INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATION OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

AILAC

STATEMENT FOR THE OPENING PLENARY SESSION OF THE APA1-3

Bonn, Germany, May 8th, 2017

Mesdames Co-Chairs,

Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honor of speaking on behalf of the group of AILAC countries: Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay and Peru. Allow me to begin this intervention by supporting the statement mady by Ecuador on behalf of the G77 and China.

Mesdames Co-Chairs,

Colleagues,

2. We have succesfully completed the adoption and entry into force of the Paris Agreement. We now must complete a task of equal importance: the responsibility to finalize the Paris Rulebook, no later than 2018.

3. We must deliver the design of the Rule Book with the required speed and let us not lose sight of the critical importance of maintaining the integrity and ambition of the Agreement in its operationalization.

4. The most up-to-date scientific information indicates that the emission reduction efforts reflected in the first round of Nationally Determined Contributions will lead to a world in which there would be a temperature increase of 3.4 degrees Celsius, a world that is far from which we have agreed in Paris to maintain the temperature increase well below 2 degrees, and to make the best efforts to limit it to 1.5 degrees. The current scenario would have catastrophic effects for the entire planet, for all of our economies even the strongest ones, for our respective national security agendas, and for our populations.

5. In light of the above, it is becoming increasingly clear that climate action requires the participation of all our countries and all actors, both state and non-governmental, to achieve true collective action. It is necessary to orchestrate these efforts in a coordinated and cooperative manner to ensure a low emissions and climate resilient future that provides development and economic prosperity for our citizens. This is desirable and adequate, but above all, feasible. This approach makes sense so as to improve the competitiveness of our economies. It is therefore time to renew our commitment to what we agreed in Paris.

6. We are living in challenging times. Times that could test our collective and individual resolve to hold true what all Parties who adopted, signed and ratified the Agreement committed themselves to do. With the Paris Agreement we have committed to progressively have our efforts on mitigation, adaptation and the means for their implementation move forward so that together we can reach the long term goal of a low emission, resilient development pathway. Being a Party to this Agreement bears on each of us the responsibility of working towards its success and to not undermine the principles of ambition and progression upon which the Paris Agreement´s architecture is built.

7. As part of our renewed commitment, we must move forward in our deliberations in a diligent manner, focusing on the technical issues within the mandate of this Ad Hoc Working Group with reagrds to the adaptation communication, guidance for Nationally Determined Contributions, the modalities for the enhanced transparency framework, the global stocktake and the committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance. All of these issues bear equal importance for the effective operation of the ambition mechanims established under the Paris architecture.

8. This year, 2017, should be dedicated to advancing the technical deliberations that will allow us to reach common understandings and identify convergences between the Parties, regarding the different elements for the operationalization of the Paris Agreement. We have only two negotiation sessions left together with COP23, to set the basis of the textual negotiations that must take place next year. Let us make the most of the time we have at this session.

9. Before concluding, Mesdames Co Chairs, AILAC would like to emphasize that the work of the APA should be consistent with that of the Subsidiary Bodies and bodies constituted under the Convention, to timely fulfill the mandates related to the implementation of the

Paris Agreement, and thus ensure consistency in our deliberations and the integrity of that to which we have all agreed.

Mesdames Co – Chairs,

10. AILAC is ready to continue to advance these efforts, together with our Partners, in a constructive spirit so that this session will provide the progress that urgency demands.

Thank you.