



**6<sup>th</sup> Special Session of African Ministerial  
Conference on Environment - AMCEN**

**CAIRO , EGYPT 16 - 19 APRIL 2016**

**OUTCOMES OF AMCEN  
SPECIAL SESSION AND  
IMPLICATIONS FOR AFRICA**

## A. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

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*The Ministers agreed on the urgent need for the sustainable management of Africa's natural capital in support of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs and Agenda 2063 and its first ten-year implementation plan. They also agreed to put in place policies and practices to reverse ecosystem degradation and promote sustainable consumption and production patterns. In addition, the forum agreed to create and strengthen private and public partnerships and establish centres for sustainable harnessing of natural capital, value addition, green industries and agro-processing centres.*

The AMCEN Decision on Implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals and African Union's Agenda 2063: A Contribution of the Natural Capital States:

1. To agree to domesticate this decision into national policies and legislation especially on targeting the allocation of a portion of current natural capital earnings for re-investment in highly catalytic sectors towards achievement of the SDGs (especially clean energy and optimization EBA-Driven agro-value chains and adding value).
2. We believe that investing in catalytic natural capital based sectors such as clean energy and optimized EBA-agro value chains will catalyse achievement of multiple SDGs.
3. We believe that by investing in better and sustainably management of environment assets such as EBA-driven agriculture and clean energy will reduce costs and reverse losses due to environmental degradation while at the same time creating wealth for our people and supporting achievement of the SDGs.
4. We recognise that investing in EBA driven agriculture will simultaneously guarantee sustainable yield increases of more nutritious food, enhance farmer level incomes, ecosystems capacity, as well as climate adaptation and build climate resilience of our local communities.
5. Given Africa's abundant renewable energy sources and increasing global attention to clean energy investments, we will prioritize the expansion of accessible clean energy in rural areas with the specific objective of catalysing for example rural agro-industry, a derivative of the continent's natural capital.
6. We will strengthen investments in agro-processing in ecosystem based adaptation driven agriculture to increase sustainable industrialization. By optimizing Africa's agriculture productivity through linking ecological on-farm production with commercial value chains, including accessible energy to catalyse agro-processing, value addition and enterprises along the entire agro-value chain, Africa can create as many as 17 million jobs and catalyze an agro-industry projected to be worth US\$ 1trillion by 2030.

### Implications for Countries:

- ◊ **Countries now have the policy levers to expand EBA-Driven Agriculture work and linkages to renewable energy which also complements implementation of INDCs of countries towards catalysing implementation of Agenda 2030 and AU Agenda 2063 to collectively achieve the SDGs.**

## B. Climate change and implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change

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*The Ministers reaffirmed that adaptation to climate change is an essential priority for Africa and that there is an urgent need for immediate and adequate support for the implementation of adaptation measures to cover agreed full and incremental costs.*

1. Support the establishment of the Africa Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA), its' Constitution and the outcomes of the process leading to the establishment of the Assembly, as the inclusive pan-African policy framework and implementation platform that brings together key stakeholders and actors along the entire ecosystem-based adaptation-driven agriculture value-chain

### Implications for Countries:

- ◊ Countries have a big opportunity to build on the call for this partnerships implement thier INDCs/NDCs as well as ensuring Adaptation Mitigation projects are jointly implemented towards a transition to low-emissions and climate-resilient development in to realise 2030 Agenda for the SDGs and and Africa's Agenda 2063
- ◊ With the support of AMCEN on the above, countries squarely have a national policy driven niche for its currently rolled out Assembly and national branches of EBAFOSA to domesticate the EBFOSA branches at national level. The uptake into policy will enhanced ensure EBA uptake and integration into national plans, development processes and decision making frameworks in countries easily gain its way.
- ◊ Use the EBAFOSA established cross-cutting, cross-sectoral partnerships as a priority mechanism to expedite engagements with partners in AAI and AREI towards realizing EBA- agro industrialization powered by clean energy;
- ◊ Countries to prioritize in their national plans, initiatives in these catalytic sectors that leverage natural capital for achievement of SDGs.



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