

Government, NGOs and Academia agreed to speak against Climate Injustice

By Tewodros Negash

Malawi's government, civil Society organizations and the academia have agreed to speak against climate injustice worldwide during the meeting of Conference of parties (COP15) in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The resolution comes after a rigorous discussion held in Salima town with various civil society organizations representatives and government delegates for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Among others the representatives have discussed and agreed on the future of the Kyoto protocol.

The amendment reads 'Malawi is of the view that the Kyoto protocol must be amended, and not replaced immediately'

Malawi further wishes to see that responsibility for green house gas emissions must be matched with responsibility for taking mitigation measures and adaptation actions.

The amendment further states that developing countries are and will continue to be subjected to undue burdens from impacts of climate change and require more concrete funding commitments from developed countries commensurate with their contribution to global warming.

The delegates have also stated that a percentage must be imposed on developed nations so that there will be more assured funding than the current framework under which they have no real obligation on which planning can be based.

Speaking to *Environment News magazine*, program Director for Center for environment policy and Advocacy (CEPA) and coordinator for the civil society Network on Climate Change (CISONECC), Mr. William Chadza said that unlike any other times in the past the government delegates and Civil Society representatives have made concrete comments for Malawi to benefit from the climate talks in Copenhagen.

“Our aim was to look at the proposed Malawi position and make some comments based on the situation on the ground. In this regard concrete results were achieved so far” said the Director.

The relationship between government and NGOs is quite conducive for now and has potential to achieve a lot of results he further added.

“Generally we have agreed in terms of the proposed position of government to the UNFCCC. We have made some adjustments. The relationship should continue. When they return from COP15 we would also like to continue to collaborate on issues and interests that affect Malawi” said William.

He further noted that civil society organizations have already started to raise the issue of climate injustice as they are not party to climate negotiations.

“Adaptation is quite a key issue for Malawi. We have not released much more emission but we are suffering from the effects of climate change. So adaptation to climate change is key area for Malawi’ says the director.

According to The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) the meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP15)

will be held between 1 to 12 December in Copenhagen, Denmark. Over 10 thousand delegates, NGO representatives and observers are expected to attend the climate negotiations.

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