

**DAKAR DECLARATION  
of non-state actors on the occasion of  
THE WEEK FOR SUSTAINABLE  
MOBILITY AND CLIMATE #SMDC2022**

DAKAR, SENEGAL, 3<sup>RD</sup> TO 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022



In Dakar, Senegal during the Week for Sustainable Mobility and Climate, from 03 to 07 October 2022, actors from all over the world – in particular from the African continent, host to the upcoming COP27 – met to reaffirm their commitment and the decisive role of local action to develop sustainable mobility, and mitigate climate change, as well as to adapt to its consequences.

The **science** is indisputable, and the latest IPCC report shows that climate change is a real threat to all continents. A warming of more than 1.5°C will have serious and irreversible impacts, limiting the capacity to adapt and seriously threatening the balance of both natural ecosystems and human societies. The year 2022 and its trail of climate disasters is a clear illustration of this.

The participants in the Dakar summit, from all categories of climate and sustainable mobility actors, reaffirm the strong priorities that they wish to see placed at the heart of the COP 27 debates, recalling that climate change is a direct threat to world peace, in particular through the food and energy insecurity that it generates.

We recall the need to strengthen the focus on **adaptation** issues and to rebalance the negotiations and funding in relation to investments in mitigation.

We reaffirm the need to strengthen **access to all types of financing** at the local level, the need for innovation in green financing, which must be more open to

developing countries. We insist on taking into account the role of local authorities, which are often best able to implement holistic policies adapted to local realities in close liaison with the economic and social actors in their territories.

In this perspective, capacity building (training and project engineering) is of paramount importance.

We stress the importance of resolute action to ensure the right of all people, everywhere, to sustainable mobility, which is a major condition for access to education, employment and individual freedom. To this end, emphasis must be placed on all innovations and funding to develop alternatives to the individual use of carbon-intensive means of transport. We recall the importance of these collective and active mobility policies in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We want, more than ever, to accelerate the **energy transition** in an extremely tense geopolitical context, particularly because of the fragility of fossil fuel supplies, which is having an impact on all the world's economies.

We ask that all the necessary changes be made with a persistent concern for justice and equity. We recall that not all States have the same responsibility for the current climatic situation, nor the same means to deal with it. This is also true at the level of individuals and we insist on the need to take into account gender, generational and regional inequalities in the public policies concerned.

Finally, we reiterate that a global response to the challenges of climate change requires a well-regulated world, the definition of common objectives and strategies between States, for the stabilisation of the climate, the reduction of emissions, adaptation, and the response to the loss and damage in the most vulnerable countries. World peace and universal respect of the United Nations Charter are an absolutely necessary condition for the success of the Paris climate agreement, the implementation of which must be accelerated and translated into concrete and ambitious actions, particularly on the African continent.

**ROADMAP FOR AFRICAN CLIMATE  
ACTORS GATHERED IN DAKAR 4TH  
CLIMATE CHANCE SUMMIT AFRICA  
#SCCA2022**

DAKAR, SENEGAL, 4<sup>TH</sup> TO 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2022



We, representatives of local and regional authorities and non-state actors from Africa, gathered at the 4th Climate Chance Summit Africa, from 4 to 6 October 2022, in the framework of the Week for Sustainable Mobility and Climate in Dakar:

Iterate that this meeting is the last major event on the challenges of climate change in Africa organised before the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP 27) in Egypt, where the financing of adaptation and loss and damage will be at the heart of the negotiations and where the importance of developing large-scale actions on the African continent will be strongly emphasised.

Recall, thus, the importance of the States-Parties taking into account the proposals and demands of local actors, whose experience and capacity to implement concrete solutions are at the heart of the responses to the challenges of climate change.

Make note of these priorities in the continuation of the messages developed during the previous Climate Chance Africa Summits (Agadir 2017, Abidjan 2018, Accra 2019), veritable non-state "pre-COPs", and in coherence and synergy with the specific declarations of other major gathering events of local actors, in particular the Africities Summit of May 2022 in Kisumu, Kenya, and the declaration of the African local authorities and civil society organisations meeting in Saly, Senegal, in July 2022.

We therefore reaffirm, in addition to the standfirst of the declaration of the Sustainable Mobility and Climate Summit in Dakar:

- 1 - The absolute urgency of the fight against climate change, after a particularly difficult year in 2022, when there will have been many

disasters linked to this upheaval, hitting the most vulnerable countries and populations first. No one can today dispute the diagnoses made by the international scientific community, brought together in the IPCC, and their recommendations must be followed, in particular the importance of stabilising the warming climate as closely as possible to the 1.5°C limit.

- 2 - In this context, Africa is particularly affected by a warming for which it is not responsible. Financing, commensurate with the issues at stake, for adaptation policies and for the loss and damage of the most vulnerable countries must therefore be a priority for the international community and for the highest greenhouse gas emitting countries.
- 3 - Climate action policies can only succeed if they take into account social justice and issues of gender, integrating the needs of the most excluded groups, particularly indigenous peoples, young people and women, who are the bearers of solutions that are highly adapted to local realities. At a time when the UN has just recognised the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a universal human right, we recall the need for coherence and synergy between the Climate Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- 4 - The year 2022 is the year in which the COPs of the three Rio conventions on biodiversity, climate and desertification are held. It is at the local level that the convergence of these agendas can be best assured. We note with interest the willingness expressed by many parties to work towards a convergence of these three conventions. We particularly stress the importance of taking into account and financing the proposals drawn up at the desertification COP in Abidjan, and the opportunities offered by nature, both in adaptation and carbon capture policies. In this sense, the preservation and strengthening of mangrove belts and forest cover are major challenges, requiring the mobilisation of all the actors concerned, indigenous peoples and local populations, local elected officials, NGOs, and economic sectors.
- 5 - In a few years, a majority of the African population will live in cities, especially coastal ones. Sustainable urban development, and the organisation of city networks in a political framework of proactive local planning, is therefore a central issue for both adaptation and emission reduction. We reiterate the recommendations of UCLG-Africa, highlighted in the Africities declaration in Kisumu: the importance of strengthening decentralisation based on autonomous tax revenues and land control, and of having coherent mobility policies. Capacity building of local and regional

authorities is a major challenge, and we therefore reaffirm the importance of the Covenant of Mayors initiative on climate change, supported by the European Union, which should concern both megacities and medium-sized cities, which are a neglected asset for the implementation of efficient solutions.

- 6 - There can be no question of denying the challenges of the rural world. The development of sustainable agricultural sectors, access to water and energy, and attention to the situation of women and youth are key challenges that also require greater confidence in local actors, the strengthening of their capacity for action, and access to funding and training.
- 7 - Access to finance for action on the ground remains a major challenge for the strengthening and deployment of climate action. We insist, as underlined in the Saly Declaration, on the accreditation by the Green Fund of entities allowing the financial resources of the fund to reach the local level to support the development and implementation of climate projects.
- 8 - Offset financing is currently developing strongly and some sectors, such as aviation and maritime transport, are now using it as the basis for their mitigation actions. This new financing can offer interesting prospects for strengthening action, but we insist on the necessary vigilance that we must show. Under no circumstances should this funding relieve the sectors concerned of their efforts to massively reduce their own emissions. The projects financed must guarantee respect for the rights of indigenous peoples and local populations, bring about improvements in terms of human development, particularly by integrating the gender dimension, the situation of women and youth, and preserve the biodiversity of ecosystems.
- 9 - In order to strengthen the consideration of local action, its inclusion in nationally determined contributions (NDCs) is necessary. We therefore advocate for the establishment of frameworks for exchange and monitoring of non-state actors and local authorities for their inclusion in NDCs, on both mitigation and adaptation. In the same logic, we support the experimentation of locally determined contributions.
- 10 - This strengthening of the capacity for action of local actors requires a better knowledge of the actions undertaken and their qualitative and quantitative impacts. We therefore consider it necessary to set up a genuine observatory of non-state climate action in Africa, which will

enlighten national and international decision-makers on the impact of the actions carried out, their development potential and the obstacles to their deployment.

11 - We also need to strengthen the exchange of good practices, the sharing of information on successes and difficulties. The means dedicated to information and training must be strengthened. Decentralised South-South and South-North cooperation can also be a valuable tool for capacity building.

12 - Finally, we recall that stabilising the climate and strengthening the means dedicated to adaptation is only possible in a world of regulation where international governance works. World peace, an end to conflicts and universal respect for the United Nations Charter are necessary conditions for the implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change and for the future of humanity.

