PARTNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT PROGRAMME

(ASSOCIATION POUR LA PROMOTION DE L'ESPRIT D'ENTREPRISE ET LE PARTENARIAT)

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PARTNERSHIP DECLARATION ON CLIMATE

From Rio 1992 to Sharm El Chekh 2022, what is the evolution of the Partnerships on climate?

The diagnosis of Rio was clear: Unless there is a radical change in the way we consume resources, nature and its main components will be severely disrupted with predictable consequences.

At the end of Rio, we agreed on the polluter-pays principle, the need for everyone to apply the principles of sustainable development with environmental education promoted at all levels.

But, over the years, privatizations, structural adjustments and other negotiations led to the Cop15 in Copenhagen from 7 to 18 December 2009.

Copenhagen was supposed to be a turning point in the negotiations with Africa and its leader, Egypt, called to meet the American and Chinese Heads of State for a fair deal. But alas, by a sleight of hand that history will decipher, the two Heads of State of the polluting countries found themselves facing a European, to negotiate instead of Africa. This was deemed inappropriate and Copenhagen was the great flop that we know.

Despite this bitter failure, here we are a few days away from the Sharm El Chekh negotiations in Egypt from November 6 to 18, 2022.

At this important crossroads, we have the duty to ask ourselves about the Paris agreements, the Glasgow agreements and the commitments made by all parties and the level of implementation of the commitments.

Partnership notes with satisfaction the efforts made by the Congo Basin to maintain its lead as the world's first lung, particularly through reforestation and sustainable management of its natural resources.

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Indeed, in response to the plea of a Congo Basin NGO launched in 2008, all ECCAS Heads of State have, in June 2010, initiated a major reforestation campaign in their respective countries and have devoted resources to it over the past ten years.

Their secretariat, COMIFAC (www.comifac.org) has developed and validated the convergence plan 2 which serves as a compass for all partners active in its space.

For the Egypt meeting not to be just another distraction, Africa must question the actors, the players, the methods and above all the ruse that consists of ignoring the commitments made and not kept and allowing the creation of new funds with unclear contours at each meeting.

We have a duty of transparency and logic, and to do this we must recognize:

- that inflation in Europe and the United States, combined with the costly efforts
 of the war in Ukraine, does not support new climate financing; and
- that the return to coal and other shale gas may upset their short-term financing priorities.

For the above reasons, it is imperative that the negotiations focus on:

- The urgent financing of reforestation in the Congo Basin and the Great Green
 Wall of the Sahel; and
 - The need, more than ever, for climate financing to be domiciled in African structures and mechanisms and removed from any weight of relay or subcontracting.

The recognition of the role and value of tropical forests and the mobilization of consequent financing for their preservation, sustainable management and for the socio-economic development of countries with tropical forests remains an undeniable climate necessity.

Done in Douala, November 02, 2022

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