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NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria in Copenhagen presents its compliments to the Parliament of the Kingdom of Denmark - The Foreign Affairs Committee -, and has the honor to forward, herewith, the Oran Declaration adopted by the African Conference on Green Economy which has been held in Oran (Algeria), on 22nd and 23rd of February 2014.

The Embassy of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria in Copenhagen avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Parliament of the Kingdom of Denmark - The Foreign Affairs Committee -, the assurance of its highest consideration. AB



The Parliament
The Kingdom of Denmark



Oran Declaration

Adopted on the 23rd of February 2014

We, African Ministers in charge of environment, participating in the African Conference on “green economic in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication”, held in Oran (Algeria) on the 22nd and 23rd of February 2014;

Reaffirming our commitment to the principles and objectives of the constitutive Act of the African Union and our commitment to achieving the continent’s development through the promotion of cooperation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples;

recalling the relevant provisions of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, in particular articles 3 (d), 9 (b), 13 (e) and 14 (a & d) on the promotion of sustainable development of the economic, social and cultural levels, as well as the integration of African economies and policy coordination in the fields of environmental natural resources management, humanitarian action and disaster response and relief;

recalling the Decision adopted at the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held from 15 – 16 July 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; on the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (RIO+20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012 (Assembly/AU/Dec. 437 (XIX)) for an effective implementation of Rio+20 outcomes to support sustainable development efforts in Africa;

reaffirming the decision of the African Union Assembly of January 2014 on the Warsaw Climate Change Conference and Africa’s preparation of the twentieth conference of the

parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 20 / CMP 10);

reiterating our commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in order to achieve sustainable development of our continent;

reaffirming our determination to eradicate poverty, create employment, health, education and increase agriculture production, ensure food security and the MDGs;

reaffirming also our commitment to fully implement the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg and the Final Document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20 “the future we want” and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD);

note with satisfaction that the Conference of Oran is an important step in strengthening the African cooperation and consultation on sustainable development, and renew our commitment for the sustainable development and the eradication of poverty;

stress the importance of evaluation of the implementation of MDGs and build on their experience;

stress the importance of achieving, by September 2014, the work of the Open ended Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, the Intergovernmental Committee on Financing for Sustainable Development and the mechanism for facilitating the transfer of technology, initiated by “Rio+20”, which should take into account the priorities of Africa, in the perspective of the launching of the intergovernmental negotiations on the post 2015 Development Agenda;

consider that green economy, as one of the ways to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication, shall contribute to sustainable growth, the creation of decent jobs for all and the improvement of social welfare in the context of national priorities and circumstances;

reiterate our conviction that green economic shall not constitute, for developing countries and African countries in particular, a barrier or a new conditionality on bilateral and international cooperation in particular on economic exchanges;

recall that green economy requires huge investments that African countries are not able to provide without the mobilization of financial resources, technology and expertise from industrialized countries; we also consider that the implementation of policies, that promote green economic in Africa requires, among other, the promotion of initiatives focusing on sustainable production and consumption, in order to ensure environmental sustainability and promote sustainable, inclusive and equitable global growth;

call and urge international and national private sector to be engaged in liability of society, to be adapted to sustainable production patterns and to contribute the development of our continent without compromising the durability of its resources;

are convinced that poverty eradication is a major challenge and indispensable requirement for sustainable development in Africa. Therefore, we are aware of the need to provide population with social protection and decent employment, access to education and health, access to safe and affordable basic services and safe drinking water and sanitation, energy and decent housing. Also the international community is called to strengthen cooperation and make more efforts to implement the commitments made in the different meetings and multilateral fora;

note with concern that, despite the efforts of governments, the economic and social development of Africa has not reached the required level that allows the improvement of labor productivity and the effective reduction of unemployment. The continent should, also, focus on upgrading its economy in order to achieve growth and well-being of different social groups, including women, youth and persons with disabilities;

stress that the development of agriculture is essential to improve household incomes and meet the food demand associated with the urbanization process of the continent. Food security and improved nutrition require the structural transformation of this sector in order to ensure increased productivity, the development of the agro-food industry, the improvement of the distribution and access to food. We, also, encourage the promotion of responsible management of fish stocks, marine, coastal and pastoral resources that contribute to the growth of the industry, trade and food security;

commit ourselves to work toward improving the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of urban and rural residents, in the context of poverty eradication and encourage the promotion of sustainable cities that are socially inclusive, economically productive and resilient to disasters;

express our concern about the environmental threats that hinder the economic development of the continent and note that climate change, desertification, land degradation and drought, loss of biodiversity, the proliferation of waste and chemicals, coastal erosion and marine pollution as well as the rising of sea level, undermine Africa's progress towards sustainable development;

note that desertification, drought and deforestation which dangerously affect a large proportion of arable land in Africa, hamper agricultural development and farming and harm significantly food security in the Sahel region. Recognizing the economic and social importance of land, particularly its contribution to growth, food security and poverty eradication, we are convinced that combating desertification, land degradation

and drought must remain priority of our national, regional and sub-regional development policies and in this regards, effective measures must be taken at all levels to promote the exchange of expertise and experiences and technology transfer in the context of South-South and North-South cooperation;

remain aware that climate change is a serious threat to the ecosystem balance and the African continent is the most affected region by its negative impacts. In this regard, an immediate concrete action by the international community is required;

call that the current process which will lead to the establishment in 2015, in Paris, of an ambitious climate regime shall meet the expectations of Africa, in particular with regard to adaptation, mitigation, financing, technology transfer and capacity building including transparency on actions according to the principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework-Convention on Climate Change, in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibility particularly the article 04 of the Convention;

welcome the initiative of the Secretary General of the United Nations to organize a Climate Change Summit, during the 69th session of the General Assembly to achieve balanced outcomes of the negotiations on climate change preserving the right of African Nations to develop with environmental sound practices. We are committed for success of climate change negotiations provided that African Nations to receive finance and technology transfer as stated in UNFCCC Convention;

recognize the crucial role of biodiversity on the social, economic, scientific, educational and cultural fields, which greatly contribute to sustainable development and the well-being of African populations. We are concerned by the intensity of the loss of biodiversity and degradation of ecosystems that hinder the development of the continent. We encourage the strengthening of international collaboration and partnerships, as well as the exchange of information and experiences in order to encourage the conversation and sustainable use of biological resources;

recall that access to modern and sustainable energy services, which are essential for achieving the MDGs, poverty eradication, the improvement of the wellbeing, health and the basic needs of human beings, remains a priority of the African continent;

consider that sustained economic growth in Africa requires adequate investment in the energy sector, the mobilization of additional and predictable financial resources and the provision by developed countries, of technical assistance and technology transfer to the continent. We call, thus, to strengthening support for research and development of regional and international cooperation in the promotion of new and renewable energy and energy efficiency;

recommend that Africa will be provided with a regional policy of promotion of renewable energies to harmonize regional, sub-regional and national strategies according to specific potentialities so as to take benefit of technical and financial follow up offered by international organizations and programs namely; AUC, AfDB, ENECA, UNEP, FAO, WMO, UNIDO, UNITAR and ILO;

encourage the sound management of chemicals and hazardous waste, including electrical and electronic equipment wastes, and we call that there is a need to provide African countries with sustainable and adequate long-term founding;

call to strengthen the implementation of the Bamako Convention of the Ban of the Import to Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and management of Hazardous Wastes within African;

concerned about the intensity and frequency of disasters and their devastating impact on the economic and social development of Africa and on environment. We call in this context, the international community to redouble its cooperation efforts in order to strengthen the resilience of our continent, including through the urgent operationalization of Warsaw International Framework on Loss and Damages;

emphasize the importance of the continued inter-African consultations for the implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, taking into account the achievements of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015) and the Program of Action for the implementation of the African Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2005. These consultations should focus on the priorities and needs of the continent in terms of disaster risk reduction and recovery;

call for the establishment of new global partnership that enables Africa to meet the multiple challenges it faces, through an effective mobilization of financial resources, capacity building, innovation and the development and transfer of technologies. We are also convinced that the realization of this partnership requires an appropriate international environment, supported by good governance, peace and security and the rule of law;

express our will to work towards the establishment of a development model based on the sustained economic growth, social inclusion and equity, the protection of natural resources and the environment that should be mindful of the needs of present and future generations, through the promotion of new sustainable consumption and production models;

recall the urgency to fully honor the commitments made at the international level in terms of official development assistance, technology transfer and capacity building for the African continent, resulting in particular from the Millennium Declaration, NEPAD,

the Monterrey Consensus and Political Declaration of 2008 on Africa's development needs;

consider that a non-discriminatory, multilateral, universal, rule-based, open, fair trade system and structural transformation of economies, industrialization with emphasis on regional value addition, can stimulate economic growth and development in the world, particularly in Africa;

emphasize the importance of promoting and international environment conducive to profound transformation of African economies, oriented towards industrialization, innovation and diversification, in order to generate wealth and create decent jobs for all, especially youth and women;

reaffirm the importance of involving the African countries in decision-making processes and the definition of economic standards at international level and strengthen their representation in global economic and financial institutions;

commend and encourage the efforts of civil society in sustainable development and environmental protection;

Solicit, finally, his Excellency Mister Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, host country, to kindly submit this Declaration at the next Summit of the African Union Heads of State and Government.

Oran, February 23, 2014