



The Honourable Minister Lindiwe Sisulu
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation
Private Bag X152
Hatfield
Pretoria
0001

Per email: Minister@dirco.gov.za

6 March 2018

cc. Director General Mr Kgabo Mahoai

Per email: Mahoaik@dirco.gov.za

cc. Director Climate Change, Environment, Science and Technology Mr S Cardy

Per email: Cardys@dirco.gov.za

Honourable Minister Lindiwe Sisulu

REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS REGARDING SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITMENTS

As civil society organisations and citizens working towards the achievement of a just transition to a low-carbon economy in South Africa, the signatories to this letter would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your appointment as the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation. We believe that your department is of critical importance in our efforts to mitigate against climate change, in determining the future of our country, and in the realisation of all South Africans' constitutional environmental right.

We, as Energy Governance South Africa (EGSA), write to request a meeting of some of our members with you to discuss some key issues regarding South Africa's energy future and the planning processes related to this. EGSA is a network of over 60 organisations and individuals promoting good governance in the energy sector¹. The network has wide experience in this space, with a number of organisations being active players in research, advocacy, education and litigation.

We believe that South Africa's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is highly insufficient with holding warming to below 2°C, let alone limiting it to 1.5°C as required under the Paris Agreement, and is instead consistent with warming between 3°C and 4°C: "...if all countries were to follow South Africa's approach, warming could reach over 3°C and up to 4°C. This means South Africa's climate commitment is not in line with any interpretation of a "fair" approach to the former 2°C goal, let alone the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit."

Given the potentially-catastrophic implications of climate change, and South Africa's particular vulnerability to such impacts, we believe that urgent steps to ensure just transition away from fossil fuels (we do not support nuclear energy and welcome the new President's remarks which are in line with international trends) needs to be prioritised by

¹ <http://www.egi-sa.org.za/>

the Department of International Relations and Cooperation and we would like to request a meeting to discuss the need to substantially increase our NDC.

Given South Africa's role in the region and the Southern African power pool, we would appreciate some clarity on the status and future process with regard to Grand Inga.

We believe that this issue is urgent, and requires a robust dialogue. We would therefore request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience. Please propose possible meeting dates in April. We await your response to this letter, and would request such response by 15 March 2018.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'G. Hamilton', written in a cursive style.

Gillian Hamilton
African Climate Reality Project
gillian.hamilton.za@climatereality.com

and

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'R. Halsey', written in a cursive style.

Richard Halsey
Project 90 by 2030
richard@90by2030.org.za

On behalf of EGSA.