

EAFF covers the following countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania



EASTERN AFRICAN FARMERS FEDERATION

THE DAR ES SALAAM DECLARATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

We, the member organizations of the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF), the umbrella platform of over 20 million farmers in Eastern Africa, and meeting in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, on 17th to 20th August 2010 demand solutions to climate change that keeps Africa safe and secures our development. We recognize that impacts across Africa, and particularly in the agricultural sector, indicate that climate change is proceeding faster than predicted by the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report. The Earth's climate is "tipping" off balance and we must act swiftly to stabilize it within a range fit for human life and the wellbeing of small-scale farming communities whose livelihoods rely on rain-fed agriculture.

African farmers are suffering from a problem they did not cause. The average African farmer contributes nothing to climate change. Africa's historical contribution to climate change is negligible. In its preamble, the UN Climate Convention confirms the "largest share of historical and current global emissions of greenhouse gases has originated in developed countries, that per capita emissions in developing countries are still relatively low".

We recognize the efforts by other stakeholders including governments and civil society – in calling on those who cause climate change through their excessive historical and continuing emissions to bear the moral and legal responsibilities for its effects on Africa. And in the international dialogue for the second commitment period of Kyoto Protocol, we call for an outcome that is based on science, on economics and on the provisions and principles of the UN Climate Convention, and one that is fair and protects Africa's future.

We recognize the position taken by the Africa Group through the African Union, and the various consultation processes leading up to the development of that position.

EAFF covers the following countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania

We recognize the efforts by research organizations, such as the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), International Livestock Research Institute, the National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARIs) among others, in developing, documenting and disseminating agricultural technologies in response to the problem.

We appreciate the gesture by different organizations that have invited producers and their organizations in their processes and dialogues in their activities around climate change, including COMESA, Oxfam, the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), among others.

We note, with disappointment, the existing climate change mechanisms either exclude the agriculture sector, or provide insignificant benefits to farmers and pastoralists.

We note that the processes under current dialogues have excluded farmers and their organizations.

As EAFF, we now comprehensively understand and appreciate the problems created by climate change, and the impacts of agricultural production and the livelihoods of farmers.

Based on the foregoing information, we take the following position;

On Agriculture and Climate Change

The ultimate goal for small scale farmers is to modernize agricultural through value addition and innovation, with recognition of the need to protect our environment, and also develop our soils.

We push for the domestication of the Africa land policy framework already adopted by the African Union to address land tenure systems, land rights to ensure that small scale farmers benefit from climate change related response processes.

On Climate Change Adaptation:

EAFF covers the following countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania

- To limit and correct climate change induced impacts to small-holder farmers in Africa, we call on developed countries to compensate Africa for the full costs of avoiding harms, actual harm and damage as well as lost opportunities for small-holder agricultural communities. We demand that actions to address climate change must ensure the free, prior and informed consent of farmers, indigenous peoples and be gender responsive in all processes.
- We support the Africa Group's position that initial financing of 2.5% of Annex I Gross National Product is required to fund full costs of adapting to climate change. A new institutional framework on adaptation is required under the UNFCCC including: 1) an Adaptation Executive Body under the Conference of the Parties; 2) a new Adaptation Fund (under financial mechanism); 3) a comprehensive Adaptation Programme; 4) an International Mechanism to address risk and compensation; and 5) a compliance mechanism.
- Farmer Organizations must play a central role in the design, implementation and review of climate change policies, laws and programs, such as the National Adaptation Plans of Actions (NAPAs) at the country level; East African Community Climate Change Policy, and the COMESA Climate Change Initiative at the regional level.

On Climate Change Mitigation

- Industrialized countries, under Annex 1, must adhere to their commitments to cut their green house gas emissions as agreed in the Kyoto Protocol. In addition, Annex 1 countries must commit to legally-binding emissions reduction targets for the second commitment period for the Kyoto protocol. We call on Annex 1 countries to reduce their emissions by at least 50% from 1990 levels by 2017.
- In their current form, existing mitigation programs such as the carbon financing schemes that include the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and the Voluntary carbon markets are not suitable for small-holder farming and pastoral systems. This is mainly because these programs entail complex qualification requirements. In the second commitment period, we call for their reform to be responsive to African realities and to have a business sense for small-holder farmers.

EAFF covers the following countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania

- National Farmer Organizations must play a central role in the design, implementation and review of the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs).

On Climate Change Finance

- Those who caused climate change must compensate African farmers and citizens for the adverse effects of their pollution. African countries must receive full compensation for adapting to the adverse effects of climate change (UNFCCC Article 4.4) including for crop and livestock losses and other impacts on food security.
- Climate change finance such as the Adaptation Fund should be provided from public sources from Annex 1 countries, and not through a market-based mechanism. This finance must be additional to, and not in substitution to overseas development assistance; must be predictable; and the disbursement must be fast-tracked. The finance must be in the form of grants, and not loans.
- The governance of climate change finance must be democratic, with an effective and transparent compliance mechanism. Farmer organizations must play a role in the tracking, monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of these funds.

On Technology transfer

- There must a deliberate effort to scale up existing and appropriate technologies and knowledge that would assist small-holder farmers to adapt to climate change. In addition, these efforts must take into account farmers' indigenous knowledge and the need to preserve the existing biodiversity.
- Agricultural research leading to the development of climate change adaptation technologies needs to be farmer-driven. Farmer organizations need to be deliberately engaged in developing the research agenda.
- Governments in Africa must ensure that the policy and legal environment is favorable for the transfer of technologies at all levels. Policies and laws include intellectual property rights, and plant variety protection.

EAFF covers the following countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania

- Developed countries must implement their commitment to provide technology in “all relevant sectors” including agriculture (UNFCCC, Article 4.1(c)) and to fund this at “full incremental costs” (Article 4.3). We support developing countries’ demand for a Technology Mechanism including: 1) a Technology Executive Board; 2) Technical Panels; 3) A Technology Action Plan; and 4) a Multilateral Climate Technology Fund (under financial mechanism).

On Capacity Building

- Call upon our own governments at the national and regional level to establish strong institutions to manage climate change in the areas of resource mobilization and other climate change related issues.
- Farmer organizations need to effectively participate in the various climate change policy processes including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations, and the African Environmental Ministers Conference (AMCEN).

To support these positions, EAFF pledges;

- To establish a strong and vibrant climate change unit to assist our own organization and our member organizations to mainstream climate change issues with clear strategies on adaptation and mitigation.
- To mobilize and sensitize our members on climate change through the national farmer organizations
- To strengthen the capacity of our members to engage in the climate change adaptation programs
- To actively participate in climate change consultations at all levels
- To build alliances with other like-minded organizations in the climate change debate and advocacy

Signed by,



August 20, 2010

5 | Page

EAFF Board of Directors: Mr. Philip Kiro (President, Kenya); Mrs. Harriet Ssali (1st Vice President, Uganda); Mr. Andrew Hepelwa (2nd Vice President, Tanzania); Mr. Paluku Mivimba (DRC); Mrs. Cesarie Kantarama (Rwanda); Mrs. Kahambu Sekeraviti (DRC); Mrs. Lydia Ruliho (Tanzania); Mr. Tom Tibamwenda (Uganda); Mr. Nduati Kariuki (Kenya); Ann Marie Mbonimpa (Burundi); Jean Baptiste Ndereyimana (Rwanda); and Stephen Muchiri (ex-officio).

EAFF covers the following countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania

.....
Philip Kiriro, PRESIDENT

.....
Date