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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

Subject: - 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
- 12th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 12),
- First session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1),
- 45th session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 45),
- 45th session of the Subsidiary Body of Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 45) and
- Second part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA 2-1)
(Marrakesh, 7 - 18 November 2016)
= EU statements

Please find in the [Annex](#), for information, the statements delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States during COP 22, CMP 12, SBI 45, SBSTA 45 and APA 2-1 in Marrakesh on 7 - 18 November 2016.

Joint COP 22/CMP 12 opening statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States**Marrakesh, 8 November 2016**

Dear President, Distinguished Colleagues,

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the European Union and its 28 Member States.

We welcome you, Madam Patricia Espinosa, as a new UNFCCC Executive Secretary. We highly appreciate your professional and personal capacity to deal with such challenging and difficult tasks. We would like to clearly express our intention to contribute to fulfilling your mission.

Less than a year ago we jointly adopted a landmark agreement for tackling climate change. This was a real win for multilateralism and ambition. The entry into force of the Paris Agreement last Friday, in record time, was a clear demonstration of continued global determination. Our challenge here Marrakesh will be to keep the momentum that has been created, respect the balance that was found, and continue to work together so as to strengthen our actions, while we move from negotiation to implementation. The world is watching.

Here in Marrakesh, due to our collective efforts, we will be able to celebrate the entry into force of the Paris Agreement. Together with the recent outcomes in Kigali on HFCs, in Montreal on aviation, and IMO agreement on international shipping, we have good reasons to celebrate, but we also need to be prepared for serious work in order to make headway on finalising the governance architecture for the Paris regime.

When taking forward the mandated work from Paris and developing the rulebook, it is crucial that we do so taking into account three principles:

- Firstly, we need to do this with full inclusiveness. The Paris Agreement is universal and we have to ensure all Parties can participate fully in the development of the rules that will apply to them once they have ratified.
- Secondly, we need quality and that means a set of rules that are sufficiently strong and are fit for purpose.
- Thirdly, we need to reflect urgency. With decisive efforts we believe we should be able to conclude our work on the rulebook latest by 2018 and at that moment present it for adoption to the CMA.

This COP is an action and implementation COP, so it is crucial that we all deliver on the commitments as made.

Speaking on implementation, the Global Climate Action Agenda plays an incremental role in catalysing climate action of all actors. We commend the work that the High Level Champions have undertaken this year and look forward to further engage in their reflection note on development of the action agenda, the thematic days and the High Level Event on Global Climate Action.

However, it will be also important for us to secure tangible and concrete progress on the Paris Work Programme. In this context, we invite the COP Presidency and the co-chairs to try their utmost to secure sufficient time for actual negotiations.

In this respect, we would like to clearly confirm the existing commitment of the EU and its Member States, at present the biggest donor in climate finance, to contributing to the goal of mobilizing 100 billion USD per year by 2020 and through to 2025, to support developing countries. Recently, the developed countries jointly examined the fulfilment of this commitment in the 'Roadmap to 100 US\$ Billion'. We welcome its findings that demonstrate our confidence that we will meet the goal, and confirm our commitment to do so.

However, the finance challenge goes far beyond this. Mobilizing climate finance and transforming all finance flows by all parties is crucial for implementing ambitious mitigation and adaptation actions. This will require a continuous global effort in which also the Multilateral Development Banks and the private sector have a crucial role to play.

We would like to confirm the importance of adaptation finance and the need for balance in financing between adaptation and mitigation. As the EU and its Member States, we will continue to channel a substantial share of public climate finance towards adaptation, with a specific focus on the poorest and particularly vulnerable countries.

One of the very important issues at this COP will be the review of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. It is important for the EU to proceed expeditiously, and to complete the review in Marrakesh, so the Mechanism can efficiently and effectively continue its work and implement what we agreed upon in Paris on Loss and Damage.

The implementation is at the heart of our work now, the integration of climate with other cross-cutting and sustainable development objectives will come much more prominent. At this COP, we also can take this challenge a step forward, by agreeing upon a work programme on gender that integrates gender equality and full and equal representation throughout our major climate activities and that monitors the results.

The EU and its Member States are fully committed to the implementation of all the relevant provisions under the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol and we are well on track to meet our emissions reduction target under the Kyoto Protocol. The EU and its Member States are finalising their respective ratification procedures for the Doha Amendment and we hope that other Parties that have not yet ratified the Doha Amendment will also do so, and that the Amendment can enter into force.

The implementation of NDCs is a first and foremost a domestic challenge. The targets need to be translated to concrete and actionable policies and measures at national levels. In this context, I would like to recall the EU and its Member States are already in the process of adopting binding EU legislation to implement our economy wide target of at least 40% greenhouse gas reduction by 2030. Delivering on this level of ambition will require profound transformation of the European economy and radical further swifts in investment from brown to green.

NDCs show us that capacity building, sharing of experience, and cooperation have never been more important. As the EU and its Member States we are – via many channels – strongly engaged in cooperation with our partners so as to strengthen capacity. Initiatives such as the NDC Partnership initiative are very welcomed as they, together with the Paris Committee on Capacity Building and the Capacity Building Initiative on Transparency, enable climate action worldwide.

In a similar manner, enhanced action on technology development and transfer is important for the implementation of the transformational changes envisioned in the Paris Agreement. The EU and its Member States will continue to support the TEC and the CTCN, the two arms of the Technology Mechanism.

Dear President, Distinguished Colleagues,

We strongly believe that the move from negotiations to implementation should be a mantra for coming years. As the EU we would like to assure you that we stand ready to engage constructively in the negotiations with other parties across the implementation agenda.

Joint COP 22/CMP 12/CMA 1 closing statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

Marrakesh, 18 November 2016

Dear President, Distinguished Colleagues,

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the European Union and its 28 Member States.

Less than a year ago we jointly adopted a landmark agreement for tackling climate change. This was a real win for multilateralism and ambition. The fast entry into force of the Paris Agreement was a clear demonstration of continued global determination. The challenge in front of us here in Marrakesh, and the world was watching us on this, was to go even beyond and prove that we, as Parties jointly, were ready for a next step in implementing the Paris Agreement.

We think that we have lived up to that challenge.

With the Marrakesh Action Proclamation we have sent a strong signal to the world that the international community remains determined to continue moving forward with the just transition towards the low emission and climate resilient future that the Paris Agreement has set out.

Under the APA and the subsidiary bodies, we outlined how we could steer the work so as to establish a rules-based system that is strong and fit for purpose and turns the Paris Agreement into a fully operational agreement tackling the climate challenges.

The COP took a next step by agreeing to accelerate notably our work. The objective is clear: in 2018, the Parties to the Paris Agreement will be able to adopt the complete rulebook. This will be a very important achievement and it shows our resoluteness.

Also in 2018, we will have the Facilitative Dialogue. The outcome of the COP clearly mandates the Moroccan Presidency and the incoming Fijian Presidency to take the preparations at heart, so as to ensure this dialogue will be a next step in our quest for ambitious climate action, setting us on track to reach the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.

We commend the work by the High Level Champions and we would like to extend our gratitude for what you have done here at COP22 and over the course of this year. We are most encouraged by all the positive progress that has been demonstrated throughout the two weeks and announcements of new initiatives that will have profound impact on the ground. Here in Marrakesh, we have launched important initiatives such as the NDC partnership and the 2050 pathway platform, just to name two, and witnessed the commitment and determination by all actors. We look forward to pursuing the action agenda under the Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action.

We welcome the continuation and enhancement of the Lima work programme on gender and climate change.

Involving all actors is essential, and in this context the EU is very happy with the initiation of a step-by-step process to develop the local communities and indigenous peoples platform.

The EU welcomes the progress made related to Technology Development and Transfer and in particular by the two entities of the Technology Mechanism, the Climate Technology Center and Network and the Technology Executive Committee. We underline our confidence in the CTCN also by providing additional support. Operational and pragmatic linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism under the Convention have been established and the EU is looking forward towards a further strengthening of this cooperation in the coming years.

Also on finance, we were able to make considerable progress in Marrakesh. We welcome the agreed endorsement of the Standing Committee on Finance work plan 2017 and the appreciation of the SCF 2016 biennial assessment.

We are pleased that the submission made by developed country Parties in response to the Paris decision, on the concrete roadmap, was welcomed. We hope that this demonstrates our collective commitment to meeting the \$100bn goal.

With regards to long-term finance, we strongly welcome the adoption of a decision that represents a significant step towards increasing predictability of climate finance flows to developing countries. With respect to the report on the Green Climate Fund, we particularly welcome the strong progress made in the last 12 months, including the approval of over \$1bn in projects. Also the agreed the guidance on the Global Environmental Facility which will be important in light of the GEF7 replenishment deliberations starting next year. Furthermore, we look forward to the finalization of the review of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention in the coming year.

In relation to the Adaptation Fund, the EU and its Member States expressed appreciation for the good work that the Fund and the Board have been delivering and we remain strongly committed to continue supporting it. In this context, several EU Member States reiterated their strong commitment to the Adaptation Fund through announcing pledges, including from Germany, Sweden, Italy, and the Flemish and Walloon regions of Belgium. Contributions from the EU Member States have exceeded this year's fundraising target of \$80 million.

We welcome the closure of the Joint Implementation review process. We note that experience gained with and lessons learnt from the Clean Development Mechanism and Joint Implementation will also be used in the development of rules for the mechanism established under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. However, we emphasize substantial progress is needed in this area.

Moreover, the EU is very pleased with the outcomes on capacity-building: the conclusion of the third review of the implementation of the capacity-building framework, both under the Kyoto Protocol and under the Convention, and making the new Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB) operational. We are convinced this progress is an important deliverable that sends a positive signal towards implementing the Paris Agreement and we are eager to continue to work with our partners.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Richard Kinley for all the work he has done during many years dedicated to the fight against climate change. For us, he will always be a pillar of the Secretariat and of the UNFCCC community.

Dear President, dear colleagues,

The EU and its Member States came to Marrakesh with the determination to show that the spirit of Paris is still alive and that we are all prepared to implement what was agreed. We have made considerable progress in this respect and look forward to continuing this constructive cooperation in the coming year.

Thank you.

Opening statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at the forty-fifth session of the of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 45)

Marrakesh, 7 November 2016

Mr. Chair, distinguished colleagues,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the EU and its 28 Member States.

In the week before us, we have two important tasks as SBI: the ongoing implementation of the Convention and the Kyoto-Protocol as well as the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement builds on the current climate regime but at the same time is tasked to advance it. Therefore a balanced progress is needed in all groups.

The following issues under the SBI are of particular importance for us:

Capacity Building is a precondition for the effective implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement and the EU and its Member States are supporting a wide array of initiatives in this respect. Building on the progress achieved in Bonn, we look forward to the full operationalisation of the PCCB in Marrakesh. We look forward to constructive discussions with our partners also with regard to the conclusion of the 3rd review of the implementation of the capacity-building framework.

Reporting and review is one of the backbones of our climate regime. It is also crucial for the credibility of our efforts. Important events are ahead of us: firstly, the second part of the facilitative sharing of views under the international consultation and analysis process. We are sure that the open and constructive exchange that characterized the first part of the sharing of views in Bonn in May will continue at the 2nd part and the EU is pleased to engage in this process. Given the positive experiences with the facilitative sharing of views, the EU is disappointed that two years after the deadline only 34 Parties submitted a first biennial update report, despite the financial resources that were made available for this purpose. We commend those 12 Parties that have done so in 2016.

Secondly, we are pleased to engage again in the multilateral assessment of the 2nd biennial reports, where the reports of the EU and many of its Member States will be considered.

The EU continues to ask for the consideration of the item on information contained in national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention. We ask the SBI chair to continue the informal consultations with Parties in order to solve this issue.

Coming to NDCs – a crucial part of the Paris Agreement - the NDC registry is an important feature. As part of the work programme agreed, we would very much welcome substantial work on the development of modalities and procedures. At the same time we need to maintain coherence and consistency with the development of NDC guidance under the APA. This also applies to our discussion about the registry on adaptation communications. The specific modalities and procedures of an adaptation communication registry will be determined by the nature of the Adaptation Communications which will be discussed under APA.

This brings me to the adaptation issues: the Paris Agreement has confirmed that adaptation and mitigation stand on an equal footing. We are eager to continue discussions with our partners on how to further progress with adaptation action, including through national adaptation planning processes. Regarding loss and damage, the Warsaw International Mechanism is an important body to address this issue. The Mechanism has successfully started its important work in 2015. We encourage the ExCom to agree on deliverables for the five year rolling workplan as soon as possible. This includes the efforts of the mandates given in Paris to establish a clearing house for risk transfer and a task force on displacement, where noticeable progress was made in already in Bonn.

Climate finance is an important instrument to achieve our goals on mitigation and adaptation: Therefore the EU welcomes the work done by the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) in moving our understanding on climate finance forward especially through the 2016 Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows.

Mr. Chair,

Now that we have clear decisions on voluntary use of cooperative approaches, including future use of market mechanism as defined under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, we are well placed to conclude our discussions on market mechanisms under SBI.

Technology cooperation between all Parties can accelerate the transfer of low carbon and climate resilient technologies. The periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism – taking into account the review of the CTCN and the modalities for the Global Stocktake – provides us with the opportunity to enhance the important work of both arms of the Technology Mechanism.

Finally, the EU sees great importance in the continued implementation of measures to enhance climate empowerment, as well as enhancing the gender equality and full participation of women within the UNFCCC and integrating a gender responsive approach in climate action and plans. On the latter we support the continuation of a multiyear work programme here in Marrakesh.

Mr. Chair, dear colleagues, the EU is prepared to work intensely and efficiently with all of you! Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Closing statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at the forty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 45)

Marrakesh, 14 November 2016

Mr. Chair, distinguished colleagues, dear friends,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the EU and its 28 Member States.

Let me highlight the following areas of our work during the last week:

The EU is very pleased that we were able to conclude our deliberations on capacity building – the spirit of Paris is still alive! After long preparations, we have decided to make the new Paris Committee on Capacity Building operational and we are eager to start the work with our partners. We have also concluded the third review of the implementation of the capacity-building framework, both under the Kyoto Protocol and under the Convention. We are not only convinced that this progress is an important deliverable that sends a positive signal towards implementing the Paris Agreement, but also that this is a very positive signal for the rest of the negotiations here in Marrakesh.

We had a very constructive facilitative sharing of views under the international consultation and analysis process for developing countries Parties. As with the IAR, it was an open and constructive exchange and it provided for ample learning opportunities.

We also had a successful second phase of the multilateral assessment on Saturday and just now before this closing plenary on Monday. We hope that the rich information put forward regarding policies that put us on track to reach the 2020 commitments can provide inspiration for others, and we are looking forward to engaging in the future rounds of the multilateral assessment.

We are disappointed that we didn't manage to find agreement on the guidelines for reporting on national communications.

Another important feature of the Paris Agreement is the NDC registry. We see the registry as an important tool for transparency and understanding of NDCs. It can help to make all our plans and actions visible to the public. Unfortunately, we were not yet able to go into the substance of the matter and should begin that discussion in Bonn next year.

We note with regret that no progress was achieved on the scope of the review of the modalities and procedures of the CDM.

The EU is of the view that the CDM will be replaced by the mechanism established under Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement, and the comprehensive revision of the CDM rule set could serve as a positive input to Parties' deliberations on the set up of the Article 6 Mechanism to be operational post 2020.

We are happy to have made progress on response measures and look forward to continue these discussions at the next session.

We thank our partners for the constructive discussions on national adaptation planning, matters related to the Least Developed Countries and the report of the Adaptation Committee. With regard to the Adaptation Committee, we are pleased to conclude with a very positive review of the work of the Committee in terms of progress and performance of promoting the implementation of enhanced actions on adaptation under the Convention. We look forward to the results of the promising work programs of the AC and LEG in accordance with their mandates including the new tasks from Paris. On the adaptation registry, we had a general exchange of ideas but further discussions are definitely needed.

The EU welcomes the work of the two bodies of the Technology Mechanism. We underline our confidence in the CTCN also by providing additional support. The EU welcomes the progress made in the elaboration of the Technology Framework and to link it to the transformational changes envisioned in the Paris Agreement.

The EU welcomes the agreed Terms of Reference for the review of the functions of the SCF and wishes to thank Parties for their constructive approach, in particular the facilitative work undertaken by AOSIS.

The EU and its Member States emphasize the importance of improved transparency in the budget process for all Parties, in preparation of the next budget programme and to make the UNFCCC Secretariat fit for purpose in the delivery of its mandates resulting from the Paris Agreement. The EU is happy that a decision was made to facilitate this process and we would like to thank Parties, the Secretariat and the co-facilitator, for their role in reaching this outcome.

The EU is extremely pleased with the decision to continue the Lima Work Program on Gender. We look forward to working with other Parties to further integrate gender considerations in all relevant activities within the convention and further enhance the full and equal participation of women in the UNFCCC process.

Mr Chair, colleagues,

The EU looks forward to our next meeting next year in Bonn at SBI 46. We will continue with our cooperative work with all Parties in a balanced manner regarding the tracks as well as the issues of mitigation, adaptation and finance.

Thank you Mr Chair.

Opening statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at the forty-fifth session of the of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 45)

Marrakesh, 8 March 2016

Mr. Chair, distinguished colleagues,

I have the privilege to deliver this statement on behalf of the EU and its 28 Member States.

During this meeting, the SBSTA will handle a number of issues arising from the Paris Agreement and the implementing Decision. Balanced progress is necessary regarding the implementation of existing and new mandates.

In this session, we will continue to discuss the details of the scientific aspects of the Global Stocktake. Based on an exchange of the views of Parties on how current and future IPCC assessments can support the Global Stocktake, we are looking forward to working with other Parties to come to substantive conclusions. These conclusions can be taken up by the IPCC to inform the scoping of the Sixth Assessment Report in 2017.

The EU welcomes the Joint Report of the TEC and the CTCN. We are also looking forward to continuing the elaboration of the new Technology Framework. During this session we should get a clearer understanding about the structure and the main themes of the Framework and on how it can help us address fragmentation around the existing processes aimed at facilitating technology transfer.

Now when we have clear decisions on cooperative approaches and market mechanism under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, we note that this will replace the KP mechanisms post 2020.

Progress on the development of modalities for accounting of financial resources provided and mobilized through public interventions is important to further improve transparency of climate finance and to ensure that these modalities are integrated in the transparency framework. The submissions by Parties on this issue are a solid starting point in identifying elements of work during sessions. The in-session workshop on accounting modalities will ensure that we can exchange in depth on this issue. We are confident that we will find areas of convergence.

The Paris Agreement has also confirmed what we have been discussing for a long time: adaptation and mitigation stand on an equal footing. We are eager to continue discussion with our partners on how to further progress with adaptation action, including through the Nairobi Work Programme. The Adaptation Committee has proven its added value as an overall advisory body on adaptation to Parties. It is in our view performing effectively and we are looking forward to the continued work of the AC.

The Warsaw International Mechanism has successfully started its work in 2015. Now, we encourage the Executive Committee to agree on deliverables for the 5 year rolling work plan as soon as possible. This will ensure a continuous implementation of the work of the Warsaw International Mechanism, including the efforts of the mandates given by Paris Agreement to establish a clearing house for risk transfer and a task force on displacement.

For the EU, it is key to recognize climate related processes outside the UNFCCC and to build on this to avoid duplication of work and make use of all valuable information at hand.

Mr. Chair, dear colleagues, the EU is prepared to work intensely and efficiently to progress on all items.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Closing statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at the forty-fifth session of the of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 45)

Marrakesh, 14 November 2016

Mr. Chair, distinguished colleagues,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the EU and its 28 Member States.

The SBSTA has worked intensely in the limited time available here in Marrakesh. Overall, we have collectively done our part in taking forward the technical work. We sensed that we proceeded with our work in a spirit of cooperation.

The EU wants to highlight the following results from this week, which have central importance to us:

Agriculture has great potential to simultaneously address poverty, hunger and climate change. For this reason, the EU was really eager to make good progress on this agenda item, especially as a large number of countries have included agriculture in their INDC'S bearing witness of the importance of the sector in its relation to climate change. The EU regrets that we could not have achieved more progress. The EU will continue in future discussions on this topic in the same positive and constructive spirit.

Under Research and Systematic Observation, we made a recommendation to the COP on the implementation of the Global Climate Observing System's new implementation Plan. We welcome this Plan as a significant milestone, and look forward towards its implementation on national, regional and international levels. This plan will also significantly reinforce the capacity for monitoring climate change at various scales and feeding the future assessment reports of the IPCC.

The EU welcomes the SBSTA's advice on how the IPCC can inform the global stocktake and the completion of its mandate. We look forward to the upcoming reports of the IPCC and to the dialogue between the experts and the Parties on the scientific information provided. We welcome the decision of the IPCC to take into account decisions taken at COP21 when scoping its Sixth Assessment Report and to consider how to align the work of the Seventh Assessment Report with the needs of the global stocktake.

The outcome on Article 6 on markets and non-markets reflects a delicate balance and involved concessions by all Parties, in a spirit of compromise. The EU noted the constructive spirit of the discussions, which has the potential to provide for a substantive outcome over time. Although we only could make limited progress, future submissions and roundtable discussions provide an opportunity for substantive progress in the next meeting.

The EU is pleased by the constructive cooperation of Parties as well as by the significant input from Parties and Partner organisations related to adaptation and health. We look forward to the implementation that will enhance the role of the Nairobi Work Programme, as a knowledge hub that supports enhanced action on adaptation.

The EU would like to express its appreciation to the Adaptation Committee. The review of the Adaptation Committee showed that it was making good progress towards fulfilling its mandate. We look forward to its future work and we believe, that it will continue to successfully enhance adaptation action under the Convention.

The EU welcomes the work of the two bodies of the Technology Mechanism. We underline our confidence in the CTCN also by providing additional support. The EU welcomes the progress made in the elaboration of the Technology Framework and to link it to the transformational changes envisioned in the Paris Agreement.

The EU welcomes the constructive in-session workshop on the modalities for the accounting of financial resources and the reflections of our discussion during negotiations. These elements and the upcoming technical paper will provide a good basis for further work. The EU stands ready to engage into the substantial discussions at next SBSTA to ensure a successful outcome on this issue in a timely manner.

The EU views the GHG data interface on the UNFCCC website as an important tool assisting Parties and other stakeholders in having access to the most recent UNFCCC GHG inventory data in a user-friendly format. Access to data is a crucial factor in enhancing transparency. Therefore, the EU expresses disappointment that Parties could not have agreed to update entirely outdated data on the UNFCCC website with the most recent inventory data from all Parties. This is certainly not in the spirit of Paris.

Mr. Chair, dear colleagues, the EU is happy that we were able to conclude this session with meaningful results. However, a number of discussions have not resulted in substantive conclusions. We want to mention especially Agriculture and the GHG Data interface. We are looking forward to working further on SBSTA topics until and during SBSTA 46 in Bonn and looking forward to continuing our good cooperation and discussions.

Thank you Mr. Chair.

Opening statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at the second part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA 1-2)

Marrakesh, 7 November 2016

This statement is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Madam Co-Chairs, distinguished colleagues,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the European Union and its 28 Member States.

We are extremely encouraged by the rapid entry into force of the Paris Agreement, and pleased that it has been ratified by 97 Parties so far. This unprecedented readiness to join the Agreement is a genuine evidence that climate change is considered universally as crucial challenge.

It also shows global commitment at the highest political level to the comprehensive and balanced package that we found in Paris.

Under the APA, it is our responsibility as negotiators to advance on the detailed rulebook of the Agreement swiftly and effectively.

We hope that our discussions here in Marrakesh will promote the collective ownership of the Agreement. We are confident that we have all come here to work in the constructive spirit of building upon our achievements from Paris.

Paris Agreement is obviously universal, and we must work in an inclusive manner with all Convention Parties for a certain period of time. This means also with those, who have not yet ratified the Agreement.

We were pleased with the many submissions by Parties following our last meeting in Bonn, and with the scenario note of our Co-Chairs. It clearly stems from them that this meeting should be an opportunity to move from scoping discussions to identifying key questions, allowing for development of specific proposals.

Under APA agenda item 3 on NDCs, we are keen to move ahead with the development of clear guidance to assist Parties in communicating their NDCs, and developing successive NDCs that would move us confidently towards our collective mitigation goal.

Under APA agenda item 4 on adaptation communications, we see our task as finding a common understanding on the role of the communications in relation to existing international instruments, as well as on common elements for their guidance.

The enhanced transparency framework is a key element of Paris Agreement, and robust modalities, procedures and guidelines, should also help Parties facilitate domestic reporting to address national priorities. Therefore, we hope to start work under APA agenda item 5 based on general requirements, and then address reporting guidelines as a first priority. Mitigation, adaptation, and support should be advanced in a balanced way.

The Paris regime includes both transparency and accountability. APA agenda item 7 aims to initiate discussions on operationalising accountability, in a way that is helpful to Parties and to our Agreement as a whole. We believe that the committee facilitating implementation and promoting compliance will be key to enhancing mutual confidence in our commitments.

Finally, let me emphasise the critical importance of the ambition cycle and the need to design a global stocktake process fit for the purpose in assessing our collective progress, and in driving domestic action and global ambition. In that light, we are encouraged by the convergence we see among Parties in their visions for the global stocktake and we hope to identify key goalposts to guide its more detailed design. Let me also mention that we see the 2018 FD as a key moment to discuss global mitigation ambition and a window of opportunity to enhance ambition by informing the preparation of NDC's and creating awareness of concrete options for increasing climate action and cooperation and that context it may set a precedent for the global stocktake.

We place trust in our Co-Chairs and the facilitators, and encourage them to drive forward our work in line with best working practices developed in the subsidiary bodies. We need your leadership to move forward efficiently.

Of course, we are aware that some key elements of the Paris work programme are discussed also elsewhere than in the APA – in the subsidiary and constituted bodies. We commend the COP Presidency for continuing the good practice initiated in Bonn of holding stocktaking meetings to keep track of progress across the board.

Co-Chairs, dear colleagues, we look forward to intensive and focused work with all of you. Thank you, Co-Chairs.

Closing statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at the second part of the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA 1-2)

Marrakesh, 14 November 2016

Madam Co-Chairs, distinguished delegates,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the European Union and its 28 Member States.

As we get ready to celebrate tomorrow the entry into force of the Paris Agreement, we are happy that we have been able to make some good headway on the detailed rulebook that will make the Agreement functional.

We are thankful to the Co-Chairs and all the co-facilitators for guiding our work in a structured and effective way, starting with the Co-Chairs' scenario note. We think that the outputs of this session will be useful in guiding our further engagement. We are also convinced that having a clear way forward on each of the agenda items, reflecting the specificities of each, is an effective approach. It gives us confidence that we will be ready by 2018 as the urgency of the climate challenge demands.

To achieve this, we will have to continue our work in a focused way. This means not only working intensively, but also sticking to the mandates of the Paris outcomes, to the letter and to the spirit of the Paris Agreement. The political balance achieved in Paris is a universally shared common good that we must build on, and that has Europe's full commitment.

We regret that it has not been possible to find a structured space for continuing our discussions in the second week. We hope that when we meet next year, we can organise ourselves to work throughout the whole duration of the COP.

At the same time, we reiterate our readiness at this session to engage in informal technical work with all Parties. We think that exchanges of views in any format will be helpful to advance shared understandings and move on the sometimes complex technical questions that we need to handle.

We recognise the importance of the issue of the Adaptation Fund serving the Paris Agreement to many Parties. We look forward to further discussions on this issue. We are committed to continuing to be the major contributor of adaptation financing.

Finally, we are happy that all Parties agreed to suspend, and not close, the APA session, and therefore will be able to start our formal work in Bonn from the get-go.

Thank you Co-Chairs.
