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Covenant of Mayors
Office for Sub-Saharan Africa

Conference of Covenant of Mayors for Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA) Climate Chance Summit Africa 2019

« Towards the Institutionalization of Local Climate Action and Access to Finance »

16 October 2019

Accra, Ghana

The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report on global warming confirms unequivocally that the implementation of the current Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) will not be sufficient to limit global warming to 1.5 °C. With the adoption of the Paris Agreement Work Programme and the “Katowice rulebook”, the implementation of the Paris Agreement will face its real test and call for a questioning of the approach adopted so far, especially in Africa. Sub-national actors are key to help bridging the gap between national climate targets and the concrete action required on the ground. In that regard, there is a need for a paradigm shift from the top-down approach followed in the definition of Locally Determined Contributions (LDCs) in favor of more consideration of action taken and implemented at local level.

In that perspective, the Covenant of Mayors for Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA), launched by the European Union in 2015, has made substantial progress in laying the foundations of a bottom-up approach to the fight against climate change. In its forth project year, the CoM SSA initiative continued making progress towards its overall and specific objectives and in its three main work streams: (1) vertical integration and political advocacy (2) technical assistance and capacity development to pilot and signatory cities, including also CSOs, and (3) promotion, communication, raising awareness and visibility of the initiative.

The CoM SSA Conference will be the occasion to share the lessons learnt from the cities engaged in the initiative as well as moving forward.

In this context, the CoM SSA Conference will seek to reflect on the following elements:

1. The lessons learned from the CoM SSA pilot cities and partners.
2. How can we scale-up the successes of CoM SSA signatories? How can we ensure access to climate finance for local governments?
3. How can the Sustainable Energy Access and Climate Action Plans (SEACAPs) developed by CoM SSA signatories constitute a form of LDCs in order to foster the Paris Agreement?
4. How to boost the implementation of SEACAPs through decentralized cooperation?.
5. The role of supporting structures (ie: CSOs, national associations of local governments) in SEACAP development, implementation and evaluation.



09:00 - 09:30 CONFERENCE OPENING

Welcoming remarks:

- **Hon. Hajia Alima Mahama**, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development of Ghana.
- **Mr. Léandre Nzue**, President, UCLG Africa.
- **Mr. Bismark Baisie Nkum**, President, NALAG
- **Mr. Mohammed Adjei Sowah**, Mayor of Accra, Ghana.
- **Mr. Zoltan AGA**, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Ghana.
- **Mr. Ronan Dantec**, Senator, President, Climate Chance.

Opening Statements :

- **Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi**, Secretary General, UCLG Africa.
- **Mr. Frédéric Vallier**, Secretary General, CEMR.

09:45am - 11am

Plenary 1: Lessons learned from CoM SSA's pilot cities

Moderator: Ms. Peta Wolpe, Director, Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA).

- **Mr. Jean François Dallemand**, Director, JRC.
- **Mr. Dah Blaise Ahanhanzo GLELE**, Mayor of the Commune of Abomey, Vice President of the Zou Community, BENIN.
- **Mr. Djibo Youssouf Nicolas**, Mayor of Bouaké, Ivory Coast.
- **Mr. Erias Lukwago**, Mayor of Kampala, Uganda.
- **Ms. Dominique Campana**, Director, the International Affairs, ADEME.

Coffee break 11am-11:15am

11:15am - 1pm

Plenary 2: Financing the implementation of local climate action plan

Moderator : Mr. Hasting Chikoko, Regional Director, Africa, C40.

- **Ms. Meggan Spires**, Senior Manager, ICLEI Africa.
- **Ms. Angelika Wasielke**, Coordinator , GIZ.
- **Mr. Sébastien Carreau**, Project Manager , AFD.
- **Mr. Jean Joel Belinga**, Projet Coordinator, Yaounde IV.
- **Mr. Innocent Akobi**, Mayor of Bante, Groupement Intercommunal des Collines, Benin.
- **Mr. Anthony Nyong**, Director Climate Change and Green Growth, AFDB.

OFFICIAL PHOTO & LUNCH BREAK

13:00pm - 14:15pm

2:15pm-4pm

Session 3.1 : Moving towards LDCs

Moderator: Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General, UCLG Africa.

- **Prof. Kwabena Frimpong-Boateng**, Minister, of Environment, Sciences, Technology and Innovation, Ghana.
- **Mr. William Kojo Agyemang - Bonsu**, Manager, Mitigation, Adaptation and Transparency, UNFCCC.
- **Ms. Wasila Sufyan**, Senior Development Planning Officer Ministry of Local Government, Ghana.
- **Mr. Felix Akrofi**, Project Officer, ICLEI World Secretariat.
- **Mr. Mohammed Adjei Sowah**, Mayor of Accra, Ghana.
- **Mr. Kyekyeku Yau Oppong-Boadi**, Focal Point, UNFCCC, Ghana.

Session 3.2 : Integration of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the SEACAPs Implementation process

Moderator : M. Sécou Sarr, Director, ENDA Energie.

- **Mr. Said Houkponou**, Executive Director, Initiatives for Sustainable Integrated Development.
- **Mr. Camil Aghbati**, Professor, University of Lomé, Tsévié.
- **Mr. Abdoulaye Timbo**, Mayor of Pikine, Senegal.
- **Mr. MarK Omondi**, Team Leader, Kisumu KENYA.
- **Ms. Eleth Nakazi**, Projet Coordinator, Kampala.

Coffee Break 4:00pm - 4:15pm

4:15pm - 5:30pm

Session 4.1 : Strengthening Decentralized Cooperation

• **Moderator : Mr. Frederic Vallier**, Secretary General, CEMR, on behalf of PLATFORMA.

- **Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi**, Secretary General, UCLG Africa.
- **Mr. Ronan Dantec**, Senator, President, Climate Chance.
- **Ms. Nsikan George Eman**, Project Manager, Climate Alliance.
- **Mr. Erias Lukwago**, Mayor of Kampala, Uganda.
- **Mr. Frank Mentrup**, Mayor of Karlsruhe, Germany.

Session 4.2: "Beyond Sub-Saharan Africa: Joint actions and synergies with other initiatives"

Moderator: Mr. Durmish Guri, Projet Director, CEMR.

- **Ms. Sandra Dixon-Decleve**, Associate, Sustainable Energy for All SEforALL.
- **Ms. Elise Abbes**, Regional Coherence Officer, Global Covenant of Mayors.
- **Mr. Vincent Kitio**, Chief, Urban Energy Uni, UN Habit.
- **Mr. Cheikh Bedda**, Director of the Infrastructure and Energy Department, African Union.
- **Ms. Milenge Uwella Davinah**, NDC HUB AFDB.

5:30pm-6:00pm

Way forward for CoM SSA:

Phase 3 : Strategic and operational orientations for the next phase of CoM SSA

- **Mr. Mohamed Nbou**, Head Task Force Climat UCLG Africa.
- **Mr. Nicolas Demartin**, coordinator for the Programme Coordination Unit, CoM SSA, Component 3.
- **Ms. Angelika Wasielke**, Coordinator , GIZ.
- **Mr. Sébastien Carreau**, Project Manager , AFD.

Cocktail 6:00pm-7:00pm

"Mobilizing private sector in SEACAP implementation process"

Moderator : Mr. Christophe Lumsden, PWC.

- **Dr. Joseph Siaw Agyepong**, CEO, Jospong Group of Companies, GHANA
- **Mr. Sylvestre Kouassi K**, Director of the Observatory of African Mobilities.
- **Mr. Youssef Sadik**, Financial and Strategic Planning Project Manager, Zenata (Morocco) ,

Conclusion

- **Mr. Frederic Vallier**, Secretary General, CEMR,
- **Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi**, Secretary General, UCLG Africa.