Extraordinary Conference of the ECCAS and East Africa Community Ministers of Environment and Economy about the Acceleration of the Operationalization of the Congo Basin Climate Commission, the Blue Fund for the Congo Basin, the Green Business Fund in Central Africa and the Adoption of a common position for the COP 23.

Brazzaville, Radisson Blu, 3-5 october 2017.

PRESS RELEASE

From 3 to 4 October 2017, the Republic of Congo will organize, in cooperation with the Development Bank of the Central Africa States (BDEAC) and the East Africa Community, the Extraordinary Conference referenced above.

Under the Very High Patronage of His Excellency, Mr. Denis SASSOU NGUESSO, President of the Republic of Congo, Head of State, President of the Climate Commission of the Congo Basin of the African Union, created at Marrakech in November 2016 by the African Heads of States, this conference is in line with the implementation of the Declaration of the African Heads of States of Marrakech and other political impediments, among which the Paris Agreement, the Decisions of the ECCAS Heads of States about the Green Business and the MOU memorandum of understanding for the creation of the Blue Fund for the Congo Basin, For the purpose of the leadership by the Secretary General of the climate finance community and the organization of the sub regional meetings, I hereby request the technical support of our institution of regional integration to achieve the success of this conference with a dual objective:

- i) To adopt a common position for the COP 23 and
- ii) To speed up the Operationalization of the Climate Commission of the Congo Basin, that of the Blue Fund of the Congo Basin, the Green Business Fund in Central Africa and the other impediments already created in the sub region, in relation with the climate and the economic development.

In this respect, you are invited to take part to the behind closed doors meeting of Ministers scheduled on 5 October 2017 in Brazzaville and required to appoint two (2) experts. The appointed experts are expected in Brazzaville from 27 September in order to attend the technical sub commission put in place.

Find enclosed the draft agenda as well as the concept note related to the proceedings intended.

Mr. Antoine AUDET (Tel. 00 242 06 451 5678 – e-mail <u>antoine.audet@hotmail.com</u>) is appointed for the follow up of the file.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Secretary, our highest consideration.