



The Trans African Caravan of Hope

The Trans African Climate Caravan of Hope is a campaign mobilization that will tell the African story about climate change, whilst making known the demands of Africa people to its leaders and the rest of the world.

The Caravan is a huge mobilization and awareness raising for African civil society to highlight the challenges climate change poses to African's efforts to extricate herself from poverty and attainment of Millennium Development Goals.

The caravan is set to run through 10 countries and will bring together communities from diverse backgrounds in Eastern and Southern Africa to join up and demand climate justice before the COP 17 in Durban, South Africa.

An inter-state taskforce with representatives from each participating country has been established working with a broad group of civil society groups and campaigners from across Africa. The participating countries are Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana and South Africa.

Another stream of caravan, spearheaded by Via Campesina is being organized to come from Mozambique through Swaziland to join link the Trans-African Caravan in Pretoria, while that from Lesotho will arrive at the same time in Durban. Solidarity activities will be held in the rest of Africa during the *Global Day of Action on Climate Justice*, which will coincide with the *PACJA Week of Action* on 20 – 26 November 2011.

Objectives of the Caravan of Hope

- ✓ To mobilize and rally together African civil society articulate advocacy demands to Africa leaders to push the people's agenda on climate change and climate justice within the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) – Conference of Parties (COP)17 that is taking place in Africa.

- ✓ To create awareness and build momentum towards UNFCCC- COP17 among African people and the rest of the world – to educate about the impact of climate change and to highlight and people’s testimonies and stories about how climate change is affecting Africans now.
- ✓ To lobby and pressurize African leaders/policy makers to work together in support of an international climate change treaty that is responsive to the continent’s realities and reality to science.
- ✓ To drum up support for pro-people and just responses to climate change.
- ✓ To promote the African People’s Petition and the demands to Heads of State and other policy-makers as evidence of the urgent action that their people require them to take at domestic level and within the African and global processes.

Campaigning - the Caravan Route.

Participants from the 10 participating countries will travel together, forming a Caravan of campaigners that will join hands in solidarity with their neighbouring countries.

The Caravan route is as follows:

Date	Location	Events
9 th November	Bujumbura, Burundi Travel to Kanyaru	Flag-off launch including march across Bujumbura, and signing with the President of Burundi with rural women. Border Crossing into Rwanda Receive Caravan at Burundi border and have motorcade to Kigali Sleep-over in Kigali
10 th November	Kigali, Rwanda	Breakfast show Flag-off launch and signing with the President of

		Rwanda
	Kigali-Katuna travel	Border crossing into Uganda. Overnight in Uganda.
11th November	Travel to Kampala from Katuna	Media interviews on route Kampala with community sessions and Petition signing. Overnight in Kampala.
12th November (overnight drive to Kenya)	Kampala, Uganda	Climate Justice Concert 2-7pm. Uganda government members will attend. Departure to Busia border.
13th November	Nairobi, Kenya	Arrival in Nairobi early hours of morning. Flag-off by Prime Minister Odinga. Take the Caravan to Pan Africa Parliamentarians Summit - tbc. Evening festival.
14th November	Tanzania	Depart Nairobi early morning for Namanga. Border crossing into Tanzania. Travel onwards to Dar es Salaam. Sleep over in Dar.
15th November	Tanzania	Day long event

		Sleep-over in Dar
16th November	Tanzania	Travel to Mbeya from Dar. Overnight in Mbeya.
17th November	Malawi	Border crossing into Malawi. Travel to Lilongwe
18th November	Malawi Zambia	Concert in Lilongwe – daytime. Lilongwe to Chipata travel and border crossing into Zambia. Evening Travel to Lusaka. Sleepover in Lusaka.
19th November	Zambia	Day long event Sleep over in Lusaka
20th November	Zambia	Lusaka to Livingstone Travel
21st November	Zimbabwe	Climate walk at Vic falls and campaign stunt. Travel to Bulawayo. Sleep-over in Bulawayo.
22rd November	Zimbabwe	Day event in Bulawayo Travel to Plumtree Border crossing into

	Botswana	Travel onwards to Gaborone – SADC meeting. Sleep-over in Gaborone
23rd November	Botswana	Gaborone to Pretoria, inclusive of border crossing Handing over of petition to President Jacob Zuma – tbc.
24th November	South Africa	Potential day for petition hand-in with President Zuma. Travel to Durban
25th November	South Africa	Rest day in Durban.
26th November	South Africa	Pre-Cop meeting
27th November	South Africa	Inter-faith rally & Wangari Maathai Solidarity night
27TH	South Africa	CoP

Telling the African story about climate change

Along the way, the Caravanites (made up of community members – including farmers and pastoralists, and civil society members)– will tell their stories to journalists, blog, and we will use the following PACJA websites: www.pacja.org, blogging at www.transafricancaravan.blogspot.com and you can follow us on twitter @caravanofhope11 and Trans African Caravan of Hope on facebook.

Each participating country will have in-country campaigning before the Caravan arrives. These activities including concerts, a dhow boat ride off the coast of Tanzania, a

SADC wide youth conference of young climate campaigners, and the petition mobilization will include working with university students and other urban youths in slum/township areas in Kenya and farming communities in Uganda.

Working with journalists – we will be training journalists on the complexity of climate change impacts in Africa. In Zambia we will be working with community and national journalists, including doing capacity-building to increase their knowledge of climate change by taking them on field visits to interview farmers as well as briefing them on the UNFCCC talks.

Theme songs- popular African artists Eric Wainana and Oliver Mtukudzi are doing themesongs which will speak about the impacts of climate change on our continent. We also have themesongs by artists in Kenya (a ragga rap by a young artist Samuel Veve from Majengo slum in Nairobi, Teaboy, a hip hop artist in Zambia and another for Tanzania.

When the Caravan flags off in Bujumbura on 10th November there will be a ceremonial signing of the petition by the Government of Burundi. We will have a large petition that we will ask all the Heads of State to sign, starting with President Nkuruzinza of Burundi and culminating with President Zuma of South Africa as the COP 17 host.

Flags will be a key feature of the Caravan visibility and provide colourful back-drops at our community events along the route where we will make stops to engage with the local communities as our Caravan convoy comes into their village or town. We will have flags of all the participating countries as well as from the other PACJA countries such as Cameroon, Nigeria, and Egypt. We will also use our red and green Trans Africa Caravan logo for flags that we will carry on the route. Kampala Coaches who we are hiring the buses from have given us free branding for the sides of the buses.

Activities have already started – Burundi held a press conference to promote the Caravan, Botswana are doing a climate walk in Gaborone to promote awareness with the public. Youth campaigners in Kenya who are part of the PACJA mobilization, have done a tribute video to the late Professor Wangari Maathai branded with the Caravan logo, which is being shown on K24, Kiss TV amongst other stations in Kenya, is being shown on 10 major routes across East and Southern Africa on the travel company Kampala Coach (the company providing transport for the Caravan of Hope. The video url on youthtube and the Green Belt Movement website will be sent around Africa and globally in tribute to Prof Maathai. In November a Pan Africa Parliamentarians Summit on climate change will be held.

Some of the highlights along the Caravan route include concerts in Uganda and Malawi. We will do a Climate Walk at Victoria Falls 20/21st November with well-known Zimbabwean artist Oliver Mtukudzi here.

In South Africa, we will be welcomed by other campaigners that are heading to Durban including a convoy of cyclists from Catholic dioceses across South Africa. We will be attending events organized by the *We Have Faith Now coalition* in addition to presenting Africa People's Petition to the COP 17 host President Zuma. In Durban, our Caravanites will have a busy programme of campaigning, speaking at and attending our PACJA as well as wider civil society events and those organized by other civil society groups to share their testimonies and to get their demands for urgent action by African and world leaders heard.