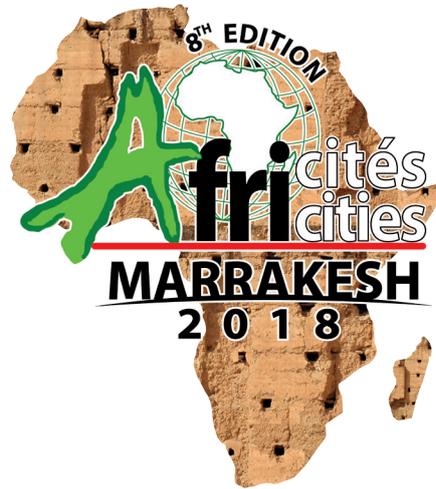




UCLG AFRICA
United Cities and Local Governments of Africa
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis d'Afrique
CGLU AFRIQUE



MARRAKECH'S DECLARATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN AFRICA
ON THE EMERGENCY OF TERRITORIALIZING CLIMATE ACTIONS IN SUPPORT
OF NATIONAL DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDC)



UCLG AFRICA
CLIMATE TASK FORCE



22 Novembre 2018

We local and regional elected representatives of Africa, gathered this Thursday, November 22, 2018 in Marrakech, Kingdom of Morocco, within the framework of the First edition of the Climate Day during the Eighth edition of the Africities Summit organized in preparation for the United Nations Climate Conference COP24 to be held from December 03 to December 14, 2018 in Katowice, Republic of Poland,

Aware of the alert renewed by the international scientific community and concerned by the urgency highlighted again in the IPCC report of October 08, 2018 concerning the effects of global warming of 1.5 degrees compared to the pre-industrial era,

Noting that this IPCC report has emphasized the need for an extremely fast and ambitious transitions, especially in the areas of energy, transport, construction and agriculture to avoid exceeding 1.5 degrees of anthropogenic global warming, and that in order to achieve this goal the world must achieve carbon neutrality by 2050,

Noting that the reality of the current commitments made by the States Parties to the UNFCCC in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) does not make it possible to fit within a trajectory that is compatible with an increase in temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius or 2 degrees Celsius by 2100, which are the goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate, but that, on the contrary, current trajectories direct us towards a warming around 3 degrees, with catastrophic consequences for Humanity, with a particularly devastating and even existential impact for African societies,

Recalling the need to learn from the limitations of the Kyoto Protocol and in particular the fact that local and subnational communities and governments were not included as participatory stakeholders, which significantly delayed the global establishment of a virtuous moment in terms of local mobilization, which is nonetheless necessary and efficient,

Emphasizing the fact that the bulk of the global climate policy decisions are made and applied at the territorial level, making local authorities and actors the driving force in the overall transformation towards a green economy, sustainable development and a climate-resilient and environment-friendly human civilization;

Recalling the recent commitments and declarations of local and regional elected representatives in favor of the Climate, including, among others : the Declaration of the Summit of Cities and Regions of Africa in Yamoussoukro , Côte d'Ivoire (June 2015) ; the Declaration of the World Climate Summit and Territories in Lyon, France (July 2015) ; the Declaration of Local and Regional Elected Officials for Climate's Summit in Paris, France (December 2015) ; the Declaration of local and Regional Elected Officials of Africa adopted during the Preparatory Forum for COP 22 held in Cotonou, Benin (September 2016) ; the Road Map for the Action of the Cities and Regions of the World for Climate adopted at COP 22 in Marrakech , Morocco (November 2016) ; the Declaration of Elected Officials of Local and Regional Africa adopted at the Summit Climate Chance held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (June 2018) ; and the Declaration of Action World Summit on Climate adopted in San Francisco, USA (July 2018) ;

Declare the following:

1. We share the warning of the United Nations Secretary-General who warns us that we have two years left to act before the climate trajectory becomes irreversible. We therefore stress the urgency of translating "The Marrakech Partnership for Action for Climate" adopted at COP 22, into an operational mechanism to integrate cities and territories into the process of implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change ;
2. We pledge to participate in the ambition to limit the increase of the temperature of the planet by the end of the century to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to the temperature level of the preindustrial era, notably by implementing the Locally Determined Contributions (LDC), extending and complementing the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) ;
3. We encourage all cities and territories of Africa to join the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) and in the Mediterranean countries, in order to initiate the territorial action relating to climate and energy, the establishment of action plans of access to sustainable energy, as well as advocacy actions for multi-level governance to address the climate challenges facing the African continent ;
4. We call for the strengthening of the UCLG Africa Climate Task Force to support African local and subnational governments more effectively in the definition of concrete and multi - year action plans for the implementation of Territorial Climate projects ;
5. To this end, we adopt the Work Program of the UCLG Africa Task Force, entitled " Climate Cities and Communities Readiness Program for the Territorialization of NDCs", and strongly recommend its financing ;
6. We pledge to develop and engage in South-South and North-South-South decentralized cooperation partnerships around the NDCs and LDCs agenda. ;
7. We ask the UCLG Africa Climate Task Force to organize every year starting in 2019, a structured dialogue between the National Governments, the Local and Subnational Governments, and the various initiatives put in place at regional and international level, with a view to strengthening the implementation and monitoring framework for the territorialization of NDCs;
8. We encourage public and private actors involved in climate finance, and specifically the Green Climate Fund, to direct significant financial flows to local and subnational governments. To this end, we ardently hope to see implemented the capacity building and technical assistance dimension of the "Readiness" program presented by UCLG Africa, with a view to supporting cities and local authorities to prepare and submit funding applications eligible for the Green Climate Fund and the other instruments of Climate finance.

Marrakech, November 22, 2018