

CCS/OSISA SUMMER SCHOOL

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Quest for climate justice

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PAN AFRICAN CLIMATE JUSTICE ALLIANCE

Climate change

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Article 1:

“A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable period of time.”

INDICATORS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

- 1. Erratic rainfall patterns**
- 2. Persistent droughts**
- 3. Vanishing glaciers on Mt. Kenya & Mt. Kilimanjaro**
- 4. Disappearing rivers**
- 5. Increased disease occurrences in areas they didn't exist**
- 6. Floods and *Elnino* occurrences**
- 7. Tsunamis**

WHAT HAS CAUSED CLIMATE CHANGE?

- Excessive emission of Greenhouses gases such as carbon dioxide and Methane during the 1840 industrial revolution has been cited as the biggest cause of climate change.
- These gases were fired to the atmosphere from factory smokes, exhaust fumes from vehicles and other machines and fossil fuel power generation.
- These gases are carbon dioxide (CO₂), Methane CH₄), Nitrous Oxide (N₂O), Hydroflorocarbons (HFCs) Perflorocarbons

HOW HAS THIS AFFECTED US?

According to IPCC, climate change poses a serious threat to the survival of humanity.

Generally, it will have adverse effects on:

- I. Agriculture & food security
- II. Water
- III. Ecosystems
- IV. Tourism
- V. Economy
- VI. Security

CLIMATE CHANGE IS...

- **Poverty issue:** it is affecting poor people and poor countries
- **Development issue:** we need sustainable development & secure livelihoods of the poor
- **Justice issue:** crisis has been caused by rich nations and rich people but the poor suffering from actions
- **Moral issue** – we can and must do something about it; should we watch while people are perishing?

And climate justice means...

Broader people's participation – from grassroots to the highest level

Multilateralism: This is where poor countries and poor communities can have a voice

Urgency: There is urgent need to address climate change

Equity: How equitable is the sharing of global commons?

North's debt to South: Industrialised countries should commit resources to poor countries

CLIMATE JUSTICE ... NOT UNDERSTOOD

- **Emphasizes the importance of multilateralism**
- **All nations being involved in international negotiating process and outcomes SHOULD accord a particularly strong voice to those countries and communities who have contributed least to the problem of climate change, but who will suffer most to its impacts.**

CLIMATE JUSTICE...

- **Reinforces the need for governments and others to act in an accountable and transparent manner**
- **Governments should respects the human rights and dignity of all people.**

CLIMATE JUSTICE...

- **Emphasizes the importance of identifying and giving attention to the perspectives and voices of those who are most vulnerable**
- **Begins with the acknowledgement that because the world's richest countries have contributed most to the problem, they have a greater obligation to take action and to do so more urgently.**

MANY INTEREST GROUPS

- **G77/China**: the largest group bringing together all developing countries
- **European Union**: All EU countries
- **SIDs**: bringing together countries in the Islands
- **LDC's**: Least Developed Countries
- **Environmental Integrity Group**: Switzerland, Mexico, New Zealand, etc
- **African Group**: All African countries
- Each group brings together countries with similar perspectives they want addressed, and normally do their interventions collectively.

FACTS ABOUT INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATING PROCESSES

- Decisions are made through consensus**
- Intense lobbying by various interest groups**
- High stakes games**
- Manipulations, intimidations, carrot-dangling**
- Democracy wins**

AFRICAN EFFORTS IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

- **Other key stakeholders since 2007:**
 - **AMCEN** – African Ministerial Conference on the Environment
 - **African Union** – through Conference of African Heads of State & Governments on CC (CAHOSOCC)
 - **Regional Economic Communities**; ECOWAS, COMESA, SADC, EAC, etc
 - **UN Agencies in Africa**; UNEP/ROA, UNECA, UNMC
 - **Civil Society**; international Development agencies and local CSOs (PACJA)
 - Private Sector

GLOBAL POLITICS OF CLIMATE

*Like the proverbial Ostrich...
Dysfunctional, timid and gridlocked*



Building alliances for people-centred solutions...

1. Deepen and broaden common understanding, analysis and advocacies on climate justice and equity among organizations and networks
2. Reach greater clarity and mutual understanding of key society concerns
3. Build unities on the current state of climate crisis, development and trends in the politics (political) of climate at the global level, and implications and challenges for Africa
4. Develop, refine, reach agreements on strategies, medium term objectives and plans

Done through (WUNCs)

WORTHINE
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UNITY

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ACTION

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Campaign in Copenhagen Campaign



Trans-African Caravan of hope



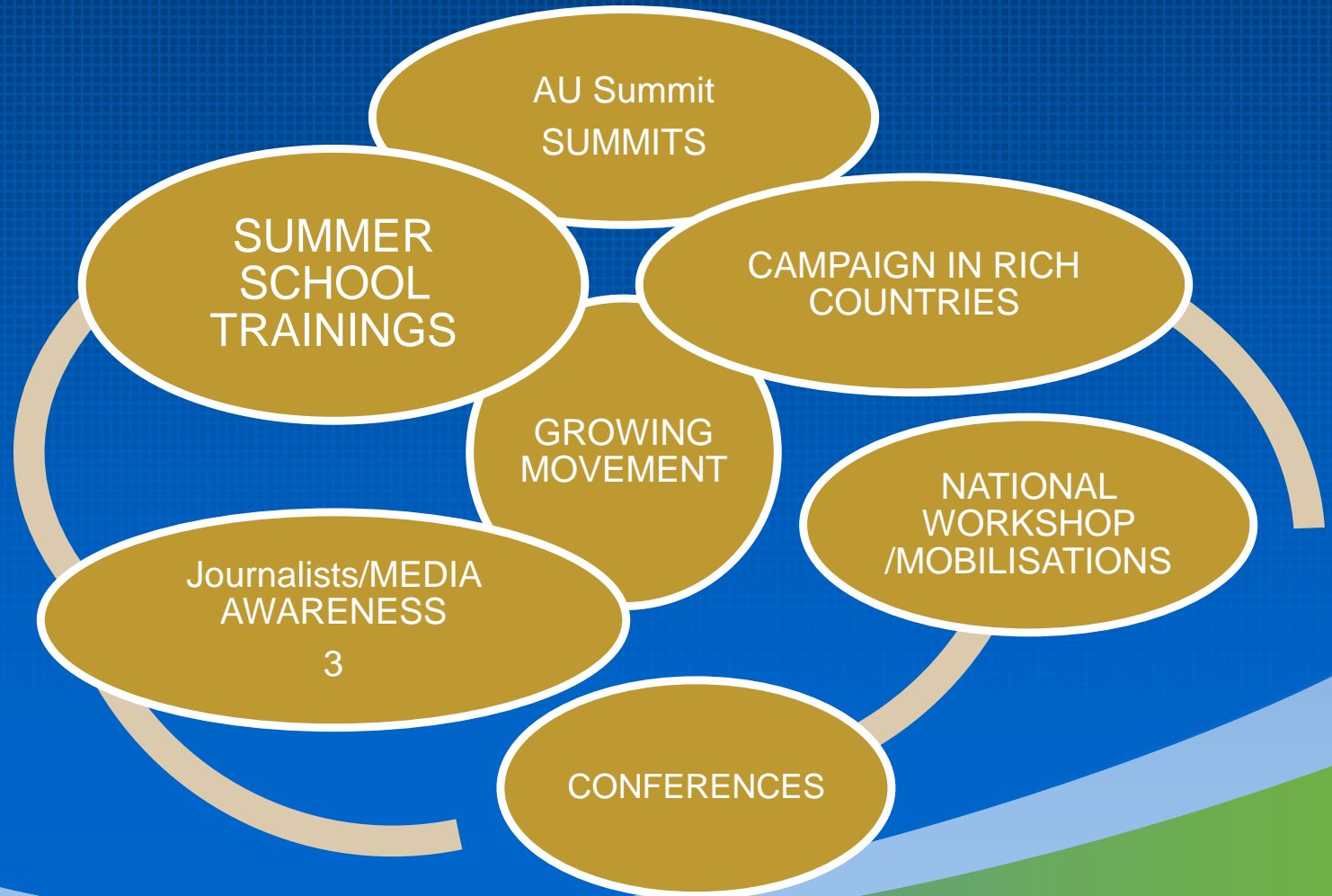
Caravan of hope



Petitions... Caravan of hope



THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES...



LIFE IS A STRUGGLE AND...



Never ever give up