



UNITED NATIONS

JOURNAL

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
Fifteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties
(COP 15)

9–20 May 2022
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire



UNCCD

Monday, 9 May 2022

Journal No. 1

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

9:30 – 9:45 MET-02

Official welcome of Heads of State, Heads of Government and heads of delegation by His Excellency Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

10 – 10:45 a.m. MET-02

High-Level Opening Ceremony

Heads of States and Governments Summit

Statements

- *Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary of the Convention*
- *Ms Hindou OUMAROU, spokesperson for Indigenous Peoples*
- *Her Excellency Ms Amina Mohamed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations*
- *Ms Patricia KOMBO, representative of Youth Groups*
- *A statement from His Excellency Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th General Assembly of the United Nations.*
- *Opening address by His Excellency Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire*

10:45 a.m – 12:45 p.m.... MET-02

Official declarations by Heads of State, Heads of Government and heads of delegation

- *The Policy Response to Safeguard Human Security in the Face of the Multifaceted Consequences of Drought and Land Degradation;*
- *Partnership with the private sector in the restoration of degraded land;*
- *The mobilization of the resources necessary for the advent of a land restoration industry.*

12:50 – 1:20 p.m. MET-02

Presentation of the Abidjan Initiative and adoption of the Abidjan Call

- *Presentation of the Abidjan Initiative*
- *Dialogue*
- *Adoption of the Abidjan Call*

1:20 – 1:30 p.m. MET-02

Closing statement by His Excellency Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

FORTHCOMING OFFICIAL MEETINGS

Tuesday, 10 May 2022

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Plenary Hall

High-level opening ceremony

Interactive dialogue 1: Land reGeneration: The role of youth in shaping the sustainable land agenda

Interactive dialogue 2: Future-proofing land use: Shifting patterns in production and consumption

3 – 6 p.m.

High-level opening ceremony

Parallel ministerial/high-level round tables:

- *Round table 1: Rights, rewards and responsibilities: the future of land stewardship* MET-20
- *Round table 2: Land restoration: A path to sustainable post-pandemic recovery* MET-19
- *Round table 3: The Big Dry: From disaster to drought resilience* MET-18

OTHER MEETINGS

The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Meeting of the Regional Implementation Annex for Latin America and the Caribbean (Annex IV) <i>Closed meeting</i>	MET-18
9 – 10 a.m.	Meeting of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V) <i>Closed meeting</i>	MET-09

8:45 – 9:30 a.m.	NIGERIA-Ministerial Meeting of the GGW <i>(closed meeting)</i>	MET-03
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 2 – 4 p.m.	Youth Forum	Main Committee Room
4 – 6 p.m.	Gender Caucus <i>(closed meeting)</i>	Plenary Hall
6 – 6:30 p.m.	COP Press Conference <i>(closed meeting)</i>	MET-02

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HIGH-LEVEL OPENING CEREMONY: UNCCD MINISTERIAL ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSIONS AND INTERACTIVE DIALOGUES

The COP 15 Ministerial segment will be opened officially through a ceremony presided by the incoming President, Mr. Alain Donwahi, which will take place on Tuesday, 10 May, from 10 to 10.30 a.m. in the Plenary room, with the participation of the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw; the President of COP 14, H. E. Mr. Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India, and the Prime Minister of the Host Country, H. E. Patrick Achi.

Further to the opening, ministers and other heads of delegation will hold discussions in the form of two interactive dialogue sessions in the morning on 10 May (10:30–11:45 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.–1 p.m.) and of three parallel ministerial round tables in the afternoon on 10 May (3–6 p.m.). Heads of delegation and United Nations organizations and intergovernmental organizations may also participate.

Registration for attendance at round tables and interactive dialogues 10 May 2022

For the interactive dialogues no registration is necessary.

For the ministerial round-table discussions (10 May, 3–6 p.m.), delegates are kindly requested to register between **2.30 and 3 p.m. at the “registration desk” at the entrance of the respective meeting room** and collect their country name plates. 30 seats per round table are exclusively reserved for participants at ministerial/VIP level. These will be distributed on a *first-come first-serve basis*.

Attendance at the high-level opening ceremony sessions is limited. Countries that have informed the UNCCD secretariat about their preferred round table will be given priority. Delegates who wish to register for a specific round table or dialogue session are invited to contact the persons listed below.

Ministerial/VIP level interventions will be given priority.

Participants are encouraged to actively engage in the discussions and debate rather than delivering a prepared speech or statement.

For further information on the respective sessions, delegates are kindly requested to contact:

- **For interactive dialogue 1: Land reGeneration: The role of youth in shaping the sustainable land agenda**
Mr. Marcos Montoiro <mmontoiro@unccd.int>
- **For interactive dialogue 2: Future-proofing land use: Shifting patterns in production and consumption**
Ms. Daniele Gelz <dgelz@unccd.int>
- **For round table 1: Rights, rewards and responsibilities: The future of land stewardship**
Ms. Enni Kallio <ekallio@unccd.int>
- **For round table 2: Land restoration: A path to sustainable post-pandemic recovery**
Mr. Sasha Alexander <salexander@unccd.int>
- **For round table 3: The Big Dry: From disaster to drought resilience**
Mr. Daniel Tsegai <dtsegai@unccd.int>

REGISTRATION FOR FORMAL STATEMENTS AT THE HIGH-LEVEL OPENING CEREMONY (10 MAY 2022)

Delegations wishing to deliver formal statements during the high-level opening ceremony on 10 May 2022 are kindly invited to submit their requests to the secretariat (e-mail: hlsformalstatements@unccd.int) by 6 p.m. on 9 May.

Formal statements will be delivered during the high-level opening ceremony in the Main Committee Room in parallel with the round-tables and interactive-dialogues. The time limit for official statements is 10 minutes. As this segment is part of the official programme of the high-level opening ceremony of the COP, attendance by delegations cannot be guaranteed. Webcasting facilities would however be offered in order to ensure real-time sharing of the statements within the Conference Center and worldwide. Please note that the statements will be delivered and web-streamed in floor language.

The provisional list of speakers will be drawn up in accordance with the level of representation and order of inscriptions. It will be published in the Journal of 10 May.

COVID REGULATIONS

Participants are advised to consider the health guide available at https://unccd-cop15.org/guide_sanitaire.

Given the evolution of the pandemic in Côte d'Ivoire and the new regulations in the host country, vaccination is no longer mandatory but highly recommended for all participants entering the COP15 venue. Participants that do not have proof of vaccination will need to do an antigenic test in the area located outside of the blue zone. The use of face masks covering mouth and nose is compulsory indoors.

REGISTRATION FOR DELEGATES

Registration for delegations of country Parties, United Nations organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and media, as well as for participants in side events will take place as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>
9 – 20 May 2022	Every day	8 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 – 6.30 p.m.

Any changes to the opening hours of the registration desk will be communicated in the Official Journal of the session.

Identity badges will be issued at the time of registration, and participants are requested to wear them at all times, as they will not be allowed access to the session venue without presenting them.

CREDENTIALS

Delegations are advised to contact Mr. Mahamadou Tari Bako (phone: +225-0707025046) as soon as possible.

FUNDING FOR ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

The payment of daily subsistence allowances will begin this week, the details of which will be provided in the daily Journal of 10 May 2022.

SHUTTLES BETWEEN THE CONFERENCE VENUE AND THE HOTELS

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire is offering shuttle services to and from the conference venue.

In the mornings, from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m., shuttles to the conference venue will be provided every 30 minutes. In the evening, buses will return participants to their hotels starting from 5 to 8:30 p.m. every 30 minutes.

The following hotels are included in this service:

ANNEKAN	IBIS HOTEL MARCORY
BELLE VUE HOTEL	IBIS HOTEL PLATEAU
BERGE MADY HOTEL	IVOTEL
BETHANIE PALACE	LA VIDA HOTEL
BLUE BAY	LORENZO HOTEL
BNB RESIDENCES	MOVENPICK
BNB RESSORT HOTELS	N'GALEMA RESORT
DETENTE	PULLMAN
GOLDEN HOTEL	RADISSON BLU
GRAND HOTEL	RESIDENCE ACHENBACH
HEDEN GOLF HOTEL	RESIDENCE EBURNEA
HOTEL BELLE-COTE	RESIDENCE SUITE APPARTS
HOTEL DES JARDINS	RESIDENCES BERTILLE
HOTEL LA GRACE	ROSE BLANCHE
HOTEL LE PARTICULIER	SEEN HOTEL
HOTEL LES 3 PONTS	TOURISTE HOTEL
HOTEL NOVOTEL	VILLA YADDIS
HOTEL PALM CLUB	WHITE HOUSE
HOTEL TIAMA	

More information will be provided in forthcoming Journals as it becomes available.

NEW CONFERENCE APP LAUNCHED

The UNCCD conference app is an easy tool for participants of official UNCCD events to have access to the latest conference schedules, all official documents and other relevant information related to the UNCCD process and conference logistics.

The UNCCD conference app is relevant for all delegates and other participants of all sessions of the UNCCD Conference of Parties (COP), the Committee of Science and Technology (CST) and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC).

Please use the QR code on the right to easily download the app.

**RIO CONVENTIONS PAVILION**

The Rio Conventions Pavilion at UNCCD COP 15 (located in MET-07) will focus on addressing the interlinked challenges of land degradation, climate change and biodiversity loss. The Rio Conventions Pavilion is a collaborative platform that promotes synergies among the Rio conventions at the implementation level and showcases activities that link biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, sustainable land management and efforts to combat desertification, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Rio Conventions Pavilion will open on 10 May and will operate daily from 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. until 18 May, except for Sunday, 15 May.

The detailed programme is available here: <http://www.riopavilion.org/unccd-cop15/>

THE EXHIBITION AREA

Ready, set, go! We are expecting you for the next 12 days at the UNCCD area located in the COP 15 exhibition space. It is definitely worth the detour! You can check out 21 booths from different organizations sharing their knowledge and experience in land degradation, drought, desertification issues. Visit us daily to discuss with us, learn more about UNCCD. Come, see, meet and spread the word!

STATEMENTS OF DELEGATIONS

By its latest legislation, namely General Assembly resolution 76/237 on the Pattern of Conferences, the General Assembly reiterates its request to ensure the provision of high-quality conference services to member States and other participants in official United Nations meetings.

In the interest of the smooth running of the meetings, participants need to maintain a normal speed whenever delivering speeches or making statements, so that the provision of the required high quality simultaneous interpretation services can be achieved to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

Delegations are requested to provide 20 copies of their statements to the Conference Officers in the Plenary Hall. It is proposed that a five-minute time limit be set for these statements.

WORKING HOURS

Official meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. Meetings of regional and interest groups, as well as side events, may be held only outside these hours.

MEETING ROOMS FOR REGIONAL AND INTEREST GROUPS

Requests for inclusion in the schedule of meetings of regional and interest groups should be communicated to Kayhan UI (kul@unccd.int; phone: +225-0707019281) by 3 p.m. of the previous day, at the latest.

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICE

Delegations are advised that official information on COP 15 can be found on the UNCCD website at <http://www.unccd.int>. The electronic versions of the daily Journal, the provisional list of participants, press releases and other information will be made available on the website.

DIRECTORY

OFFICE	LOCATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Documents	Document distribution counter; below Plenary Hall	
Registration of Participants	In front of the Hotel	Ms. Vera-Lynn Watson Phone: +225-0707056571
Meeting Room Reservations and Side Events		Mr. Kayhan Ul Phone: +225-0707019281
Funding for Eligible Participants	DSA payment office Ground floor, opposite pharmacy	Mr. Somarajan Pillai Phone: +225- 0707053601
CSO Liaison		Mr. Marcos Montoiro Phone: +225-0707025719 E-mail: mmontoiro@unccd.int
Press working area	MET-17	Ms. Wagaki Wischnewski Phone: +225-0707057504
