



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ON CLIMATE ACTION FOR COP 26**

The Enlarged Bureau of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly met virtually on 25 October 2021 to exchange on issues to be considered at COP26. *The JPA brings together 78 Members of the European Parliament alongside Members of Parliament from 78 African, Caribbean and Pacific states.*

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly reaffirmed its total commitment to full implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change and recognises the pressing need to go from words to far more ambitious climate action.

Members emphasized that concerted global action is necessary to cut greenhouse gas emissions and limit the impacts of climate change in order to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, accelerate achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, reduce risks of social upheaval and threats to peace and security, and to strengthen confidence in the future of the planet and of all peoples living conditions and prospects.

Furthermore, Members note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is as much a global crisis that is impacting vulnerable countries with grave and inequitable consequences on their economies, societies and the environment, as other global crises such as climate change and biodiversity loss.

Members are alarmed by the insufficiency of action to curb and phase out greenhouse gas emissions, laid bare in the United Nations Environment Programme's Emission Gap Report, in spite of some welcome recent announcements. They draw attention to the fact that this failure keeps driving up adaptation costs in developing countries, estimated by UNDP to reach USD 140-300 bn per year by 2030, while developed countries have not yet scaled up their finance for mitigation and adaptation in developing countries to the USD 100bn per year promised to be reached by 2020 with only a fraction of this finance intended for adaptation. With Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), coastal states and other vulnerable countries already experiencing devastating impacts of climate change, scaling up finance for adaptation cannot wait.

Members note that the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) proposed by the European Commission will put pressure on exporters to the EU to decarbonise the production of certain goods and that many exporters and producers in LDCs and other developing countries will face particular difficulties to finance necessary investments. Members welcome the idea to channel CBAM revenue to support for decarbonisation and for other climate action in LDCs and other developing countries, as a means to avoid unintended consequences for these countries already burdened by the impacts of climate change and to increase CBAM's efficiency as an instrument for decarbonisation, as well as its acceptability to society at large, in support of climate smart initiatives, including with EU trade partners.

Taking note of the issues raised, the Assembly calls on all states, particularly developed countries, to maximise their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the pursuit of the objectives of the Paris Agreement and calls for COP26 to deliver on the following key priorities, including:

- Specifying and operationalising the Global Goal on Adaptation and increasing support for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and for LDCs, LDCs' National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs);
- Reviewing the honouring of the USD 100 bn per year climate finance commitment, clarifying responsibilities for contributions to its achievement and agreeing on a substantial increase in coming years, ensuring more focus on adaptation needs and in particular on such needs of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS);
- Making the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage fully operational and backing up the pursuit of its objectives through the provision of financial contributions to relevant actions in developing countries; and
- Ensuring completion of the "Paris Rulebook" including in relation to transparency, common timeframes, and the Paris Agreement's article six on the Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM), ensuring that SDM projects genuinely produce significant mitigation results and fully respect human rights and the rights and livelihoods of indigenous people and local communities.

Members noting that climate change is a global phenomenon that affects all countries, the Assembly notes the challenges and uncertainties of the physical attendance at COP26 of developing countries, expresses solidarity with all government representatives, civil society actors and other stakeholders unable to attend and insists that impacts of their absence on the character of discussions and on decisions must be minimised.