



KENYA

STATEMENT BY HON. J.K. SAMBU, E.G.H, M.P,

KENYAN MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND

NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE

SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

TO THE

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON

CLIMATE CHANGE

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

8 - 19 JULY 1996

STATEMENT BY HON. J.K. SAMBU, E.G.H, MP, KENYAN MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 8 - 19 JULY 1996.

THE PRESIDENT
HONOURABLE MINISTERS
YOUR EXCELLENCIES THE AMBASSADORS
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

ALLOW ME MR PRESIDENT TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR ELECTION AS THE PRESIDENT OF THIS SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE. ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP, I WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOU OF OUR FULL SUPPORT IN GUIDING THE WORK OF THIS BODY FOR THE NEXT ONE YEAR. WE WISH YOU WELL IN YOUR EFFORTS.

WE IN AFRICA CONSIDER CLIMATE A VERY IMPORTANT NATURAL RESOURCE UPON WHICH MOST OF OUR ECONOMIES ARE HEAVILY DEPENDENT. IN THIS REGARD WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA.

IN THE LAST DECADE WE HAVE MORE AND MORE FREQUENTLY BEEN EXPERIENCING SEVERE DROUGHTS AND FAMINE. WE ARE THEREFORE APPREHENSIVE OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES THAT COULD LEAD TO EVEN MORE SEVERE DROUGHTS. AS A RESULT, WE TAKE THE CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUE VERY SERIOUSLY.

IT IS IN THIS LIGHT THAT I NOW WISH TO TURN TO THE SECOND ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE IPCC. THIS REPORT REPRESENTS A CONSENSUS OF RENOWN EXPERTS AND WE WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT IT AS THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE ON CLIMATE CHANGE TO DATE. RECOGNISING THE ADVERSE IMPACTS ON THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT THIS REPORT RAISES, WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT: -

- THERE SHOULD BE SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON LEGALLY BINDING EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS AND TIMETABLES FOR ANNEX 1 PARTIES. THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE THE TASK OF THE AGBM WHICH WE HOPE WILL COMPLETE ITS WORK BY COP 3. THE AFRICAN GROUP SUPPORTS THE ASSOCIATION OF SMALL ISLAND STATES DRAFT PROTOCOL AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS FOR A LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT. WE NOTE WITH CONCERN THAT ANNEX 1 PARTIES WILL

NOT BE ABLE TO REDUCE THEIR EMISSIONS TO THEIR 1990 LEVELS BY THE YEAR 2000. WE URGE THEM TO REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THESE REDUCTIONS. AFRICA'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONVENTION IS CONTINGENT UPON PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND AND PROVEN TECHNOLOGIES AND ADEQUATE AND PREDICTABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES BY ANNEX 1 PARTIES.

MR PRESIDENT,

THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE RECOGNISES THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) AS THE INTERIM FINANCIAL MECHANISM. HOWEVER, THERE IS CONCERN WITH RESPECT TO THE TIME IT TAKES TO APPROVE AND DISBURSE PROJECT FUNDS AND THE CONDITIONALITIES INTRODUCED THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE CONVENTION. THIS WHOLE PROCESS HAS BECOME AN IMPEDIMENT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE AUTHORITY AND MANDATE FOR GEF SHOULD EMANATE FROM COP AND NOT VISE VERSA. THE OPERATION STRATEGY CURRENTLY BEING USED BY GEF COUNCIL SHOULD HAVE THEIR ORIGINS IN THE COP IN ORDER TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY IN THE OPERATIONS OF THE INTERIM MECHANISMS.

WE HOWEVER ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SOME GEF PROJECTS IN OUR CONTINENT ON CAPACITY BUILDING, NOTABLY GHANA, KENYA, MALI AND ZIMBABWE. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE PROJECTS INITIATED IN AFRICA PARTICULARLY ON DROUGHT AND DESERTIFICATION. ANY EFFORT TO REDRESS THIS ISSUE WILL BE OF PRIMARY INTEREST TO THE POPULACE OF THE CONTINENT.

MR PRESIDENT,

IN AFRICA, LAND DEGRADATION IN ARID, SEMI-ARID AND DRY SUB-HUMID AREAS RESULT FROM VARIOUS FACTORS, BUT MAINLY FROM CLIMATE VARIATIONS AND HUMAN ACTIVITIES. IT IS THEREFORE VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE LINK THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE TO WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION.

ONE CANNOT TALK OF DROUGHT AND DESERTIFICATION WITHOUT REFERENCE TO POVERTY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF LIFE. THEREFORE, CLIMATE CHANGE VARIATIONS HAVE A TELLING EFFECT ON THE QUALITY OF HUMAN LIFE. ANY ACTION STIPULATED WITHIN THE CONVENTION MUST OF NECESSITY TAKE COGNISANCE OF THESE FACTS AND PARTICULARLY IN THE FLOW OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND

ACCESS TO AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. HENCE THE REPLENISHMENT OF RESOURCES SHOULD BE SEEN AS ONE WAY OF EFFECTIVELY AND JOINTLY STEMMING OFF THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE VARIATIONS. BOTH THE ANNEX 1 AND NON-ANNEX1 COUNTRIES WILL BE VULNERABLE TO THESE EFFECTS REGARDLESS OF THEIR STATUS HENCE THE NEED TO ADEQUATELY REPLENISH THE FUND.

MR PRESIDENT,

ONE AREA IN THE CONVENTION DOCUMENTS WHICH IS CRUCIAL TO NON-ANNEX 1 COUNTRIES IS THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND PROVISION OF NEW AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES, ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED JOINTLY SHOULD THEREFORE NEITHER BE AN EXCUSE FOR ANNEX 1 PARTIES TO CARRY OUT THE FULL RANGE OF DOMESTIC ACTION NOR SHOULD IT BE A WAY OF BACK TRACKING FROM SUCH ACTION. INSTEAD, IT SHOULD BE A CONCRETE AVENUE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION.

KENYA CONSIDERS ENVIRONMENT AN IMPORTANT ISSUE THAT GOVERNS AND DIRECTS THE DAILY LIVES OF PEOPLE. IN RECOGNITION OF THIS FACT THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA HAS EMBARKED ON DRAFTING AN ENVIRONMENT BILL WHICH WE BELIEVE WHEN IT BECOMES LAW WILL BRING ON BOARD SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE CONVENTION. CURRENTLY, PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS HAVE BEEN HEIGHTENED THROUGH UNEP SUPPORT PROGRAMMES. SUPPORT FROM OTHER DONORS HAVE MAINLY BEEN ON IMPACTS AND VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION STUDIES ON CLIMATE.

MR PRESIDENT,

LET ME STATE THAT WE HAVE COME HERE TO ^{DISCUSS} CONCLUDE SERIOUS BUSINESS AT THIS HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT. IT IS THEREFORE MY DELEGATIONS EXPECTATION AND THAT OF AFRICA THAT WE WILL SUBSTANTIVELY MAKE PROGRESS AND CONCLUSIONS THAT WILL BE A MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE TO OUR PARTIES. ISSUES LIKE THE RULES OF PROCEDURE SHOULD BE QUICKLY RESOLVED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE MORE TIME AND RENEWED CONFIDENCE TO DEAL WITH ISSUES OF URGENT NATURE.

THANK YOU MR PRESIDENT.

RECORD OF MINISTERIAL SEGMENT

COUNTRY: KENYA NAME OF SPEAKER: John K. Sambi

DAY: THURS. 19/7 TIME: 10^{h2} NOTE-TAKER: BB. STATEMENT PICKED UP? ☒

AGBM-RELATED ISSUES		
The speaker indicated:	<input type="checkbox"/> a preference for an amendment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a preference for a protocol <input type="checkbox"/> that s/he cannot indicate a preference at this time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AOSIS <input type="checkbox"/> EU	Comments: <u>African Group - supports AOSIS - to enforce Annex I targets by 2000</u>
The protocol/ other legal instrument should include:	<input type="checkbox"/> mandatory policies and measures <input type="checkbox"/> voluntary policies and measures	Policies or measures specified:
Does the country support any particular target?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: _____ % by _____ year <input type="checkbox"/> no	Comments: <u>Not targets specifically mentioned.</u>

SBSTA-RELATED ISSUES	
Reaching targets within the country by the year 2000 (Annex I Parties)	Comments:
Development and transfer of technology	Comments: <u>Annex I should not use AT as a way out of own commitment.</u>
IPCC Second Assessment Report (SAR)	Comments: <u>Supports and praises. Seriously binding actions based on report.</u>

SBI-RELATED ISSUES		
Should the GEF be the permanent financial mechanism?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	Comments: <u>Recog. as interim body, however time period conditional is imposed by GEF financing seen as counter productive. Funds should emanate from COP... G.H. K. Zam. - supported by GEF</u>
Activities Implemented Jointly (AIJ)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in favour of pilot phase <input type="checkbox"/> distinction made between JI/AIJ	Comments: <u>However does not think that such activities should reduce commitments of Annex I countries.</u>
Preparation of non-Annex I communications	Comments:	

OTHER COMMENTS: Kenya spoke on behalf of the African Group. - Grouped with G77 & China
links of ecc to diversification - esp in financials & TT. - Strongly all.
African group - rules of procedure should be changed to speed up discussion.