

# *The Declaration*

## PREAMBLE

- *Promoting Sustainable Energy Access in Africa*”,
- to reach consensus on the priorities for supporting Africa’s energy development agenda in a sustainable manner in advance of the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and 7<sup>th</sup> Conference and Meeting of Parties (CMP7) to the Kyoto Protocol (KP) to be held in Durban from November 28 to December 9, 2011.

## PREAMBLE

- *Promoting Sustainable Energy Access in Africa*”,
- Through Regional Power Pools and the programs, initiatives partnerships at both regional and sub-regional level geared towards advancing energy sector development and integration in Africa, and
- appreciating the support of development partners to Africa’s energy development agenda.
- Welcoming 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy Access for All,

# Preamble

- Africa has the lowest rate of access to modern energy amongst all continents, and that if no significant changes are made it is projected that more people will be without energy services in 2030
- access to reliable, affordable and sustainable energy service is essential to reduce poverty and promote social and economic development, and climate resilience in our continent;
- vulnerability of Africa to the negative impacts of climate change, the resultant threats to water supply and energy infrastructure, and hence the need to ensure adaptation to climate change;

# *Emphasizing*

- that inadequate energy systems jeopardize the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa and weaken resilience to adverse climate change impacts, as well as hinder opportunities for vulnerable groups, especially women and children;
- the vulnerability of Africa to the negative impacts of climate change, the resultant threats to water supply and energy infrastructure, and hence the need to ensure adaptation to climate change;

# *Emphasizing*

- *Emphasizing* that Africa, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are prioritised for Green Climate Fund as reflected in the COP 15/CMP 5 Copenhagen Accord;
- *Emphasizing* the vulnerability of Africa to the negative impacts of climate change, the resultant threats to water supply and energy infrastructure, and hence the need to ensure adaptation to climate change

# *Emphasizing*

- Emphasizing the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,
  - particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capability , and
  - further reinforcing that developing country mitigation and adaptation action is dependent on the provision of finance, technology and capacity building support from developed countries

# *Capacity building*

- the fundamental need to build necessary
  - human and institutional capacity developments on a sustainable basis.
  - Ability to implement bankable projects,
  - effective policies and regulations, and
  - negotiate favourable agreements to ensure the provision of sustainable energy for all



# finance

- *Recalling also the COP 15/CMP 5 Copenhagen Accord on Fast Start Financing approaching \$30 Billion by 2012 and on long term funding arrangements of up to \$100 Billion per year by 2020;*

# Ministers assert that:

- Climate change is a development challenge that threatens to reverse gains made in recent years. African economies and communities, and the poor among them are most at risk and will likely be impacted the most.

# Ministers assert that:

- Expanding access to modern energy services and
- energy security a priority to accommodate the basic needs of millions of African citizens,
- facilitate human and social development, sustain economic growth, and
- contribute to the achievement of the MDGs in Africa thereby building resilience to the impacts of climate change

# Ministers assert that:

- intermediate goal is
  - To support and complete the currently planned capacity expansion through key transformational projects,
  - To add an additional 30 GW of capacity within ten years.
  - To accommodate the needs of an additional 150 million Africans served by grid electricity

# Ministers assert that:

- Building energy security by scaling-up regional power supply and transmission:
- The up-scaling and coordination of regional transmission and generation capacity will enable further benefits of scale, security and diversity. Prioritising clean energy: Africa is richly endowed with renewable energy resources –
- With the support of financing, technology and institutional capacity building from developed countries to enable Africa to enhance its economic, social and environmental development using a diversity of clean energy sources.

# Ministers further assert that:

- Localising supply chains: Whilst growing our energy economies, we need to ensure that localization of supply chains for not only the supply of equipment and plant, but also the maintenance and operation of our facilities. This will create jobs and grow skills as well as reduce costs

# Ministers further assert that:

- Integrated planning is critical to the sustainability and further development of our economies and societies. As such we will prioritise integrated planning and the role of the energy sector in developing our economies, promoting investment and localization, as well as improving education, security and health care.

# Ministers assert that:

- On securing financial resources
  - energy projects across the continent lack of resources for project preparation and development – from concept to financial close and execution
  - most major energy projects require long term finance with repayments linked with project revenue generation. Which is often inadequate to support the long value chains of comprehensive projects
  - the financing of these projects needs to be in the form of grants - especially for interregional transmission and renewable projects
  - aim to maximize the flow of green finance and carbon funds as well as the use of mechanisms such as the CDM.



# Ministers assert that:

- Building technology and innovation capacity: We need to build our technology base through undertaking appropriate research and development (R&D), developing our skills base and facilitating technology transfer to ensure that technologies are needs driven and appropriate for local conditions including undertaking regional resource assessment projects.

# Ministers resolve to:

- Support the expansion of generation capacity with emphasis on regional projects
- Enhance funding for policy and institutional development activities, with emphasis on planning, design and timely implementation
- Support a sector wide approach to scale up energy access through energy planning and international cooperation
- Enhance regional trade and energy resource development through support from development partners

# Ministers resolve to:

- The UNFCCC process has to date tended to prioritise the mitigation of emissions: We believe that adaptation to the negative impacts of Climate Change deserves equal weighting.
- We call upon the COP to ensure that adaptation receives equal weighting to mitigation and in particular that adaptation projects be recognized for support in the Green Climate fund.
- We further suggest that templates be developed to facilitate the development of country and regional adaptation plans for the most vulnerable countries and regions – especially in Africa.

# Ministers commit to:

- In order to ensure the success of these actions, Ministers commit to:
  - Full cooperation in the achievement of the above actions
  - Cooperation in developing regional integrated energy plans which will identify priority energy projects across the continent.
  - Cooperation in the sharing of lessons learnt in the energy field through holding workshops and training programmes.
  - Improving the efficiency of our Energy operations to reduce emissions and improve affordability
  - Working in partnership with key stakeholders including business and our Development partners

# Conclusion

- In conclusion, we call upon the multilateral development institutions and the UN Secretary-General and all the UN Agencies and Programmes to globally support Africa's transformational energy agenda.
- We commend the Republic of South Africa and African Union for taking the initiative to organize and host this important conference and acknowledge the support from development partners who have made this Conference possible, particularly: the World Bank, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations – Energy, the United Nations Foundation and the African Development Bank.

# Conclusion

***THIS IS THE DECLARATION OF THE AFRICAN  
ENERGY MINISTERS  
MADE IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA  
ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2011***