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**Amb Ali Mohamed, speaking on behalf of Kenya and the African Group of
Negotiators, Calls for Tangible Outcomes at COP29**

Statement by the Republic of Kenya on behalf of the African Group at the resumed Plenary of the 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 29), 19th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP19), 6th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 6)

Baku, Azerbaijan. November 18, 2024

Distinguished Chairs, Honourable Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group, aligning with the remarks made by the Republic of Uganda on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. For Africa, the success of the Baku Conference goes beyond agreed text. It must deliver tangible improvements for African people — those most affected by climate impacts — while ensuring that transitions promote shared prosperity. Regrettably, we cannot yet suggest that COP 29 is meeting this expectation. The issue of special circumstances and special needs of Africa remain peripheral in the UNFCCC, and we trust in your leadership to mainstream this aspect of our work.

Reflections on COP 29 and Key Progress

We congratulate the COP President on the breakthrough on voluntary carbon markets earlier this session. This mechanism is especially significant for African countries, addressing both environmental outcomes and economic investments. We urge further work on Article 6 to address our concerns, including authorisation processes, inconsistencies identified during reviews, and the international registry. Cooperative actions, particularly regarding ITMOs, must maintain the same environmental integrity as voluntary markets, with strong safeguards for our communities.

Mr President,

Africa's climate finance needs are vast. Implementing our NDCs will require an estimated \$2.8 trillion by 2030. Yet, Africa receives less than 4% of global climate finance flows. This glaring gap undermines not only our ability to adapt to climate impacts and transition to a low-carbon future but also the global goals of the Paris Agreement.

The African Group has high expectations that that the Ministerial Pairs and the work of the Presidency will lead to ambitious outcomes. Our view remains that the goal must be responsive to needs of developing countries, the NCQG must support the implementation of current and future NDCs and adaptation actions. The decision should specify the need to close the adaptation finance gap, including the full costs of implementing adaptation action. For our Group action on the following elements remain a priority:

1. Significantly reducing the cost of capital by 2030 to support climate resilient and low emissions development;
2. Significantly increasing the mobilisation ratio of finance mobilized from public sources by 2030;
3. Expand significantly the use of non-debt financial instruments in an equitable and just manner;
4. Scaling up use of local currency financing, foreign exchange risk instruments, climate-resilient debt clauses into financing arrangements by 2035.

On matters Adaptation, Africa is disproportionately affected by the climate crisis, enduring its worst impacts despite contributing the least to global emissions. According to the WMO, climate impacts are costing African nations 5-9% of our GDP annually, with many diverting even more to respond to the worsening impacts including displacements. In 2023 alone disasters 5.7 million across the continent. Without intervention, an estimated 118 million Africans could face extreme weather-driven hardship by 2030.

COP 29 should build on progress toward parity between mitigation and adaptation, with clear guidance for developing adaptation methodologies and indicators. We call for the establishment of an IPCC Task Force focussed on Guidelines and Methodologies for adaptation information in line with the GGA Framework.

On loss and damage, the African Group recognizes the significant strides made in operationalising the Fund. We call for swift action to establish a replenishment process, ensuring resources are timely, adequate, and transparent. Furthermore, we stress the need for fairness and due process in institutional decisions, including the Santiago Network's hosting arrangements. It is incumbent of us that our process is beyond reproach, and that constituted bodies operate within the clear mandates of this body.

Africa holds immense potential for climate action, from abundant renewable energy resources to vast natural carbon sinks. However, unlocking this potential requires addressing key barriers: **Resource Constraints, Energy Access Gaps, and Structural Vulnerabilities.**

Our call to action is the adoption of a Baku Just Transitions Guidance Framework which links the pursuit of Paris Agreement goals with the real world for a transition that delivers shared burdens and prosperity. This framework would be complementary to the political track under the Roadmap to Mission 1.5, building on the work by the TROIKA in the course of this year. Baku should set the path for a clear articulation of these matters.

As I conclude, we would like to emphasize that proceeding with the UAE Dialogue without any ambiguity regarding its focus on financing the implementation of GST outcomes is of particular importance. Other critical outcomes of the global stocktake are equally important to us, including those on advancing renewable energy and orderly transitioning away from fossil fuel energy sources. We are of the view that future NDCs respond to this outcome, and all our countries will respond in a nationally determined matter. The African Group

believes there are enough ongoing processes that can further engage with these aspects, such as in the mitigation work programme and the just transition work programme, in line with the mandate of these processes.

Distinguished colleagues, Africa is committed to addressing the climate crisis. However, delivering on our ambitions requires international solidarity and support. An enabling environment for climate action in Africa is not only a matter of justice; it is an investment in our shared future.

Let us seize this moment to ensure that Africa's efforts are met with the resources, frameworks, and partnerships necessary to achieve our collective climate goals. Together, we can align ambition with action and prosperity for all.

Thank you.

About the African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change

The African Group of Negotiators on Climate Change (AGN) is a technical body of the three-tier African negotiating structure that engages in the technical negotiations during the Conferences of the Parties (COPs) and the intersessional negotiations on Climate Change. It was established in 1995 with the objective of representing the interests of Africa in the international climate change negotiations, with a common and unified voice. The AGN prepares and drafts negotiating text and common positions at COPs, guided by decisions and key messages from the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), the highest decision-making tier, and the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), the second highest decision-making tier. Its structure comprises Lead Coordinators and Strategic Advisors, thematic coordinators, former AGN Chairs and UNFCCC focal points of the 54 African Member countries and the Secretariat. The Group is currently chaired by the Republic of Kenya through Amb Ali Mohamed, who is President William Ruto's Special Envoy on Climate.

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