



## PRESS RELEASE

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### European Union raises awareness of Climate Change in Lesotho

Maseru – The Delegation of the European Union to the Kingdom of Lesotho held today a '**Climate Change Awareness Day**'. This event, which took place at the premises of the Alliance Française in Maseru, is part of the '*European Climate Diplomacy Week*' which seeks to highlight the positive actions that the European Union and its Member States are taking around the world to tackle climate change.

This Awareness Day brought together a wide range of stakeholders for a climate dialogue that highlighted the importance of increasing the range and number of actions targeting climate change in Lesotho. Representatives from the government, international organisations, the private sector and civil society organisations participated.

Speaking at the opening, EU Ambassador, Dr. Michael Doyle, recalled the very successful outcome of the Paris Climate Conference in December 2015, when some 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. He urged all stakeholders in Lesotho to take forward actions aimed at ensuring the Paris Agreement is implemented in full.

Ambassador Doyle told participants at the Awareness Day that the EU Delegation, with funding from the Government of Ireland, has mobilised a team of climate change experts to support the Ministry of Energy & Meteorology and the Lesotho Meteorological Services in formulating a Climate Change response plan for Lesotho. The experts will advise on the policies, institutional framework and strategies needed to reverse environmental degradation and adapt to climate change. Assistance will also be provided for the formulation of a national sustainable energy strategy. This expert support to Lesotho is part of the European Union's commitment to support partner countries in their implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 'Intended Nationally Determined Contributions' (INDCs).

A number of the participants at the Awareness Day exhibited products, including energy efficient household devices, related to the theme of Action against Climate Change.

**Background:**

The European Climate Diplomacy Week is an outreach initiative of the European Union and its Member States and part of our commitment on climate action at home and abroad. A host of countries worldwide will this week hold a dedicated European Climate Diplomacy outreach event, showcasing successful climate cooperation and highlighting the importance of partnership for effective climate action.

**For more information please contact:**

**Liatile PUTSOA**

Delegation of the European Union in Lesotho

E-mail: [liatile.putsoa@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:liatile.putsoa@eeas.europa.eu)

Tel.: +266 222 72200 / +266 62310193 (Mobile)

Website: <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lesotho>

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