

PROMOTING AFRICAN-EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE ON CLIMATE, FOOD SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PARLIAMENT OF SWEDEN

OPENING SESSION

Dr. Jan Nico Scholten, President of AWEPA

Dr. Jan Nico Scholten opened the session by welcoming the Honourable guests and everyone present.

He noted with pleasure the Swedish adoption of climate change bill.

It is important to discuss climate change with South and North and for the North to take responsibility of taking the lead in finding solutions to the problem as they are largely responsible for creating the problem.

Parliament can play an important role in looking at legislation and strategies. Parliamentarians should be involved in these issues and in the summit to be held later in the year in Denmark.

We would like to recognise the Medals of Freedom awards President Obama gave to two members of our Eminent Advisory Board; Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Ms. Mary Robinson (the meeting clapped).

We would like to remember Brian McKeown of Ireland who recently passed away and helped shape AWEPA in the early days.

AWEPA was formed 25 years ago. Our purpose is the same as it was then which is working for human rights and human dignity. I would like to thank everybody who has helped create the success AWEPA is today.

I would like to thank the Dutch government and I would like to thank SIDA for their continuations support of AWEPA, from being our first donor and still one of our biggest donors. And I thank the strong Swedish Section for their work. I would like to specifically thank the Secretary General Pär Granstedt for his work. So I thank Sweden whole heartedly for their support in the development and work of AWEPA.

Mr. Per Westerberg, Speaker of Parliament, Sweden

Welcomed everyone.

He is pleased to be opening this seminar on this subject as climate change is very important. Various committees and groups in Sweden will be having climate change on their agenda.

Sweden is working to strengthen democracy. It has a long tradition of cooperation with Africa and they have decided that Africa and Moslem countries is the top priority they have. They host the Africa Day every year. Sustainability, trade and economic growth as well as climate change have been major topics on the agenda.

Wishes everyone good luck with the important theme of this seminar.

H.E. Gunilla Carlsson, Minister for International Development Cooperation

This seminar is timely and should be seen as a reestablishment of the partnership of Africa and Europe. Climate is all our problem. African can learn from the costly mistakes Europe has made and can be the solution, not the problem, for climate change.

Sweden endorses the issue of putting climate change on the Copenhagen meeting and will take practical actions to this end.

Adaptation needs to be integrated into climate change policy for sustainability. Finance needs to be looked at. We need to look at ODA and non-ODA funding. But getting adaptation right all need to work on climate proof strategies in national plans and budgets. Swedish parliament has taken specific measures on this for 2009.

The number suffering from climate change problems has grown with the recent financial recession. Human rights needs more attention. The obligation to protect them is something all leaders should carry. Nothing justifies drawbacks on fundamental freedoms. Democracy is vital for the future development and women are vital in his. I believe the implementation of UN 1325 is vital.

I believe the AU can play a vital role in Africa if receiving the right support and continuing democratically.

There is a need for strong parliaments to see things go forward and AWEPA is important in keeping the balance of power.

Sweden will build on the strong relations between Europe and Africa.

Hon. Amadi Bethel Nnaemeka, First Vice President of the Pan-African Parliament, Member of the House of Representatives of Nigeria

Greetings from PAP, S.A. We were founded in 2004 to implement and effect policy of AU and contribute towards peace, security and stability in Africa and build a sense of common destiny through Africa.

He gave reasons background on:

- Where Africa is on climate change.
- It's commitment
- The role of PAP in the change process
- African parliamentary initiative on climate risk reduction
- PAP Initiatives
- Black and Green – Ready to Lead campaign
- Challenges and way forward
- He closed by thanking the Swedish parliament and AWEPA for hosting this event.

JNS thanked everyone for all they said and noted that indeed there is a great challenge in Africa and they can count on support from Europe.

There are more than 100 participants and he is impressed and feels that some very important discussions will take place in the coming days.

SESSION 1: CLIMATE CHANGE: THE LINK BETWEEN ADAPTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Hon. Abdirahin Haitar Abdi, Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly

The Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly started by highlighting examples of climate change in East Africa. The predictions are even gloomier and will have an even greater impact on food security, livelihood and all sectors of the economy. Furthermore, these changes also have an impact on governance through the shifting of funds. Hon. Abdirahin Hatter Abdi posed the question of that parliamentarians can do to face this challenge. The East African Community (EAC) should mainstream the long-term adaptation strategies into national adaptation programmes. This concerns art. 23-24-25 of the EAC Treaty, but also the Protocol on management of national resources. Hon. Abdi pointed out that all EAC laws supersede national laws.

The EA Assembly is participating in regional and global initiatives with respect to climate change. Members feel that we need new approaches to face this 'inconvenient truth'.

Dr. Youba Sokona, Member of Commission on Climate Change and Development (CCCCD), Member of the Working Group on Mitigation of the International Panel on Climate Change and Executive Secretary of the Sahara and Sahel Observatory

Dr. Youba Sokona stated that the report of the Commission on Climate Change and Development based its report on field experience. He was very adamant in stating that climate change needs mitigation and that development cooperation can influence climate change, but not the other way around.

Africa is lagging behind in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and climate change is not making this easier. For African countries to develop its adaptive capacity they require assets, education, institutions, political space and therefore greater investment. According to Dr. Youba Sokona adaptation should be a central and continuous (not adhoc) activity and it is contextual – driven by local/national/regional agendas. It requires new institutions able to execute surveillance, which is needed for planning.

The impacts of climate change are enormous e.g. 25% of Africa currently has water stress, while it has plenty of water, but lacks adequate water management. Dr. Sokona explained that adaptation in Africa should start with the most vulnerable countries and then learn from their experiences.

Dr. Sokona concluded with highlighting four key imperatives for efficient adaptation actions:

- Scale: match need and responses to the scale of growing numbers of people and ecosystems
- Speed: the longer we wait the bigger the problem will become
- Focus: managing risks is vital
- Integration: consider at the same time reduction, adaptation, mitigation and human development goals

Hon. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw, President of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), Senator Nigeria

Hon. Bassey Ewa-Henshaw started by giving an overview of climate change effects in Nigeria. Rainstorms in tropical areas of the south have become very severe resulting in flooding, erosion, destruction of infrastructure and increased health hazards. In the North of Nigeria the desert is expanding and rivers are drying up.

Hon. Ewa-Henshaw stated that adaptive strategies can only be more effective, if they rapidly tackle some of the effects, but current adaptive capacities are low. He then turned to the institutional changes with the Nigerian legislature where climate change legislation has been processed and new institutions created including a new commission on climate change. Other initiatives are under consideration such as the establishment of one overall body responsible for water management on behalf of the central government. In this respect also a review of the water basins management is being executed.

Hon. Ewa-Henshaw concluded by stressing that climate change adaptation needs to be done in a bottom-up way, as the people on the ground will be the first ones hit.

Questions from the audience focussed on: the uncontrolled population growth and the need to control reproduction, in order to achieve real poverty reduction. In this regard, Hon. Ewa-Henshaw noted that the MDGs cannot be separated from climate change as both are linked to development. Other participants requested AWEPA to adjust its strategic plan to include more hands-on climate activities such as trainings etc. Other participants made a call for more common approach in view of the current UNFCCC negotiations.

Dr. Youba Sokona urged parliamentarians to articulate their viewpoints more exact. MPs should work from their own accountability, within their country. In return Hon. Ewa-Henshaw underlined the problem of African MPs to exert some influence over executive powers. Parliaments in Africa are very weak, and politicians are still in a learning process. It is a constant struggle for higher levels of influence, so that MPs will be consulted when serious issues are discussed. Regarding compensation he stressed that this issue has been talked about for many years, but never a clearly articulated position has been reached within the continent. This is where parliamentarians should focus on. Hon. Ubani explained that the Nigerian House of Representatives has invited the national negotiators to the parliament for discussions and information sharing. He advised other parliaments to do the same and indicated that non-stop networking is important for parliamentarians to play a meaningful role and be seen to do so in the field of climate change.

SESSION 2: INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Hon. Ndeye Fatou Toure, Member of Parliament, Senegal

Hon. Toure attended several AWEPA seminars during the last years on climate change, and identifies this session of institutional architecture as an important continuation on the topic. In her view, it is crucial to not only include researchers, but also the entire institutional system for development needs to be scrutinised to tackle the problems of climate change and especially the issue of access to food.

Hon. Toure recognises that we are facing one of the greatest challenges for humanity. Millions of inhabitants are threatened by the effects of climate change and the goals set for tackling the problem are far from being achieved. She called upon Members of Parliaments to become more involved in reviewing legislation on all levels, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Water forms as an essential component of the critical climatic situation and therefore it makes a lot of sense bringing in a water perspective to the discussion. We need to secure the access to quality water for the millions of people suffering at this moment. On a local level, water pumps need to be made more widely available for irrigation. Also we need to make sure that people have access to clean drinking water.

Hon. Toure pleaded for sustainable development of water management and food security. She asked herself what food security is and comes up with the following definition: Access for everyone to a sufficient amount of food for them at any given time. Hon. Toure wants to see Members of Parliaments take sufficient measures in securing food globally. She said that there is a strong need for sustainability, in order to limit the negative impact of climate change. In her view, Members of Parliament need to be concrete and ensure that action plans are implemented. She estimated that at least 10 % of our budget needs to be used for climate change, in order to reduce its adverse effects. Hon. Toure hopes that legislation will be harmonised. Players are needed on all levels, internationally, regionally and locally, in order to develop a proper institutional architecture.

Prof. Moses Chimbari, Harry Oppenheimer Okavango Research Centre (HOORC), Botswana

Prof. Chimbari presented the alarming climate situation in Africa. The figures clearly show an increase in the number of people dying from natural disasters. The problems are enormous and need to be handled seriously.

Prof. Chimbari stressed the need of planning for climate change. But although researchers are well equipped to provide information, it is the responsibility of the member of parliamentarians in the end to come up with strategies and take action.

He highlighted the need of harmonising research, developing networks and sharing information. He gave several examples of HOORC projects in which networks are formed on national, regional (between Okavango river basin countries) and international levels promoting linkages between climate change, human health, water and food security. However, strategies need to be community driven to be effective.

Subsequently, Prof. Chimbari expanded on the institutional structure need at local and national levels to effectively tackle climate change. At the local level, institutions should implement copying and mitigation strategies for disaster risk reduction, as well as provide assistance to victims of natural disasters. Moreover, there is a clear role cut out for local institutions in terms of assessments of local disaster situations on behalf of District Disaster Preparedness Committees and implementing local awareness campaigns on disaster preparedness and copying strategies, as well as on emerging health issues, prevention and management.

On the national level, Parliamentary Committees on Agriculture and Environment should give policy guidance on environmental issues, whereas the relevant Ministries are to coordinate development

and implementation of policy decisions on environment. The coordination of national disaster programmes and weather forecasting were also identified by Prof. Chimbari as tasks to be performed on a national level. He articulated the need for the development of an international framework for commissions on climate change, in order to make adaptation function properly.

Prof. Chimbari concluded by stating that the people of Africa need to be involved in designing and implementing strategies. According to him, the benefits from action taken, will be much higher than the costs of “efforts” made.

Hon. Jeppe Kofod, Member of Parliament, Denmark

Hon. Kofod started by commending Sweden for initiating the Report of the Commission on Climate Change and Development. He continued pointing out the challenge of making the Copenhagen summit successful through concluding an international agreement. However, international level governance is a controversial issue on the national level, as adaptations should be country driven, based on national guarantees. Hon. Kofod emphasised the need for parliamentarians to consult each other and implement on a national level, following the recommendations from the Bali Summit (Bali Action Plan (BAP) 2007).

Additionally, there is a need for mainstreaming climate change adaptations to all affected sectors of society and to integrate adaptation in the national and sectoral planning processes. On the national level climate change units should be institutionalised for dealing with challenges of climate change adaptation. International institutions are crucial to make this a reality and to protect the most vulnerable countries. The European Union and United Nations are examples of institutions which integrates climate change in development aid. Hon. Kofod stressed that the industrial world needs to take full responsibility.

Hon. Kofod argued that the BAP clearly recognises adaptation as a central pillar to any new climate agreement. It is crucial that when countries come together in Copenhagen, careful reflection is made of the means to implement and support adaptation.

Many of the poorest and most vulnerable countries do not have the necessary national institutional architecture to integrate climate change into national and sectoral planning (e.g. national climate change units coordinating among various ministries and government agencies). Therefore, any international climate accord agreed to in Copenhagen should lay the foundation for increased support to these countries in terms of finance, technology and knowledge in order to build institutional capacity for national planning and implementation of adaptation measures.

In this respect, a number of proposals on the table for reform or the creation of new institutions, as part of the climate negotiations, designed to support developing countries. Decision makers and negotiators must consider these carefully in the run-up to Copenhagen.

Dr. Markandey Rai, Coordinator Global Parliamentarians, UN-HABITAT

Dr. Rai started with addressing the interlinked topics of food security, climate change and development. He paid attention to the global urban challenge in the developing world and showed data demonstrating that 93% of the urbanisation takes place in Africa and Asia. According to Dr. Rai, we will be facing a catastrophe if we do not deal with the problem right now. Additionally, his presentation illustrated the outbreak of slum areas in Africa and informed participants that 60% of the population of Nairobi lives on an area as big as a golf course. Subsequently, he discussed the problems in the slums such as HIV/AIDS, lack of education resulting from this high population density.

Dr. Rai continued with describing the UN’s role in dealing with the global problems, and discussed the close relation between migration and climate change. He addressed the fact that the Millennium Goals, which were “adopted” nine years ago, will remain a dream if not something extremely remarkable would happen and drew

a parallel to climate change adaptation. Dr. Rai concluded by saying that food crises are alarming and greenhouse gas emissions need to be decreased with 50% by 2050, in order for the world to cope with global warming and consequences such as destroyed buildings and urban infrastructure.

Questions from the audience focussed on: Ways in which European MPs can facilitate academic research in Africa, parliaments taking the lead in institutional restructuring by creating cross-portfolio Climate Change and the need for African and European parliamentarians to take responsibility for mainstreaming climate change adaptation in all national policies and legislation.

SESSION 3: FINANCING FOR ADAPTATION

Chair: Hon. Patricia Hajabakiga, Member of Parliament, Rwanda

The Chair opened the session and gave the floor to the speakers.

Hon. Brendan Howlin, Deputy Speaker of the Irish Parliament

Hon. Howlin began by explaining that food security in the proven reality of climate change is a daunting goal. In the context of the financial crisis, the problem seems too large. Nonetheless each of us must address these issues and get to work.

Hon. Brendan Howlin referred to the saying that climate change is the defining challenge for humanity in this century. It is not just a future threat; it is real and happening now. The twin strategy of mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change are critically interlinked. As mitigation strategies and means are already on its way in the developed world, this must be taken up and applied in the developing world, according to hon. Howlin.

The first step in this process is knowledge. Sub-Saharan Africa lacks knowledge to deal with Climate Change e.g. there are only few weather stations. He stressed the need for a proper assessment per country of climate changes, devising strategies for alternative energy, flood barriers and resettlement of vulnerable populations. Archbishop Desmond Tutu contrasted once the adaptation between developed and developing world. He said European governments can safeguard people. But how can slum dwellers do that? The answer is they cannot without massive help.

Hon. Brendan Howlin urged parliamentarians to engage and build support and understanding of the scale of what needs to be done. He also underlined that financial support has to be additional. Some estimate that 86 billion dollars is needed to tackle climate change in developing countries. If one puts that in the context of the bank support to protect western economies it is a small amount.

Brendan Howlin continued by pointing out that without the mobilisation of parliaments the challenges will not be met. He stressed that parliamentarians need to be agents for action. There are many issues that demand our attention but the issue of climate change is too sensitive to put on the back burner. The Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) and Paris declaration should be applied to our climate change response. Country ownership, building more inclusive partnerships and achieving development goals should be conducted in a transparent way according to him. Parliament is uniquely placed to achieve this.

Mr. Rémi Paris, Head of Section-Environment and Sustainable Development, OECD

Mr. Rémi Paris started off by stating that climate change is a developmental issue and that it has to be treated as such. So far \$18 billion have been pledged by donor countries. However, less than \$1 billion has been disbursed, so additional funds are needed. However, mobilising aid is not enough. The Paris declaration and AAA principles lay down the following principles: ownership i.e. developing countries must exercise control over the funds they receive, alignment i.e. donors must base their support on partner's national country systems and joint accountability, namely monitoring of funds from both sides has to be built in from the start. Many of these principles apply also to the climate change response.

Mr. Paris stated that climate change aid has to go through the country systems. There is concern here, because some parallel systems are already being established. In his opinion, we should avoid this. Many principles are embedded in the Kyoto Protocol and Bali Action Plan, so this is nothing new. It is all about implementing them now.

Mr. Paris also pointed out that climate change is not a sector, it is a cross sectoral challenge. This will require additional financing and it poses a managerial challenge. The implications for financing are that we should not use vertical funds only for specific issues like health etc. Paris stresses that there is a need for horizontal funds that every ministry can claim for rising costs in their ministries. This system is now starting to become practice in some countries.

Mr. Ivan Zavadsky, Senior Water Resources Management Specialist, Global Environment Facility

Mr. Ivan Zavadsky's presentation focused on international financial mechanisms more in specific on policies, institutional frameworks and global fund climate change tools. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established in 1991. The mission is to provide a mechanism of international cooperation enabling new and conditional funding for projects on land degradation, pollution etc. The GEF is the financial mechanism for the UN convention on desertification and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The GEF council is a major operational body and is made up by donor countries. The council is supported by a technical advisory panel and 50 GEF secretariat members. The GEF agencies have started to work with recipient countries and involved civil society in its implementation. The African region has an increasing portion of climate change funds. Mr. Zavadsky explained that the GEF trust funds can only fund mitigation measures, which is the core fund.

However, another \$50 million dollars was put into a special programme under the same fund on strategic priorities for adaptation for Least Developed Countries (LDCF). Additionally, a Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) includes an additional \$286 million US dollars for adaptation measures. The GEF work on adaptation is guided fully by the UNFCCC Conference of Parties meetings. The LDCF and SCCF are the only funds providing funds for adaptation. These funds mainly go to disaster risk reduction, health, agriculture, and coastal zone management projects. Another point that Mr. Zavadsky highlighted is that LDCF and SCCF are financial regulations, meaning that the climate change costs should be additional costs to a business; therefore, co financing is needed. Whilst the GEF is working hard on the 5th replenishment of the LDCF funds, Mr. Zavadsky pointed out that it is facing challenges to get funds to go to cross sectoral projects.

Mr. Halifa Drammeh, Principal Officer and Special Advisor of the Executive Director of UNEF on Africa

Mr. Halifa Drammeh began by saying that the basic premise of sustainable development is that the needs of present generations are met without compromising future generations. The needs of future generation are being compromised when it comes to climate change. When we talk about climate change and move towards the COP 15 meeting. We must look at the plight of the African region with greater realism. Africa's common position for the COP 15 meeting has been developed in May in Nairobi by the African Ministerial Conference for Environment (AMCEN) meeting. There ministers discussed adaptation in terms of disaster risk reductions in terms of building social resilience. There was an additional focus on mitigation in particular on the energy sector, deforestation, land use and land degradation.

Mr. Drammeh urged leaders in the parliamentary world to deal with these issues. He stressed that we have to look at the issue of financing multilateral risk management instruments, private sector investments and market-based instruments to address climate change including carbon financing. We have to improve access to financing and look at technology transfer. Mr. Drammeh also advocated a rethinking of the GEF facility. He indicated that the GEF facility was meant for a different era and is in need of a complete overhaul. Mr. Drammeh requested political support for the African Common Position on Climate Change and stressed that African countries make up 25% of the UN Countries. Therefore, why are we unable as Africa to do better with all our resources? We need a new type of thinking, according to the speaker.

Questions and comments from the audience focussed on the criticism of inaccessibility of GEF funds for many African countries. In response, Mr. Zavadsky explained that a larger flexibility is put in place for future disbursements. Hon. Ubani pointed out that whilst Africa is part of the same negotiating block as China, it has very different challenges being the highest emitter in the world of greenhouse gases. The demand from Hon. Brendan Howlin for additional funds for climate change was also echoed by participants.

A Member of Parliament from Burkina Faso urged fellow parliamentarians to exert better oversight over the funds for climate change programmes.

Hon Brendan Howlin added that there is a need for a new strategy on climate change that will not divide people in the North and the South. He also stated that the current money that is available comes nowhere near the amount that is needed in the African region.

In response to questions: Mr. Halifa Drammeh stated that there are not many common strategies on the Regional Economic Communities level on climate change; the ministerial committees supporting the AU have more leadership. In his opinion there is a need for better organising resources.

In response to the calls for adaptation funds Mr. Rémi Paris stated that recipient governments have the responsibility to make sure the money is used in the right way. However, collectively you have to make sure you are heard as Africa, regardless of the money available. Mr. Paris noted that Africa has a hard time absorbing the available funds and countries are not ready yet in some cases.

SESSION 4: BUDGETARY OVERSIGHT OF CLIMATE FUNDS

Chair: Hon. Eziuche Ubani, Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Climate Change, House of Representatives, Nigeria

Hon. Ubani welcomed participants and informed them that this session was about their role of parliamentarians in this process. In 2005, the Paris Declaration was created along with the 5 principles, he said, and we have to assure that parliamentarians remain critical and we have to assure that the programmes and projects match commitments. Finally, as parliamentarians, he noted, we have to assure that there is no waste or corruption.

Hon. Ubani explained what participants can expect from Copenhagen. This includes, increased ODA flows, change in the fiscal architecture and priorities from both donor and partner countries, increased demand for accountability and fiscal responsibility at all levels of government in the north and the south, and the scaling up of parliamentary involvement and CSOs in oversight of expenditures and policies, priorities and programmes of governments especially in response to disaster risks.

As the chair explained, in 2007, Nigeria experienced unexpected failure in agriculture and lessened the food security situation in the country. The problem then spread from Senegal to Somalia and Nigeria and all countries in between fall along this line of vulnerable countries. The Global Fund, UNDP, and Sida all provide financial assistance to Nigeria. With climate change in the mix, this figure comes to something like 1.8 billion dollars. This is not enough for the crises they are facing in Nigeria, he emphasised, but these funds should be more plentiful going forward.

The Nigerian parliament's power over public funds is strong based upon its constitution. Parliament needs to investigate projects and programmes and invite ministers for questioning. Other parliaments should have these powers available to them as well. Nigeria has a parliamentary committee on climate change but the parliament still has weaknesses, he told participants. Grants which are given directly to ministries are not subject to parliamentary scrutiny. Funds outside the budget are also not seen by parliament. In 2008, the lower house passed a motion and had a hearing and found that 50% of the funds coming to Nigeria do not have to go through parliament. Hon. Ubani noted that they are now looking to write new legislation to assure that any monies given to the ministry should be monitored by parliament.

Some of the problems present in the government are due to the fact that technocrats want to maintain power and are averse to taking risks. He emphasised the need to assure that parliament maintains its power of oversight. There are no laws which compel other sources to disclose to parliament. Also, parliaments lack the capacity to oversee projects with technical dimensions but the Nigerian parliament is working with civil society to overcome this. There is no specialized body in Nigeria which coordinates all the activities. The oil company does not report to parliament, he said. The problem of coordination becomes exacerbated because each of these projects doesn't necessarily carry the banner of "climate change". Hon. Ubani asked participants how parliamentarians can do better. He noted that they need to assure that the funding sent to CSOs is overseen by parliament. Information exchange is vital, he said, and AWEPA is working on this. There is a parliamentary network on climate change as well. Parliamentarians need to be assertive, he explained. If one has power and does not use it, he said, it is truly a waste. Parliamentarians have a job to do and they need to do it. Hon. Ubani closed his presentation by reminding participants that donors are going to demand better forms of accountability and parliamentarians are well placed to do this work.

Mr. Dan Coppard, Senior Policy Officer, Development Initiatives

Mr. Coppard began by explaining that this is an important and timely event. He noted that he will outline some of the challenges faced and lessons learned in monitoring climate funds. It is vital that the systems that we can

use to measure and track these funds are not overlooked so that one can find out how effectively these finances are used.

First off, he noted, we need to be clear on who we are making this information available and why. We need good systems, he said, because the funds will be very large, (86 billion adaptation) 50-170 billion by 2030 so this is at least a doubling of ODA flows. Mr. Coppard highlighted the fact that the G7 has suggested donor countries reserve 1% of GDP to climate change issues. Secondly, many want to track whether climate funds are additional to or separate from traditional ODA and thirdly, there are greater demands on accountability. Donor countries are huge emitters and cannot be permitted to free ride the system. Accounting for these transactions will increase pressure for independent, separate channels and organisations, he noted.

The challenges and lessons learned include the fact that common standards are difficult. Mr Coppard emphasised the need for a standard definition for Mitigation and Adaptation concepts as one has already been established for ODA. The system, he said, should represent the needs of developing countries. As he explained, the DAC is donor centred but monitoring aid should be as much about empowerment as it is about accountability. We need to provide the information and resources so that partner countries can interpret this information and hold donors to account.

Information needs to be accessible to the users of the information and not just the providers. These funds need to be traceable from point A to point B. It is not difficult or expensive but it does require cooperation amongst donors and this is the challenge. Private funds are often present, and many are unaware. Mr. Coppard urged participants to track inputs and outputs and highlighted the fact that this requires common methods and definitions. We need more than statistics, he said, we need information. Stakeholders are asking for more detailed information, which is more timely and which looks to the future and not simply to the past. As he put it, current information on ODA makes it difficult to separate cash from non cash contributions.

Mr. Coppard closed his presentation by highlighting two key messages. First off, one needs to consider the information needs of the user. This process is about the empowerment of the users of information not just the accountability of the providers. Secondly, this information will come at a cost. However, Mr. Coppard explained, these costs will be minimal in comparison to the benefits this information will produce.

Hon. Bodil Ceballos, Member of Parliament, Sweden

Hon. Ceballos introduced herself as a member of the smallest party of this parliament and the opposition. She said that her party has been speaking about climate change for 25 years but they didn't believe it until they actually saw the effects. She asked the participants what parliamentarians should do parliamentarians before and after Copenhagen. Poverty reduction and climate change need to be tackled at the same time, she explained. Moreover, landslides, desertification and floods will lead to more poverty. Hon. Ceballos noted that it is now clear who created the problem and where we see the worst consequences, but that the world now finds itself facing a common problem requiring common solutions.

Hon. Ceballos urged parliamentarians to involve themselves in climate negotiations and tell their governments what to do- not the other way around. Parliaments should not be weak, she emphasised. The government is obliged to give the parliament information. Transparency is crucial for citizens to obtain important information and to avoid corruption. In her view, the most important mandate of a parliament lay in its ability to scrutinise and oversee the national budget. Sweden, she said, would like to assign 1.3 billion crowns a year to adaptation and this should be additional ODA funds. Hon. Ceballos also noted that parliamentarians also have a strong role to play in awareness-raising. It is always more important to take action than to discuss, she said. What we don't do know, will cost much more in the future.

Mr. Rémi Paris, Head of Section-Environment and Sustainable Development, OECD

Mr. Paris introduced his presentation by saying that he would like to tell participants about the "other side" of the equation. He explained that this process is donor focused but all information is publicly available and

anyone can challenge the numbers and pose questions. The OECD system, as it exists today, is backward looking, he said. Data comes from the field and the OECD aggregates it and compiles it. Currently, they are looking to see if they can provide a larger range of data, but this is very difficult. The OECD tracking system is based on sectors, he told participants. ODA falls into either one sector or the other. There is also a multi sector code, he explained. When it comes to climate change adaptation, it is not a sector, it is an objective. The OECD tries to track aid which has the objective of protecting the environment but the organisation is still working on defining criteria that makes these funds climate change funds for adaptation. Because no activity has only one objective, if an activity is earmarked for climate change, it will not be allocated to just one sector. Mr. Paris explained that going forward, there will be a degree of judgement involved where each project will have to be evaluated for its contribution to climate change adaptation. Adaptation is linked closely to development and the OECD is working on this challenge. It may not be solved by Copenhagen, he said, but they are working towards a solution.

Questions and comments from the audience included how to provide incentives to citizens who need to cut down trees for their livelihood, how to support the opposition in parliaments across the globe, the need for insurance for the victims of land degradation, the need for an attitude shift on the part of African parliamentarians, as well as the need for parliamentary oversight of European multinationals working in developing countries.

CLOSING SESSION

Chair: Mr. Par Granstedt

Mr. Granstedt introduced the Parliamentary Recommendations to Copenhagen. He noted that the recommendations will be adopted under the conditions that all changes submitted in writing will be incorporated into the recommendations and that the President of the PAP and the speaker of EALA approves the final version.

Hon. Rosita Runegrund, Head of the AWEPA section in the Swedish parliament, MP Sweden

Hon. Runegrund informed participants on AWEPA's strategic vision. She noted that Africa is not the problem, but the solution to climate change.

Hon. Dr. Oussa Ndele Idriss, President of the Pan African Parliament, MP Chad

Hon. Idriss noted that the past two days have been very rewarding and informative. Under-development in Africa is driving away our young men and women and towards America, Europe and Asia. He urged African parliamentarians to put pressure on their governments over the next few months and emphasised that parliamentarians must assure that the most vulnerable groups, namely women and children, are protected and that Africa's scarce resources are put to good use.

FOCUS WATER AND CLIMATE: PRESENTING THE AFRICAN-EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WORLD WATER WEEK

Mr. Pär Granstedt, Secretary General of AWEPA

Mr. Pär Granstedt opened the side event organised by AWEPA during the World Water Week in Stockholm. He welcomed all honourable guests and everyone present. The session was dedicated to climate change and presented the African-European Parliamentary Dialogue. This dialogue was launched in August 2008 in Nairobi by AWEPA and its parliamentary partners including the Pan-African Parliament, the East African Legislative Assembly, the SADC Parliamentary Forum and many national parliaments. Subsequently, Mr. Granstedt introduced the two key note speakers: Mr. Anders Wijkman, Former Member of European Parliament and Member of the International Commission on Climate Change and Development and Hon. Amadi Bethel Nnaemeka, First Vice President of the Pan-African Parliament, Member of the House of Representatives of Nigeria.

Mr. Anders Wijkman, started off with some general remarks on climate change. He explained that the world is facing a set of crises at this moment and they are all interlinked: e.g. the financial crisis, climate change crisis, ecological crisis and food crisis. The overuse of resources and the peak in oil production are some of the root causes for this situation. The world is not using its resources in a sustainable way and therefore ecologists are warning for a climate crisis. According to Mr. Wijkman we can control our emissions, but have to be wary that feedback mechanism will not start playing a life of its own. In this context the weather should not be treated as a side issue and he urged for an integrated approach.

Mr. Wijkman indicated that it is in Africa's interest that we set ambitious reduction targets. Even if no agreement is reached on emissions' reductions there should still be an agreement on development, according to the speaker. In this context access to low carbon energy growth paths is crucial and Africa has a comparative advantage for renewable energy in the form of e.g. solar energy.

According to Wijkman adaptation has to be integrated into development plans and poverty reduction strategy papers. Also, he pleaded for financial aid to be additional next to existing ODA flows, as these funds have to cover the incremental costs. He also said that the World Bank and Global Environmental Facility should not deal with these funding issues and funds should be channelled directly to country systems. He finalised by concluding that the role of legislators is going to be crucial and MPs need to become more involved in the negotiations themselves.

Hon. Amadi Bethel Nnaemeka, began by citing some examples of climate changes happening in Africa such as the evaporation of Lake Chad. He indicated that the scarcity of resources is already creating internal strife on the continent. The Pan-African Parliament (PAP) is still too young to have a real influence on the African Union's preparations for the UNFCCC COP15 meeting.

However, the young institution is gradually taking some steps in the right direction such as the creation of regional economic committees. Also, this year recommendations were adopted on climate change after a round table discussion on these issues at the plenary session.

The overall problem Africa and the world is facing with is the fact that there is not one plan at the international level to deal with the climate. Hon. Amadi also underlined that when it comes to funding, we have to acknowledge [in Africa] the corruption. Moreover, he indicated the need for better education on environment and the need for concrete plans to access technological advancements.

The PAP programme called *Black and Green* aims at informing Africans on climate change and also on how private sector initiatives and civil society can access Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) project funding.

He concluded by stressing that politicians are responsible to make information travels down to their constituents.

Questions and comments from the audience included comments on the need for more tailor-made research. Some participants also brought forward the fact that indigenous knowledge on environmental protection and adaptation should not be overlooked in national climate change action plans.