

Joint Statement by the Heads of Delegation to the Copenhagen Climate Conference,

Mary Mugenyi, Pan-African Parliament,

and

Jo Leinen, European Parliament

On the occasion of an official meeting between the delegations of the Pan-African Parliament and the European Parliament during the Copenhagen Climate Conference, the Heads of Delegations state:

The failure of the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen was caused as well by the non-transparent and ineffective mechanisms of the United Nations working methods. A Parliamentary Assembly at UN level with parliamentary working methods linked with open discussion and majority votes could be helpful for the global decision-marking process.

Therefore, the Heads of Delegations

1. Emphasize and reiterate the common position of the European Parliament and the Pan-African Parliament that a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA) should be established within the UN system;
2. Stress that the creation of a UNPA can and should be initiated and pursued independently from other issues of UN reform currently on the international agenda;
3. Suggest that the possibility of a joint initiative of the European Parliament and the Pan-African Parliament be assessed to give further support to the goal of a UNPA;
4. Express their view that a common Africa-EU initiative to establish a UNPA would be in line with the general objectives and actions included in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and the First Action Plan.

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