) has been updated with a range of AU-generated material - statements and submissions. Included in the listings is the African Union Group submission for Long-Term Cooperative Action to Enhance the Implementation of the Convention on Climate Change and the amendment of the Kyoto Protocol...

### **PACJA: Africa will not be sold**

*Pambazuka News*

We, the African civil society attending the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, condemn the proposed appeal by Meles Zenawi with French President, Nicolas Sarkozy. In proposing such an appeal, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi is undermining the bold positions of our negotiators and ministers represented here, and threatening the very future of Africa...

### **Seychelles appeals for small islands' right to exist**

*afrol News*

Copenhagen: Seychelles President James Michel has appealed to world leaders for the protection of the right of small island states to exist, at the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. "Like the leaders of other small island states, I am not here to celebrate the limited progress, but to speak out once again, as we have always done, of our fight for survival, our human right to exist..."

### **Ghana wins gender award at climate summit**

*Peace FM*

Accra: Ghana became the second country to have won the Gender Championship Award at the ongoing climate change conference in Copenhagen. It was received on behalf of the country by the Minister of Environment, Science and Technology, Sherry Ayittey, and was presented by the Women Caucus and Gender Constituency, an international network of nongovernmental organizations involved in gender and climate change...

### **Adaptation funds must reach Africa's women farmers**

*Inter Press Service*

Copenhagen: One of the key components of global action on climate change will be measures to adapt to changes that are already unavoidable. The Global Gender and Climate Alliance argues that specific attention be paid to the needs of women. "With climate change taking away their source of livelihood because of the erratic weather patterns preventing them from farming, women must find another means of making a living," said Rachel Harris, the media coordinator for GGCA...

### **Little climate data is used in development process in Africa, says Janneh**

*UNECA*

Copenhagen: African countries use very little climate data and information in development processes due to weakness in demand for, and supply of pertinent climate services, UN Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Abdoulaye Janneh, said in Copenhagen as UN regional commissions discussed their various activities on the challenges of climate change...

### **Climate hubs could drive clean energy research in Africa**

*SciDev.Net*

Copenhagen: Africa needs new sources of clean energy, including a mix of wind and solar energy technologies, and should introduce 'climate innovation centres' to speed their uptake, energy experts have said. Oliver Knight, energy advisor at the UK Department for International Development, said that the severe water shortages predicted for Africa as a result of climate change mean that the continent cannot rely on hydropower as its only clean energy source...

### **Kenya REDD project becomes first in Africa to win gold-level validation**

*Mongabay.com*

A Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) project in Kenya has become the first in Africa to win GOLD level validation under the Climate Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Alliance's REDD Standard, a certification program to ensure that communities and biodiversity benefit from such projects...

### **Nigeria counts losses from climate change**

*Afrique en ligne*

Lagos: As the world meets to find ways of mitigating the impact of climate change, Nigeria, like other African nations which are at the receiving end of the effects of global climate change, is counting its losses from the impact of the phenomenon. From desertification and drought in the north to gully erosion and flooding in the south, Nigerians are witnessing first hand the effects of climate change on their socio-economic life...

### **No water in Copenhagen talks**

*Inter Press Service*

Copenhagen: In the last two years, the conclusion among decision-makers has been that the only way to solve the climate crisis is to turn carbon into a commodity and privatise the atmosphere. Similar market-based solutions will be used to "solve" the growing water crisis, warned experts at the Klimaforum09, a parallel meeting a few kilometres away from the official 15th Conference of Parties (COP15)...

### **Agriculture is most affected sector by climate change in Libya**

*Afrique en ligne*

Tripoli: The drop in rainfall volumes is one of the numerous consequences of climate change in Libya and this has a negative impact on the country's agricultural sector, according to Libyan environmental and climate change specialist, Mourad Cha d li Soula. Mr. Soula, who is an expert at the Libyan General Office for the Environment, justifies his conclusion by pointing at the decreasing quantities in rainfall over the last few years in the country especially in the northern region where there has always been quantities of rain in winter...

## **No climate mitigation with expanding agriculture trade**

*The Times of India*

New Delhi: Every time a Boeing 747 roars off the runway, the energy it needs for the two-minute lift off can run 2.4 million lawn mowers for 20 minutes. Considering that more than 40 aircraft take off every minute around the globe, the colossal amount of fossil fuel burned and the resulting accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is mind-boggling...

## **Agri prospects still unclear in climate talks**

*Business Mirror*


Manila: The prospects for agriculture in the ongoing Copenhagen climate talks remain “unclear” a few days before the conference ends on December 18, according to an international agriculture expert. Dr. Gerald Nelson, senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) who was in the Copenhagen climate talks last week, said, “The prospects for agriculture are at least partly tied to the overall prospects, which seem unclear as I write this on Tuesday,” in reply to an e-mail interview from the BusinessMirror on how agriculture fares in the talks...

### **Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)**

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