

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

ECA

Invt/Ref "E"

POSTAL ADDRESS - ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017

CABLE ADDRESS - ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

24 August 2010

Dear Mr. Janneh,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I wish to thank you for your letter of 19 July 2010, inviting him to chair the High-level Dialogue of Heads of State and Governments of the African Development Forum, to be held in Addis Ababa from 10 to 15 October 2010.

The Secretary-General appreciates your kind invitation. Regrettably, I must inform you that the Secretary-General will be unable to take part in this conference, owing to prior commitments and pressing demands already on his schedule. Nevertheless, I am pleased to take this opportunity to convey his best wishes for a successful event.

Yours sincerely,

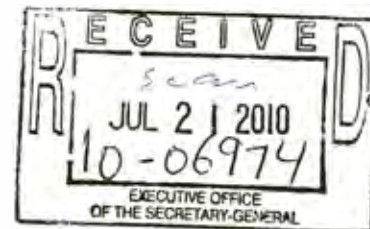
KIM Won-soo

Deputy Chef de Cabinet and
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General

Mr. Abdoulie Janneh
Executive Secretary
Economic Commission for Africa
Addis Ababa

10-06974

251 11 5512814

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICAABDOULIE JANNEH
Executive Secretary

1-17526196

Date: 19 July 2010

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the distinct honour and privilege to inform you of the upcoming seventh edition of the African Development Forum (ADF VII) taking place from 10 to 15 October 2010, in the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The ADF, you would recall, is a biennial event organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), which brings together about 1000 participants from a broad spectrum of Heads of State and Government, African member States, development partners, UN agencies, IGOs/NGOs, the academia, development practitioners, CSOs, the private sector, eminent policy and opinion leaders, and other stakeholders to consider key themes of fundamental significance to the African continent in particular and the international community generally.

This year's ADF VII is devoted to the theme "Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa", to facilitate dialogue and articulation of Africa's concerns, and contribute to ongoing global climate change conference taking place in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2010. A key highlight of the Forum is a High-level Dialogue to be held on Wednesday 13 October 2010 from 9:00 to 11:00 hrs to which we have invited four prominent African Heads of State and Government, including President Bingu Wa Mutharika of Malawi who is the current chair of the African Union, and His Excellency Mr. Meles Zenawi, host Prime Minister as well as the Prime Minister of Norway. The Heads of State and Government are coming with their insights to address various perspectives of the climate change agenda, and set the stage for constructive and fruitful forum.

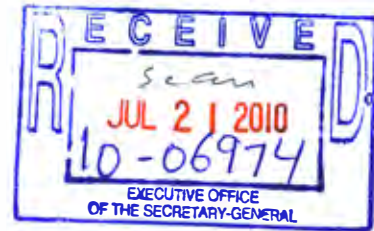
Cognizant of your renowned commitment and leadership role in the global climate change processes such as the United Nations Climate Change Conference and the High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing, I have the pleasure to invite you to chair the High-level Dialogue of Heads of State and Government which will set the scene for the Forum. Your participation would greatly enrich and immensely contribute to the success of ADF VII. The Concept Note, Provisional Agenda and Programme of Work are herewith attached for your consideration and preparation.

While awaiting your kind and favourable response, please accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurances of my highest consideration and profound esteem.

His Excellency
Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017, USA

SUN/08/050

251 11 5512814

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICAABDOULIE JANNER
Executive Secretary

Date: 19 July 2010

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the distinct honour and privilege to inform you of the upcoming seventh edition of the African Development Forum (ADF VII) taking place from 10 to 15 October 2010, in the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The ADF, you would recall, is a biennial event organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), which brings together about 1000 participants from a broad spectrum of Heads of State and Government, African member States, development partners. UN agencies, IGOs/NGOs, the academia, development practitioners, CSOs, the private sector, eminent policy and opinion leaders, and other stakeholders to consider key themes of fundamental significance to the African continent in particular and the international community generally.

This year's ADF VII is devoted to the theme "Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa", to facilitate dialogue and articulation of Africa's concerns, and contribute to ongoing global climate change conference taking place in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2010. A key highlight of the Forum is a High-level Dialogue to be held on Wednesday 13 October 2010 from 9:00 to 11:00 hrs to which we have invited four prominent African Heads of State and Government, including President Bingu Wa Mutharika of Malawi who is the current chair of the African Union, and His Excellency Mr. Meles Zenawi, host Prime Minister as well as the Prime Minister of Norway. The Heads of State and Government are coming with their insights to address various perspectives of the climate change agenda, and set the stage for constructive and fruitful forum.

Cognizant of your renowned commitment and leadership role in the global climate change processes such as the United Nations Climate Change Conference and the High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing, I have the pleasure to invite you to chair the High-level Dialogue of Heads of State and Government which will set the scene for the Forum. Your participation would greatly enrich and immensely contribute to the success of ADF VII. The Concept Note, Provisional Agenda and Programme of Work are herewith attached for your consideration and preparation.

While awaiting your kind and favourable response, please accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurances of my highest consideration and profound esteem.

His Excellency
Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017, USA

251 11 5512814

Seventh African Development Forum (ADF-VII)**“Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa”****10 – 15 October 2010****DRAFT AGENDA**

- 1. Opening of ADF-VII exhibition**
- 2. Parallel Meetings**
 - CCIS Meeting on Climate Change and Security/Global Climate Change Alliance
 - ECA/InWENT Experts Meeting on Climate Change Measurement
 - ECA/UNFPA Meeting on Climate Change, Population, Health and Gender
 - RRI Africa Regional Dialogue on Forest, Governance and Climate Change
 - NPCA/ECA/WWI Meeting on Climate Change, Agriculture and Rural development
- 3. ADF Opening Ceremony**
- 4. Plenary Session 1: High-level Dialogue on Governance and Leadership response to climate change**
- 5. Plenary Session 2: Evidence and Impact of Climate Change**
- 6. Plenary Session 3: Climate Change adaptation and mitigation challenges, opportunities and the green economy.**
- 7. Plenary Session 4: Africa and the international climate change negotiations: Africa's concerns and expectations for the post-2012 international climate change regime**
- 8. Focus Breakout Sessions**
 - a. Climate change, food security and economic development**
 - Climate Change agriculture and food security
 - Climate Change, trade and industrial development
 - Climate Change and infrastructure development
 - b. Climate change, human development, security and ecosystem sustainability**
 - Climate Change and human development
 - Climate Change and ecosystem sustainability
 - Climate change and security
 - c. Harnessing means of response to climate change**
 - Climate monitoring, assessment and early warning
 - Financing climate change adaptation and mitigation actions
 - Science, technology and innovation for climate change adaptation and mitigation
 - Building capacity for climate change adaptation and mitigation

251 11 5512814

8. Plenary Session 5 Reports of Breakout Sessions

9. Plenary Session 6: Adoption of Consensus Statement and Plan of Action

10. Closing Ceremony

251 11 5512814

Seventh African Development Forum (ADF-VII)**“Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa”****10–15 October 2010****UNCC, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia****Draft Programme of Work****PRE-ADF EVENTS**

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| | |
| | Arrival of Participants Registration for ADF and pre-ADF activities (Registration for ADF open all the day) |
| | |
| 08:00 hours | Registration for ADF and pre-ADF activities (Registration for ADF open all the day) |
| 09:00 hours | Opening of ADF-VII exhibition Venue: UNCC exhibition area |
| 10:00-17:30 hours | Parallel Pre-ADF Meetings/workshops <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CCIS Meeting on Climate Change and Security Venue: _____2. ECA/InWENT Experts Meeting on Climate Change Measurement Venue: _____3. ECA/UNFPA Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Venue: _____4. RRI Africa Regional Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change Venue: _____5. NPCA/ECA/WWI Meeting on Climate Change, Agriculture and Rural Development Venue: _____ |

251 11 5512814

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 10:00-17:00 hours | Parallel Pre-ADF Meetings/workshops 1. GCCA Africa Regional Consultation Venue: ____ 2. ECA/InWENT Experts Meeting on Climate Change Measurement Venue: ____ 3. ECA/UNFPA Meeting on Climate Change and Gender Venue: ____ 4. RRI Africa Regional Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change Venue: ____ 5. NPCA/ECA/WWI Meeting on Climate Change, Agriculture and Rural Development Venue: ____ |
| 17:00-18:00 hours | ADF OPENING CEREMONY Venue: Conference Room 1 |

251 11 5512814

ADF EVENTS

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| | |
| 09:00-11:00 hours | Plenary Session 1 High Level Leadership Dialogue Theme: Governance and Leadership Response to Climate Change Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 11:00-11:30 hours | COFFEE BREAK Visit of exhibition by VIPs (exhibition area) |
| 11:30-13:00 hours | Plenary session 2 Theme: Evidence and impact of climate change Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 13:00-14:00 hours | LUNCH |
| 14:00-15:30 hours | Plenary session 3 Theme: Climate change adaptation and mitigation: challenges and opportunities Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 15:30-16:00 hours | COFFEE BREAK |
| 16:00-18:00 hours | Plenary session 3 (cont'd) Theme: Climate change adaptation and mitigation: the green economy Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 18:00-20:00 hours | Reception/ Gala |

251 11 5512814

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 09:00-10:30 hours | Plenary session 4 Theme: Africa and the international climate change negotiations: Africa's concerns and expectations for the post-2012 international climate change regime Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 10:30-11:00 hours | COFFEE BREAK |
| 11:00-13:00 hours | Parallel Focus Break-out Session Thematic cluster 1: Climate change, food security and economic development <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate change, agriculture and food security 2. Climate change, trade and industrial development 3. Climate change and infrastructure development (energy, water, transport and ICT) Venue: Conference Room 3 Thematic cluster 2: Climate change, human development, security and ecosystem sustainability <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Climate change and human development (health, education, employment, gender and youth) 5. Climate change and security 6. Climate change and ecosystem sustainability Venue: Conference Room 4 Thematic cluster 3: Harnessing means of response to climate change <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Climate science, monitoring, assessment and early warning 8. Financing climate change adaptation and mitigation actions 9. Science, technology and innovation for climate change adaptation and mitigation 10. Building capacity for climate change adaptation and mitigation Venue: Conference Room 5 |
| 13:00-14:00 hours | LUNCH |
| 14:00-15:30 hours | Parallel Focus Break-out Session (cont'd) |
| 15:30-16:00 hours | COFFEE BREAK |
| 16:00-18:00 hours | Parallel Focus Break-out Session (cont'd) |

251 11 5512814

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| | |
| 09:00-11:00 hours | Plenary Session 5 Reports of Focus Break-out Session Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 11:00-11:30 hours | COFFEE BREAK |
| 11:30-13:00 hours | Plenary Session 6 Open-ended Discussion of Consensus Statement Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 13:00-14:00 hours | LUNCH |
| 14:00-16:00 hours | Informal Bilateral Meetings and Side Events |
| 16:00-16:30 hours | Plenary Session 6 (cont'd) Adoption of Consensus Statement Venue: Conference Room 1 |
| 16:30-17:00 hours | CLOSING CEREMONY Venue: Conference Room 1 |

251 11 5512814

Seventh African Development Forum (ADF-VII)**“Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa”****11–15 October 2010****UNCC, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia****Draft Concept Note****1. Background and Justification**

Climate change is one of the most challenging threats to sustainable development in Africa. Although the continent contributes only about 3.8% of total greenhouse gas emissions, its countries are among the most vulnerable to climate change in the world. This vulnerability derives from multiple stresses coupled with low adaptive capacity. First, the geographical location of many African countries is characterized by already warmer climate, marginal areas that are more exposed to climatic hazards such as rainfall variability, poor soils and flood plains. Secondly, the economies of most African countries rely heavily on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry, other natural resources and tourism. Thirdly, the continent is unable to respond adequately to the direct and indirect effects of climate change because of widespread poverty, poor economic and social infrastructure, conflicts, limited human and institutional capacities, and inadequate technologies and financial resources. Vulnerability to climate change in Africa is particularly high for the poor, who tend to live in environments that are most susceptible to droughts, floods and other extreme weather events.

The Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other major reports such as the Stern Review of the Economics of Climate Change point to some of the current and projected impacts of climate change on Africa's development. Such major impacts that threaten the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and sustainable development in the region include:

- Increasing water stress and water-related conflicts;
- Constrained agricultural production and increasing food insecurity;
- Increasing energy constraints, further compounding challenges for industrial development;
- Rising sea level degrading livelihoods and environment in coastal areas;
- Loss of biodiversity, forests and other natural habitats, threatening the well being of millions of people, whose livelihoods depend on biodiversity resources;
- Expanding range and prevalence of vector-borne diseases, adding to the challenge of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, affecting mostly the poor who live in deplorable conditions and lack access to health care; and
- Increased risks of conflicts, instability and security threats, associated with massive population migrations induced by extreme climate events.

Concerted efforts for adaptation to climate change must be undertaken at all levels to make African societies and economies resilient to such projected hardships. Indeed, taking immediate action will forestall the worst impacts of climate change. Effective response would thus entail stakeholders explicitly mainstreaming climate change concerns into development

251 11 5512814

policies, strategies, programmes and practices, with special attention to priority climate-sensitive sectors. Such action should be conceived and implemented not only in full cognizance of the evidence, impact and challenges of climate change, but also in full account of the opportunities associated with climate change. Chief among these are opportunities for Africa to shift to low-carbon and greener development. Africa must further benefit optimally from the provisions of a post-2012 global agreement in terms of technology, financing and capacity building for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Africa has so far succeeded in articulating its concerns and interests in a common position and conveying them to the international community in the ongoing climate change negotiations. Although these negotiations were not concluded with a legally-binding agreement at the Fifteenth Conference of Parties (COP-15) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the resulting Copenhagen Accord did mark some progress in the right direction, especially in terms of developed countries' willingness to curb their greenhouse gas emissions and provide financial support for adaptation and mitigation efforts in developing countries. As negotiations continue towards a hopeful conclusion at COP-16 in Cancun, Mexico in December 2010, it is important that Africa keep the course of a united front in further refining and administering its common position.

The Seventh African Development Forum (ADF-VII) is aimed at providing a multi-stakeholder platform to discuss and build consensus on the above imperatives. The Forum will offer an opportunity to exchange information, knowledge and experience on how best Africa can and should cope with climate change through effective action on policies, strategies, programmes and practices. In addition, ADF-VII will help strengthen the African common position in the ongoing international negotiations, by raising awareness and building consensus among all African stakeholders and with its development partners on concerns and expectations for a post-2012 global climate agreement.

2. Objectives

Overall objective

The overall objective of the Forum is to raise awareness and mobilize effective commitment and actions on the part of all stakeholders and partners at all levels to effectively mainstream climate change concerns into development policies, strategies, programmes and practices in Africa. ADF VII also aims to strengthen Africa's participation in international climate change negotiations with a view to ensuring adequate reflection of the continent's concerns and priorities in a post-2012 international climate change regime.

Specific objectives

More specifically, ADF VII will:

- Demonstrate the compelling evidence and impacts of climate change and the need for adequate climate information and services to better inform adaptation and mitigation policies and practices;
- Deliberate on the challenges that climate change poses to Africa's development, and the opportunities it presents;

251 11 5512814

- Promote sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned in mainstreaming climate change concerns into development policies and practices;
- Define priority actions and measures needed to adequately address the climate change challenge, including leveraging on the opportunities it presents;
- Give momentum to Africa's Common Position on Climate Change in preparation for the international climate change negotiations in Cancun, Mexico; and
- Build and strengthen new strategic alliances and partnerships to further Africa's climate change agenda.

3. Expected Outcomes and Outputs

Outcomes

Discussions and dialogue during ADF VII will result in:

- African stakeholders being better informed about the threats and opportunities of climate change;
- Enhanced knowledge of African stakeholders in mainstreaming climate change concerns into development policies and practices;
- Strengthened capacity of African stakeholders to address climate change challenges and leverage opportunities presented;
- Effective participation of Africa in the Cancun climate change negotiations;
- Enhanced support for the implementation of Africa's priority climate change initiatives and programmes; and
- Strengthened effective strategic alliances and partnerships for Africa's climate change agenda.

Outputs

Key information and follow-up products that will be produced and disseminated during and after the Forum will comprise the following:

- Forum report
- Consensus statement
- Indicative plan of action
- Press releases
- Daily bulletins
- Web publications
- Compendium of the Forum Proceedings.

4. Overall theme

From a people-centered livelihood and sustainable development perspective, ADF-VII will focus on "Acting on Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa."

251 11 5512814

5. Sub-themes

Discussion at ADF-VII will be articulated around specific sub-themes closely associated with the main theme of the Forum.

Setting the stage

The following three sub-themes will be considered in setting the stage for the three-day dialogue:

a. Evidence and impact of climate change

It is now a scientifically established fact that the earth's climate is changing. The fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (AR4-2007) concludes that our climate system is warming as a result of human activities. Not only do rising greenhouse gas emissions threaten the environment, they also undermine development and have dramatic and negative consequences for Africa's economic and social well-being. Without adequate knowledge of future climate change trends to enable us to address our unstable climate, , Africa may not achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

While all countries in the world will be affected by climate change, African countries are particularly vulnerable and will suffer the most. According to different models, the effects for Africa of a temperature increase of around 2°C - that is highly expected - could mean a loss of USD 133 billion or 4.7 % of GNP, mostly as a result of loss in the agricultural sector. A temperature rise of 2.5-5°C, would mean 128 million more people affected by hunger and 108 million by flooding, and sea levels rising by as much as 15-95 cm, with devastating effects.

A good starting point for serious action-oriented debate on climate change, therefore, is reaching a common understanding of the very evidence of the phenomenon and the extent of its present and projected impacts on economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability in Africa.

b. Climate change challenges and opportunities

Climate change issues need to be integrated into national decision-making on development policies, programmes and practices so as to reduce the negative effects of climate change on resources, livelihoods and the wider economy. Such integration should encompass both the challenges that climate change poses and the opportunities – especially those associated with the green economy - it offers for future pathways to sustainable development. Dialogue on such challenges and opportunities would also help raise the issue of climate change to a higher political priority, and from an environmental challenge to a developmental challenge.

c. Africa and the international climate change negotiations

The ongoing climate change negotiations are complex and challenging, as the issues under discussions relate to all aspects of development. In order to ensure that African countries participate effectively in the negotiations and develop well-informed positions for Cancun, all relevant stakeholders, including government actors, the private sector and civil society should be effectively involved and engaged in the process. This calls for raising awareness about the

251 11 5512814

key issues and elements under discussion, and building/strengthening consensus on key concerns and expectations of the continent in the context of the international negotiations.

Focus sub-themes

ADF-VII will offer a platform for more focused and in-depth discussion of the following sub-themes:

d. Climate science, monitoring, assessment and early warning

Based on current evidence, a consensus now exists within the global scientific community on the fact that human activities are the main source of climate change. Yet, Africa is faced with scientific and socio-economic challenges such as, understanding the science of climate change; monitoring, mitigating and developing resilience to natural and human-induced hazards and disasters in Africa (e.g. droughts, floods, landslides, tropical cyclones, wildfires, earthquakes, tsunamis, submerging islands and desertification); and producing and using adequate climate information for policymaking and good climate risk management and adaptation practices. Under this sub-theme would be discussed: the use of scientific research and analytical work for the improvement of policy-making; the current status of research on climate change in Africa; technologies and innovations available to Africa for mitigation and adaptation actions; and the cost of the deployment of such climate change technologies and innovations.

e. Climate Change, Peace and Security

Extreme climate events such as floods, droughts, desertification and sea-level rise are likely to force increasing numbers of African population to migrate from rural to urban areas, as well as away from increasingly arid areas, low lying coastal areas and small islands productivity. The resulting massive migrations could spark violent conflicts for access to and control of key livelihood resources such as land and water, and further complicate the already complex issue of management of migration flows within and between the continent and the rest of the world.

f. Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security

Climate change is projected to severely compromise agricultural production - the backbone of most African economies - and exacerbate poverty and food insecurity in many sub-regions of the continent. The area suitable for agriculture, the length of growing seasons and yield potential, particularly along the margins of semi-arid and arid areas, are expected to decrease significantly. More frequent and severe droughts, floods and weather extremes would compound the constraints on crop and livestock production systems. Local food supplies would also be affected negatively by decreasing fisheries resources in large lakes due to rising water temperatures. The combined impacts of these events would threaten the livelihoods of large proportions of the African population and curtail the prospects for broad-based economic growth, poverty reduction and food security in the continent.

Smallholder farmers in developing countries like in Africa are on the front lines of climate change. Quite often, this poor segment of society has to bear the brunt of the impact of climate change. Climate change and food security are the greatest challenges to be faced by Africa in the coming years. Serious studies indicate that "unchecked climate change" will

251 11 5512814

result in a 20 percent increase in child malnutrition by 2050. It is thus vital to twin the climate change and agriculture agendas, and adapt agriculture to the new climate reality. To this effect, all actors should be involved at the outset, in initiatives to widen the development scope beyond traditional actors, and engage stakeholders and partners in a true positive process.

Addressing the effects of climate change on agriculture, including crops, livestock and fishing activities, will require new analytical approaches supported by appropriate institutional setups. The current decision-making process involving steps such as vulnerability and risk analysis, agricultural monitoring, food security early warning, environmental assessment, and resource mobilization activities need to be reviewed and adjusted, taking into consideration current realities. Also important is the adoption of policies and strategies that will allow communities to respond and adapt to the new complex challenges.

g. Climate Change and Infrastructure Development

Africa's water resources have been decreasing over time mainly as a result of persistent droughts, rapid melting of snow caps, drying of lakes and rivers and land use patterns. Climate change will exacerbate this situation and further increase water stress and water shortage in Africa. Decreasing water level is expected to affect water quality, worsen water borne diseases, and reduce available hydropower. Coupled with increased demand on water for different uses (agriculture, industry, energy, etc.), this will adversely affect the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people and aggravate water-related problems, such as conflicts resulting from competing demands and management of shared water resources.

A combination of reduced water flows to major hydropower dams and worsening depletion of biomass energy resources resulting from climate change could seriously compound the already dire state of energy availability and accessibility. It is also expected that offshore oil production will be negatively impacted by rise in sea levels. The resulting constraints on energy production and access would further impede industrial development throughout the continent. This notwithstanding, Africa is still blessed with considerable opportunities for developing renewable energy resources.

Discussions under this theme will encompass challenges, opportunities and effective actions for coping with climate change in the development of economic and social infrastructure, with emphasis on the water, energy, transport and ICT sectors.

h. Climate Change, Trade and Industrial Development

Climate change is impacting African trade and industrial development in several ways. For instance, climate-induced reduction of agricultural output would make Africa more dependent on imports. In this regard, General Circulation Model (GCM) projections, which take into account climate change, predict an increase of such import dependency by 10 to 40 percent. Furthermore, significant declines have also been predicted for Africa's net agricultural exports ranging from 9 percent in Mozambique to 74 percent in Zambia. At the same time, prospects for a green economy offer new opportunities for future pathways to industrial and trade development in Africa. Effective action at coping with climate change for sustained economic growth and poverty reduction in Africa requires a good understanding of such challenges and opportunities for trade and industrial development.

251 11 5512814

i. Climate Change and Human Development (health, education, employment)

Climate change is expected to produce changes in temperature and rainfall. This will result in warmer environments and altered rainfall patterns resulting in increased incidences of vector-borne diseases in Africa. It is predicted that many sub-regions, including the Sahel, Southern and Eastern Africa, will experience increased outbreaks and severe vector borne diseases such as malaria, cholera, yellow fever, trypanosomiasis and rift valley fever. These diseases will prevent children, the most vulnerable segment of the population, from attending school. Climate change would thus add to the challenge of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, with the poor being the worst hit due to paltry living environments and lack of access to health care. Furthermore, agriculture remains the main provider of employment in most African countries; hence, climate-induced reduction of agricultural output will seriously affect the most vulnerable, namely women and children. Dialogue under this sub-theme will focus on core drivers of human and social development, with emphasis on gender, youth, health and education.

j. Climate Change and Ecosystem Sustainability

Life on earth relies directly or indirectly on ecosystems and ecosystem services. However, we know very little about the natural limits or the risks of collapse of these ecosystems, which are under increasing pressure from climate change and other environmental factors. Over the years, the increasing pressure on ecosystems, which are the source of economic well-being, is underscoring the need to prescribe an economic value to ecosystems, thereby prompting trans-disciplinary shifts in how we recognize and manage the environment, social responsibility, business opportunities, and the future for both man and nature.

In the context of the current threat of climate change, ecosystem management and sustainability is key to adapting and mitigating the related impacts. Coping with sea level rise, for instance, will require improved management of coral reefs, mangroves and coastal areas to increase their resilience. Similarly, prevention of and coping with extreme flood events will require securing catchment forests and reforestation in degraded areas. Under conditions of climate change, therefore, the management of ecosystems and the services they provide becomes even more important.

Discussion under this sub-theme will focus on:

- How the role of ecosystem management and sustainability can be better enhanced as a tool for adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change;
- Effective practices and tools in developing countries and in Africa for ensuring ecosystem management and sustainability; and
- Priority areas of action to ensure ecosystem sustainability and the establishment of climate resilient economies.

In addition to the above focus topics, the Forum will consider the following action-oriented sub-themes for effective response to climate change in Africa:

- k. Governance and Leadership Response to Climate Change**
- l. Financing Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Actions**
- m. Harnessing Science, Technology and Innovation for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

251 11 5512814

n. **Building Capacity for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

6. Format

Discussions and dialogue during ADF-VII will take place in:

- Pre-Forum meetings and workshops
- Plenary sessions for setting the scene and reaching agreement on a consensus statement and indicative plan of action
- Parallel break-out sessions, facilitated by keynote presentations and moderated interactive discussions/dialogue around focus sub-themes
- Moderated high-level dialogue on governance and leadership response.

8. Work program

- a. Pre-ADF events (Days 1-2)
- b. ADF stage-setting plenary sessions (Day 3)
- c. Sub-thematic breakout sessions (Day 4)
- d. High-level dialogue and concluding consensus plenary sessions (Day 5)
- e. Exhibitions and side events (Days 1-5)

10. Categories of participants

- Eminent persons, including Heads of State and Government
- African member States
- Regional Economic Communities
- Regional and sub-regional climate centers
- Private sector
- Academia, science and technology community
- Civil society organizations
- African Diaspora
- United Nations partners
- Bilateral organizations/partners
- International and regional financial institutions
- South-South cooperation organizations