

## THIRD CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (CCDA-III)

21-23 October, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### Outcome Document from the Climate Change, Youth and Development Side Event hosted by the African Youth Initiative on Climate Change (AYICC)

22 October 2013

#### *“Youth Responses to Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities”*

#### **Introduction**

The African Youth Initiative on Climate Change (AYICC) with chapters in 42 African countries commends the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), African Union Commission (AUC) and African Development Bank (AfDB) for establishing the Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) Programme under the dynamic leadership and coordination of the African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC). The theme of this year's conference is apt because it provided a platform for relevant stakeholders to share inputs, ideas and best practices on climate change and development in Africa.

African youths and future generations will inherit the climate change systems in whatever way governments and other key stakeholders deal with it. We are determined to safeguard our future by championing sustainable development. The African Youth Initiative on Climate Change (AYICC) is the front-liner for youth, climate change and sustainable development in Africa. As a result of our participation to the CCDA-III and the side event hosted by AYICC, the following are the key priority action points:

#### **1. Creating Enabling Environment to Enhance Youth Responses to Climate Change in Africa**

AYICC already plays an important role in African youth responses to climate change. There is a need to invest and scale up these responses and give them more impacts, visibility and sustainability.

#### **2. Establishing Research and Fellowship Opportunities for African Youth**

ACPC Fellowship Programme should be more inclusive and participatory to enable a wider participation of African youths, including those with special needs.

#### **3. Climate Change Opportunities for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship**

The creation of more green jobs for African youth should be mainstreamed in climate change related sectors, such as agriculture, fisheries, appropriate technology and renewable energy. There is also a need to amplify existing and start-up green enterprises initiated by youth with access to capacity building, mentorship, networking opportunities and sustainable funding mechanism.

#### **4. YouthACT Climate Campaign (2013-2015)**

AYICC calls upon African governments, ACPC and other stakeholders to support the implementation of this campaign in line with the Post-2015 Agenda that includes climate change education and research, capacity building, community based adaptation to climate change, policy dialogue on climate change, intergenerational equity, and gender mainstreaming in climate change issues.

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