



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

Thursday, 12 May 2022

Journal No. 4

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. 1st meeting Plenary Hall

1. Opening of the session by the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
2. Statement by Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
3. Statements by representatives of the regional and interest groups and a representative of non-governmental organizations
4. Organizational matters [item 1]
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (ICCD/CRIC(20)/1)
 - (b) Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
5. Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels [item 2]
 - (a) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its nineteenth session (ICCD/CRIC(19)/6, ICCD/CRIC(20)/10)
 - (b) Multi-year workplan for Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (2011–2025) (ICCD/COP(15)/6-ICCD/CRIC(20)/2, ICCD/COP(15)/21)
 - (c) Performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (2020–2021) (ICCD/CRIC(20)/3, ICCD/COP(15)/21)

Introduction and discussion

3. Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties (ICCD/COP(15)/CST/7-ICCD/CRIC(20)/8, ICCD/CRIC(20)/9, ICCD/CRIC(20)/INF.1, ICCD/CRIC(20)/10) [item 3]

Introduction and discussion

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. 2nd meeting Main Committee Room

- 1. Items resulting from the work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the biennium 2020–2021 (continued) [item 2]
 - (c) Coordination activities of the Science-Policy Interface with other intergovernmental scientific panels and bodies (ICCD/COP(15)/CST/4, ICCD/COP(15)/CST/8)

Introduction and discussion

- 2. Interfacing science and policy, and sharing knowledge [item 3]
 - (a) The Science-Policy Interface, the dissemination and accessibility of best practices, and the UNCCD Knowledge Hub (ICCD/COP(15)/CST/5, ICCD/COP(15)/CST/8)
 - (b) Work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the biennium 2022–2023 (ICCD/COP(15)/CST/6, ICCD/COP(15)/CST/8)

Introduction and discussion

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

3 – 6 p.m. 3rd meeting. Main Committee Room

- 1. Interfacing science and policy, and sharing knowledge (continued) [item 3]
 - (c) Information on modalities for reporting on the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework (ICCD/COP(15)/CST/7-ICCD/CRIC(20)/8, ICCD/CRIC(20)/10)

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

* – * p.m. 2nd meeting Plenary Hall

- 1. Inclusion of activities of civil society organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties
 - Open dialogue session – Lands we use, lands we protect, lands we own - Opportunities and solutions to equity and equality*

* To follow immediately after the adjournment of the CST

FORTHCOMING OFFICIAL MEETINGS

Friday, 13 May 2022

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. 2nd meeting Plenary Hall

1. UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework[item 2]
 - (c) Follow-up on the midterm evaluation of the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework (ICCD/COP(15)/2, ICCD/COP(15)/21)

Introduction and discussion

2. Policy frameworks and thematic issues:[item 4]
 - Migration
(ICCD/COP(15)/18, ICCD/COP(15)/21)
 - Gender
(ICCD/COP(15)/17, ICCD/COP(15)/21)
 - Sand and dust storms
(ICCD/COP(15)/16, ICCD/COP(15)/21)
 - Land tenure
(ICCD/COP(15)/19, ICCD/COP(15)/21)

Introduction and discussion

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. 4th meeting. Main Committee Room

1. Procedural matters: Programme of work for the sixteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology [item 4]

3 – 6 p.m. 5th meeting. Main Committee Room

1. Adoption of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology (ICCD/COP(15)/CST/8) [item 5]
2. Organizational matters [item 1]
 - (b) Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology

Closure of the session

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

* – * p.m. 3rd meeting. Plenary Hall

1. Organizational matters [item 1]

(d) Credentials of delegations (ICCD/COP(15)/22)

2. UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework. [item 2]

(d) Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties (ICCD/COP(15)/CST/8)

Action on draft decisions

* To follow immediately after the adjournment of the CST

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.

8:30 – 10 a.m.	Meeting of the Regional Implementation Annex for Africa (Annex I) <i>Closed meeting</i>	MET-20
9:15 – 10 a.m.	Meeting of the Regional Implementation Annex for Asia (Annex II) <i>Closed meeting</i>	MET-19
9 – 10 a.m.	Meeting of the Regional Implementation Annex for Latin America and the Caribbean (Annex III) <i>Closed meeting</i>	MET-18
1:15 – 2 p.m.	Meeting of the Regional Implementation Annex for the Northern Mediterranean (Annex IV) <i>Closed meeting</i>	MET-04
8:30 – 10 a.m.	Meeting of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V) <i>Closed meeting</i>	MET-03

Following immediately after the adjournment of the COP Plenary	COP Bureau Meeting <i>(closed meeting)</i>	MET-02
1 – 2:30 p.m.	COW Contact Group on Budget <i>(closed meeting)</i>	MET-09
1:30 – 3 p.m.	COW Contact Group on other matters <i>(closed meeting)</i>	MET-10
8 – 10 a.m.	CSO Consultations	MET-08
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	CICR <i>(closed meeting)</i>	MET-18

SIDE EVENTS

The information below is reproduced as received and does not imply any opinion or endorsement by the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

8 – 10 a.m.	Launch of the SADC Drought Resilience Strategy (SADC)	MET-11
8 – 10 a.m.	Youth Workshop for Desertification solutions (African Development Bank and YILAA)	MET-12
8 – 10 a.m.	Galvanizing Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Solutions: Land Restoration and Drought Resilience towards Agriculture and Food Security (The Youth Consortium)	MET-13
8 – 10 a.m.	Partnership for Regenerative Food Systems (TNC/GM)	MET-14
1 – 3 p.m.	Climate Smart agriculture and women (GGGI)	MET-08
1 – 3 p.m.	G20 Global Initiative on Reducing Land Degradation and Enhancing Conservation of Terrestrial Habitats (G20)	MET-11
1 – 3 p.m.	Rights, Rewards and Responsibilities: Achieving restoration objectives through safeguarding legitimate tenure rights (TMC)	MET-12
1 – 3 p.m.	Restoring degraded land: learning from the past and present to inform future initiatives (ICRAF)	MET-13
1 – 3 p.m.	From ecosystems to economies: the environmental, economic and social benefits of ecosystem restoration (UNEP)	MET-14
1 – 3 p.m.	Middle East Green initiative - Land restoration and biodiversity preservation (Saudi Arabia)	MET-15
6 – 8 p.m.	Oasis governance for local, integrated and resilient development: case of the northern Niger oasis (Niger)	MET-08
6 – 8 p.m.	Securing Landscape Rights as a Catalyst to Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality: A Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (GLF)	MET-11
6 – 8 p.m.	Scaling out Turkey's lessons learnt on combating land degradation: an overview of land degradation neutrality (LDN) in Europe and Central Asia (ECA) (Turkey)	MET-12
6 – 8 p.m.	Advancing a human rights-based approach to desertification and land degradation (Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights)	MET-13

6 – 8 p.m.	Transforming the Resilience of Infrastructure in Africa (Global Center on Adaptation)	MET-14
6 – 8 p.m.	Solutions contre la désertification – développement basé sur des pratiques de gestion durable des terres – focus forêts (European Union)	MET-15

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Wednesday, 11 May 2022

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

1st meeting..... *Opening of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties by the President of the fourteenth session*

H.E. Mr. Bhupender Yadav, the President of the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth session, opened the meeting and delivered his opening statement.

Election of the President..... [1 (a)]

The Conference elected by acclamation His Excellency Mr. Alain Donwahi (Côte d'Ivoire) as President of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15).

The President of the Conference made a statement.

A statement was made by Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

A statement was also made by His Excellency Mr. Alassane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

Statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), France (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States), Morocco (on behalf of the African Group), Pakistan (on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group), Nicaragua (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group), Turkey (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Northern Mediterranean (Annex IV)), Belarus (on behalf of Regional

Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V)), United States of America (on behalf of JUSCANZ) and Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Arab Group).

A statement was made by the Russian Federation.

A statement was made by the Republic of Moldova.

Statements were made by the World Meteorological Organization, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the United Nations Human Rights Office, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

A statement was made by the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

A statement was also made by a representative of civil society.

Organizational matters: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies (ICCD/COP (15)/1)
 [1 (b) and 1 (f)]

The Conference began its consideration of the item and adopted its provisional agenda and the proposed schedule of work for the session.

Election of officers other than the President..... [1 (c)]

(i) Election of Vice-Presidents

The Conference elected the following candidates as Vice-Presidents of its fifteenth session: Mr. Muwaya Albert Jonathan Stephen of Uganda (group of African States), Mr. Abdu Gasem Alsharif of Saudi Arabia and Ms. Zhong Jing of China (group of Asia-Pacific States), Ms. Reina Sotillo of Argentina and Mr. Edgar Hunter of Dominica (group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Ms. Narine Hakobyan of Armenia and Ms. Nino Chikovani of Georgia (group of Eastern European States), Ms. Juliane Wiesenhütter of Germany and Mr. Patrick Reilly of the United States of America (group of Western European and Other States).

Establishment of the Committee of the Whole..... [1 (f)]

Following past practice, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole and to allocate to the Committee the agenda items detailed in paragraph 16 of the agenda (agenda items 2 (b) and (c), 3, 4, 6 (a), (b) and (c) and 7 (a), (b) and (c)).

Mr. Francisco Jose Avila (Guatemala) was appointed as the Chair of the COW.

Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers..... [1 (e)]

The Conference decided to accredit, as observers, the organizations and private sector entities listed in documents ICCD/COP(15)/14 and ICCD/COP(15)/14/Add.1.

Establishment of Friends of the Chair Group

Following consultations among constituencies, a *Friends of the Chair Group* on matters relating to the “Land, Life and Legacy Declaration” to be facilitated by Ambassador Malan Niamke Benjamin and Minister Counselor Bieke Antonin was established.

The meeting was adjourned.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1st meeting..... The Chair (Guatemala) made an introductory statement.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Chair made a statement regarding the agenda items allocated to the Committee by the Conference of the Parties.

Establishment of Contact Groups and appointment of facilitators

The Committee decided to establish the following Contact Groups: Contact Group 1 on programme and budget to be facilitated by Mr. Stéphane Pailler of France, and Contact Group 2 on other COW-related matters to be facilitated by Mr. Ahmed Abdelati of Egypt.

Procedural matters: [7]

(c) Programme of work for the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties

The Committee began its consideration of the sub-item.

An introductory statement was made by the representative of the UNCCD secretariat.

Statements were made by the Dominican Republic, China, Saudi Arabia, Namibia (on behalf of the group of African States), Australia (on behalf of

JUSCANZ), France (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States), Mexico and Belarus.

The representative of the UNCCD secretariat responded to comments made from the floor.

The Committee concluded the general discussion of sub-item 7 (c).

Programme and budget [6]

(a) *Programme and budget for the biennium 2022-2023*

The Committee began its consideration of the sub-item.

An introductory statement was made by the representative of the UNCCD secretariat.

(b) *Financial performance for the Convention trust funds*

The Committee began its consideration of the sub-item.

An introductory statement was made by the representative of the UNCCD secretariat.

Statements were made by France (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States), China, Namibia, Brazil and Japan.

A representative of an intergovernmental organization made a statement.

A statement was also made by a representative of civil society.

The Committee concluded the general discussion of sub-items 6 (a) and (b).

(c) *Report of the Evaluation Office*

The Committee began its consideration of the sub-item.

An introductory statement was made by the representative of the UNCCD secretariat.

The Committee concluded the general discussion of sub-item 6 (c) and of agenda item 6 as a whole.

Policy frameworks and thematic issues [4]

- *Drought*

The Committee began its consideration of the issue.

An introductory statement was made by the representative of the UNCCD secretariat and the Chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group on effective policy implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD.

Statements were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States), the Dominican Republic, China, Brazil, Uganda, the Syrian Arab Republic, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and Argentina.

The Committee concluded the general discussion of the issue 'Drought' under item 4.

The meeting was adjourned.

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1st meeting..... *Opening of the fifteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST 15)*

The fifteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology was opened by Mr. Bongani Simon Masuku of Eswatini, Chair of the CST, who delivered his opening statement.

A statement was made by Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Statements were made by the representatives of Egypt (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Africa (Annex I)), France (on behalf of European Union and its Member States), Argentina (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Latin America and the Caribbean (Annex III)), Turkey (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Northern Mediterranean (Annex IV)), Bosnia and Herzegovina (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V)) and Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Arab Group).

Statements were also made by the representatives of United States of America and Kenya.

A representative of the civil society made a statement.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work [1 (a)]

The Committee began its consideration of the item and adopted its provisional agenda and schedule of work as orally amended.

Election of officers other than the Chair of the CST- Appointment of the Rapporteur of the Committee..... [1 (b)]

The Committee appointed Mr. Abdul Hamid of Bangladesh as CST Vice-Chair in replacement of Mr. Omer Muhammad Raja of Pakistan.

The Committee appointed Ms. Anna Luise of Italy as Rapporteur of CST 15.

Items resulting from the work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the biennium 2020 – 2021: Evidence on the potential contribution of integrated land use planning and integrated landscape management to positive transformative change, achieving LDN and addressing DLDD issues..... [2 (a)]

The Committee began its consideration of the item. The UNCCD secretariat introduced the agenda sub-item. A member of the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) his presentations.

Comments were made by representatives of: Switzerland, Russian Federation, Eswatini, Morocco, Côte D'Ivoire, Ecuador, South Africa, China, Japan and Jamaica.

The UNCCD secretariat and a SPI members responded to questions from the floor.

Items resulting from the work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the biennium 2020 – 2021: Evidence on the approaches for the assessment and monitoring of the resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems to drought [2 (b)]

The UNCCD secretariat introduced the agenda sub-item. Science-Policy Interface (SPI) members delivered their presentations.

Comments were made by representatives of: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ecuador, Morocco, Bangladesh and China.

The UNCCD secretariat and SPI members responded to questions from the floor.

Establishment of Contact Groups and appointment of Facilitators

The Committee established a contact group and appointed Ms. Stella Funsani Gama of Malawi as facilitator of the contact group.

The meeting was adjourned.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID REGULATIONS AND PCR TESTING

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. Antigenic tests are free of charge. The use of face masks covering mouth and nose is compulsory indoors.

All participants required to take a PCR test prior to returning to their home are invited to go to the COVID antenna of the Hôtel Ivoire opposite the Grand Chancellery with a copy of their passport or proof of online payment (<https://deplacement-aerien.gouv.ci/#/home#procedure>). PCR tests are carried out every day from 8 to 11 a.m. at a cost of 25,000 CFA francs (€38.11). The results will be available the following day at 6 a.m.

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>
12 – 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 (in room 440; phone: +225-0707025046) as soon as possible.

FUNDING FOR ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

The payment of daily subsistence allowances will continue to distribute on 12 May 2022 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at ground floor, SALLE ABOISSO in local currency (CFA Franc - XOF).

THE UNCCD CONFERENCE APP

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.



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	

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 operate daily from 8 a.m. to 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 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.

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 Ul (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

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