

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

**on**

## **Ways of enhancing the implementation of training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance actions under the Agreement**

Education, Training, Awareness Raising, Public Participation, Access to Information, International Cooperation

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The African Group of Negotiators (AGN or African Group) welcomes the opportunity to provide its views on the ways of enhancing the implementation of training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance actions under the Agreement.

The African Group believes that all six elements of Article 6 are equally essential to support ambitious and effective climate actions. In order to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, implementation should be enhanced by integrating ACE activities into existing and upcoming sectorial strategies and plans. Therefore, the African Group suggests the following:

- All Parties that have not already done so, should designate a national focal point for ACE and to inform the Secretariat accordingly.
- Support should be provided for developing countries in the development of national strategies on Article 12 of Paris Agreement
- National focal points for ACE should be encouraged to identify ways of integrating climate change education and training in the NDCs, including facilitation of training as a means to strengthen climate adaptation in relation to the revision of the NAPs.
- A fund should be created with donations encouraged from Parties and IGOs to support the enhanced implementation of Article 12. This fund should be dedicated to facilitate meaningful public participation and fostering behavioral change and should prioritise applications from women's organizations, children and youth organizations and indigenous people's organizations whose importance in the implementation of education, training, public awareness, public participation is emphasized in the Doha Work Programme on Article 6 of the Convention.
- Multilateral & bilateral institutions and member's organizations of UN Alliance, including operating entities of the financial mechanisms, should provide financial

resources to support activities related to the implementation of Article 12 of the Paris Agreement.

- Linkages between Article 12 of Paris Agreement activities, implementation of policies and measures to mitigate and adapt to Climate Change and other commitments under the Convention, such as technology transfer, and capacity building should be created.
- Parties should be encouraged to develop cross-sectorial partnerships with education ministries, including fostering closer links with national education policy makers and encouraging the inclusion of climate change education in the formal education curriculum from an early age.
- Parties should develop strong communication strategies on Climate Change, drawing upon on a basis of targeted social science research on how to create behavioral changes, providing opportunities for public participation in addition to informing the public about causes of climate change and sources of greenhouse gas emissions. Efforts to facilitate behavioral change should be prioritized in addition to other actions that can be taken at all levels to address climate change such as the dissemination of information and resource materials, as well as sharing good practices.
- The public, as part of public awareness programmes, should be encouraged to contribute to the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions in relation to both mitigation and adaptation actions.
- Parties should be encouraged to conduct surveys, such as “knowledge-attitude-practice/behavior” surveys, to establish a baseline of public awareness, which can serve as a basis for further work and support the monitoring of the impact of activities.
- Parties should also be encouraged to catalyze collaborative training initiatives and projects to promote an effective implementation of Article 12 of Paris Agreement at the international and regional levels in cooperation with Parties’ and international organizations, facilitating meaningful participation for NGOs, particularly children and youth organizations, women’s organizations and indigenous peoples’ organizations, and other development partners.
- The Secretariat should organize workshops and activities at the international and regional levels in order to build and strengthen the existing skills and capacity of national focal points of ACE.