DECIDE TOWARDS SAVING THE MOTHER EARTH AND ITS POPULATION: ENDORSE EMISSIONS REDUCTION NOW

We, the Bangladeshi CSO Alliance, consisting of several networks namely BAPA, BIPNet, CCBD, CCDF, CSRL, CFGN, EquityBD and NCCB are expressing our deep concern regarding lack of political will of world leaders in combating anthropogenic climate change that already has increased the intensity and frequency of weather related extreme events and trends and consequently causing harm to lives and livelihoods of poor and vulnerable people living in developed and developing countries including the Least Developed Countries and Small Island States. We are extremely disappointed to see the double slandered of the world leaders.

We urge the world leaders to consider the following elements to be discussed and solved in Doha negotiations:

1. Finalize and adopt a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol with an increased ambition, to be implemented from 1 January 2013.
2. We express our profound concerns regarding shameful and cowardish unilateral withdrawal of Canada and non-willingness to continue by a few other Annex-1 Parties with the Kyoto Protocol. In the backdrop of an unexpected cessation of activities till 2020 towards achieving an ambitious emission reduction target, such withdrawal and non-action in relation to a legally binding treaty only magnifies the risks of climate change, with grave consequences to lives and livelihoods of men, women and children in the vulnerable countries including the Least Developed Countries, the Small Island Developing States and African Countries.
3. We acknowledge that the Kyoto Protocol covers only a mere one eighth of world’s greenhouse gas emissions; however its continuation has significant implications considering historical, political and legal perspectives of the process towards decarbonizing the future world. Following the decision adopted at Durban Conference of Parties (CoP) of the UNFCCC, all countries will have to commit ambitious mitigation actions while BASIC Countries (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) must not hide themselves under the umbrella of ‘G77 and China’ to avoid legally binding mitigation commitment and least-developed and small island countries will be exempted from such commitment. We urge world leaders to agree to a clear work program at Doha that sets milestones to ensure a fair and ambitious legally binding agreement to be established by 2015 and implemented from 2020.
4. While discussing the above-mentioned issues the concept of ‘equity’ should be at the heart of the process. There should be a new consensus on equity. BASIC countries must not use ‘equity’ to justify their high level of emission; they must not evade their respective capacities while referring ‘common but differentiated responsibilities’ during the negotiations. The new consensus on equity must ensure justice; and contain various dimensions including intra-national equity, international equity, inter-generational equity and inter-species equity. Equity in its true sense and spirit must be restored before embarking on a just agreement basing on the Durban Platform. The progress achieved must not be thrown away in the continued approach to blame each other.
5. We denounce the fraudulent accounting to calculate past assistances of Annex-1 Parties under the First Start Financing, which should not have been amalgamated with ODA and new and additional funding, the latter being enshrined in the UNFCCC. Despite the discrepancy, the affected communities have been deprived when the overwhelming majority of the funds under FTF went for mitigation. Public climate finance must be increased gradually from 2013 to meet $100 billion commitment per year by 2020. Developed countries must pledge public funds for a substantial initial capitalization of the Green Climate Fund (GCF). New and innovative sources of finance must be explored including maritime, aviation sectors and Financial Transaction Tax.
6. We are disheartened by the lukewarm progress in AWG LCA on important issues such as technology transfer including IPR issues and capacity building – the latter being extremely important for the most vulnerable LDCs, SIDS and African Countries. We call for immediate decisions to be taken so that the SBI can follow those up towards speeding up activities regarding the issues.

7. Progress made under AWG LCA since 2007 must be part of new legally binding agreement and unresolved issues must be considered in new work program under ADP for discussions and making decisions. The new consensus must be built on foundation of the previous discussions and building blocks such as Nairobi Work Programme, Bali Action Plan, AWG LCA, AWG KP, Copenhagen Accord, Cancun Agreement and Durban Platform. The unresolved issues must not be pushed under the carpet to remain buried in oblivion.

8. We urge world leaders to take actions under ‘Cancun Adaptation Framework’ by undertaking ‘measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to climate change induced displacement, migration and planned relocation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels.’

9. We urge world leaders to unite as much as possible to achieve an acceptable outcome at Doha. To do so, if necessary, we urge world leaders to go beyond the traditional political alliances and form new force to protect the species Homo Sapiens and its only habitat planet Earth. #

Note: This is the statement presented in a press conference in the Press Conference Room 2, Ground Floor, QNCC, CoP 18 UNFCCC, Doha Climate Conference on 3rd December 2012, by Bangladeshi Civil Society Alliance (which includes BAPA, BIPNetCCBD, CCDF, CFGN, CSRL, EquityBD and NCCB), who provide this in view of the perspective of Climate Vulnerable Country (CVC)’s interest.

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