



## AFRICAN DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATIONS (ADDO'S)

### DECLARATION ON THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE IN PARIS (COP 21)

PARIS - 5 DECEMBRE 2015

**We**, the representatives of the African Diaspora development organisations (ADDO's) meeting in Paris on December 2015 :

- **Resolve** to redouble our efforts to increase policy and public awareness both in Europe and in Africa about the negative impact of climate change on the livelihoods of marginalized rural communities and farmers in different regions in Africa. The pitfalls of climate change are also threatening the community-oriented projects that many African diaspora organisations, groups and individuals in Europe have been supporting over the past 10 years.
- **Acknowledge** the critical importance of strengthening the role of the African diaspora organizations as development actors in the international fora on climate change, and to mainstream climate change, development and migration as cross-cutting issues within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) agenda in Africa.
- **Urge** Diaspora and African-EU civil society organisations to join forces and foster strategic alliances and partnerships with the aim of lobbying increasing development support and financial compensations to rural communities, particularly those in the Sahel region of which the scarcity of rainfall and the recurring harsh weather has already forced them to abandon their lands and migrate in large numbers from the countryside to the cities.
- **Encourage** investing in the generation of policy-oriented knowledge of the nexus between climate change, development and migration, and building up the capacity of diaspora to act effectively in policy debates and campaigns, and enable African governments to design effective policies at national, sub-national and local levels that can be translated into feasible strategic interventions and realisable actions.
- **Propose** advancing appropriate policy dialogues between African and European policymakers active in the field of climate change, development and migration, as regular consultations will enable them to exchange good practices (policies and programmes) regarding the appropriate mitigation of the negative effects of climate change on development and migration in Africa.

Acknowledging the grave hazards of climate change and the potential of the Diaspora development organisations in Europe towards the efforts of addressing the adverse effects of climate change on development and migration in Africa, we recommend the following actions:

- We ask the unconditional intergration of Human rights in the agreement.
- Within the framework of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) set up a dedicated fund to support the poor and marginalized farmers and rural communities in the Sahel region where the



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negative impact of climate change have already forced them to abandon their lands and migrate in large numbers from the countryside to the cities;

- Support climate-friendly and sustainable agriculture as well as small-scale farming as a means to achieve food security in Africa; and,
- Grant the Diaspora development practitioners observer status in climate change meetings so that they will be in a better position to contribute to policy insights in the ongoing debates regarding climate change, development and migration in Africa at different policy levels.

We are confident that the stakeholders gathered in Paris on the climate change conference will reflect on these recommendations and take appropriate and urgent action accordingly.

First signatories :

- **Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations (FORIM)**
- **Africa - Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT)**
- **African Diaspora Policy Centre (ADPC)**
- **Association of Young Guineans of France (AJGF)**



Avec le soutien de :



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