

# **Submission by the Republic of Mali on Behalf of the African Group of Negotiators**

**on**

## **Development of modalities and procedures for the operation and use of a public registry referred to in Article 4, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement**

### **Introduction**

The African Group of Negotiators (AGN or African Group) welcomes the opportunity to provide further views on issues relating to the modalities and procedures for the operation and use of the public registry referred to in Article 4, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement as mandated in FCCC/SBI/2017/L.6.

The African Group welcomes the conclusion on the development of the modalities and procedures for the operation of the use of a public registry referred to in Article 4, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement. We welcome the work done by the secretariat on the current interim registry, and believe it is important to enhance the security, accessibility and user-friendliness of the public registry. It is also important to identify the synergies of the public registry referred to in Article 4, paragraph 12 and that of the public registry referred to in Article 7, paragraph 12, of the Paris Agreement.

In responding to the call for submission, the African Group would like to build on the following points:

**a) Experience and lessons learned in using the interim registry for the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) relevant to developing the public registry:**

The African Group believes the handbook has been useful in guiding the National Focal Points on how to submit their NDCs.

Further, the country passwords have played a key role in ensuring that the nationally approved NDCs are submitted.

**b) The functions of the public registry**

The African Group believes that the public registry should:

- Function as a legal record of Parties' NDCs communicated to the UNFCCC;
- Constitute an archive accessible to the public of Parties' NDCs;
- Accommodate different types of NDCs;
- Allow, depending on the outcomes, keeping older versions of NDCs since part of the architecture of the Paris Agreement is built around adjusting NDCs to the outcome of the global stocktake; and
- Record NDC adjustments by Parties in the NDC registry for formalizing amendments of NDCs submissions (keeping record).

**c) The structure and design elements of the public registry**

The Registry should be able to sort the NDCs by countries and by year of submission and should not allow the uploaded documents to be edited or tempered with.

**d) Possible ways to enhance the security, accessibility and user-friendliness of, and support in, using the public registry**

The African Group suggests the following:

- Ensure that only the focal point has the capacity to upload NDCs;

- All credentials such as account passwords, user names/identifiers (user IDs) and user passwords must be kept confidential and must not be disclosed to an unauthorized Party or person;
- Active logins to upload NDCs must be configured with a 10-minute inactive session timeout;
- Submitted supporting documents to seek clarity by the Secretariat should not be accessible to the public unless approved by the Party;
- Implement a process to perform periodic user account reviews to validate whether access is needed as well as the privileges assigned; and
- The public can access Parties' NDCs in term of viewing the documents without coping or manipulating the full document or converting it for personal use.

**e) Possible linkages as referred to in paragraph 2 of Decision FCCC/SBI/2017/L.6**

The NDC submitted in the public registry referred to in Article 4, paragraph 12, can also be submitted under the public registry referred to in Article 7, paragraph 12 of the Paris Agreement. Both registries should be publicly accessible and there is a need to clearly mention that the same NDC is reflected in both registries.