

**Submission by the Republic of Mali on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN)  
on  
the Continuation and Enhancement of the Lima Work Programme on Gender  
October 2016**

### **Preamble**

The African Group of Negotiators (AGN) welcomes the invitation to submit its view on the possible elements and guiding principles for continuing and enhancing the Lima Work Programme on Gender (LWP). The AGN takes cognizance of the value of the LWP and appreciates the progress made in achieving the objectives of decision 23/CP.18.

The AGN stresses that gender is an important component in tackling climate change and reaffirms the need to recognize existing international and regional treaties, and commitments such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol), Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Beijing Platform for Action.

### **Achievements of the Lima Work Programme**

The AGN acknowledges the progress that has been made in the past two years in the following areas:

#### **Gender Balance**

There is notable increase in the percentage of female delegates attending the Subsidiary Bodies (SBs) and Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings. However, there has been a decline in female representation in the majority of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) bodies. For example, the number of women attending intersession SB meetings and COP remains below 40% as evidenced by the recent Reports on Gender Composition by the secretariat.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Gender-responsive policy**

The AGN appreciates the two in-session workshops and the technical paper by the secretariat on guidelines and tools for integrating gender considerations in climate change activities in the UNFCCC processes: National Communications, Technology Needs Assessments, Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions, National Adaptation Plans, REDD+, Nationally Determined Contributions, Green Climate Fund, and the Global Environmental Facility. The AGN values the contribution of the workshops in enhancing the linkages between gender and climate change in the work of the Convention, Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.

However, the AGN is concerned about the outcome of the two in-session workshops on gender responsiveness, and therefore recommends that more work be done to ensure progress in relevant thematic areas especially the non-traditional areas of technology development and transfer, the Doha Work programme on Article 6 of the Convention, mitigation and response measures in the context of sustainable development.

#### **Capacity Building**

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<sup>1</sup> [FCCC/CP/2015/6](#), [FCCC/CP/2014/7](#), [FCCC/CP/2013/4](#)

AGN recognizes the capacity building and training of delegates in gender responsive policies, and looks forward to the trickle down effect to the national level. Whereas some Parties and Observer organizations have reported holding training and capacity building activities, the majority of the Parties are yet to undertake the said activities. It is imperative that more resources are allocated towards gender mainstreaming/integration to ensure the trainings meet the desired objectives.

### **Challenges**

The AGN recalls some of the challenges highlighted from the in-session workshops and the reports from the secretariat that include:

- Few women from Africa are appointed to key positions in the UNFCCC bodies;
- Few African women are participating in the global meetings;
- African women are unable to access new, appropriate and safe technologies and resources;
- Inadequate understanding of the gender concepts and mainstreaming;
- Addressing cultural/traditional constraints that women face;
- Inability of Parties to domesticate COP decisions;
- Limited incorporation of gender analysis, budgeting, gender indicators, sex-disaggregated data in all planning and implementation of programmes and projects; and
- Inadequate reporting on gender responsive actions by Parties.

### **Recommendations**

The AGN recommends a continuous work programme on gender with a bi-annual review that includes the following elements:

- Strengthening the capacity of the UNFCCC gender focal point within the secretariat;
- Development of a gender and climate change implementation framework with an M & E plan (having clear indicators with sex-disaggregated data for all reporting and implementation);
- Parties to appoint a gender focal point in each country;
- Continuous training and capacity building at global, regional, national and sub-national levels on the integration of gender and climate change, targeting male and female negotiators and delegates in the UNFCCC processes;
- Adequate and dedicated financial resources for implementing a gender programme at the global, regional and country level;
- Further the work on the goal of gender balance with a view to achieving gender parity;
- Convening of the gender forum at SBs and COP; and
- Referring to the gaps and challenges identified in the technical paper on guidelines to integrate gender related activities, we urge the secretariat to identify and communicate solutions, and further guide the process for implementation.

### **Conclusion**

The AGN looks forward to favourable decisions taking cognizance of the above recommendations in COP22 Marrakech, Morocco.