



Conference of the Parties

Seventeenth session

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 17–28 August 2026

Agenda item 9

Report on the session

Draft report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session, held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 17 to 28 August 2026

Rapporteur: Mr. Karomo Browne (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Contents

Page

I.	Opening of the session	
A.	Opening of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties	
B.	Election of the President	
C.	General statements	
D.	Formal statements session	
II.	Organizational matters	
A.	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies	
B.	Election of officers other than the President	
C.	Credentials of delegations	
D.	Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers	
E.	Committee on Science and Technology	
F.	Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention	
G.	Committee of the Whole	
H.	Attendance	
I.	Documentation	
III.	Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions	
IV.	High-level segment	



A.	Ministerial dialogues.....	
V.	Gender Caucus	
VI.	Decisions and resolution adopted by the Conference of the Parties	
A.	Decisions taken at the recommendation of the President of the Conference of the Parties.....	
B.	Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Bureau	
C.	Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole	
D.	Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention	
E.	Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology	
F.	Resolution adopted by the Conference	
VII.	Conclusion of the session	
A.	Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session	
Annexes		
I.	[REMAINING CHAPTERS, ANNEXES AND FINAL DECISIONS TO BE COMPLETED]	

I. Opening of the session

A. Opening of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties

1. On 17 August 2026, the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) was opened by H.E. Dr. Osama Ibrahim Faqeeha, Deputy Minister for Environment, on behalf of the COP 16 President. Pursuant to article 22 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the President of COP 16 made a statement.

B. Election of the President

(Agenda item 1 (a))

2. At its 1st meeting, on 17 August 2026, the COP elected, by acclamation, H.E. Battsetseg Batmunkh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, as President of COP 17.

3. The incoming President made a statement.

C. General statements

4. Also at the 1st meeting, welcoming remarks were made by Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of the African Group), India (on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group), Paraguay (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group), the European Union, Spain (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for the Northern Mediterranean (Annex IV)), Egypt (on behalf of the League of Arab States) and Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V)).

6. Furthermore, a statement was also made by a representative of civil society.

D. Formal statements session

7. On 17 August 2026, during the formal statements session, statements were made by the representatives of the Cook Islands (on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States), Turkmenistan (on behalf of the Interregional Group Central Asia–Russia), Canada, France, Chile, Ukraine, Brazil, Indonesia, Egypt, Australia, the Republic of Moldova, Suriname, Italy, Sri Lanka, Iraq, Kenya, the Russian Federation, Bangladesh, Algeria, Armenia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Mexico, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United States of America, Guyana, Peru, Pakistan, Sudan, Lesotho, Nigeria, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Azerbaijan.

8. A statement was also made by the representative of the following intergovernmental organization: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

9. Statements were also made by representatives of the following entities of the United Nations system: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

10. The final list of speakers may be consulted on the UNCCD website.¹

¹ See <https://www.unccd.int/cop17/programme/agenda/cop-2nd-meeting>.

II. Organizational matters

A. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies

(Agenda item 1 (b) and (f))

11. The Conference considered agenda item 1 (b) and (f) at its 1st meeting, on 17 August 2026.

12. Statements were made by the Russian Federation,² Brazil, the United States of America, India and the European Union.

13. The Conference adopted its agenda and the organization of work contained in document ICCD/COP(16)/Rev.1 without the following items:

1. Final report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Future Strategic Framework of the Convention;
2. Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies;
3. Policy frameworks and thematic issues (only as related to the gender sub-item); and
4. Procedural matters:
 - (a) Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;

and deferred the adoption of those agenda items to a later date on the understanding that additional consultations would take place.

14. The adopted agenda, as orally revised, was as follows:

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of the President;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (c) Election of officers other than the President:
 - (i) Election of Vice-Presidents;
 - (ii) Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology;
 - (iii) Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention;
 - (d) Credentials of delegations;
 - (e) Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers;
 - (f) Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies.
2. 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:
 - (a) Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;

² The statement made by the representative of the Russian Federation may be consulted at the following link: [statement - agenda - Russia - plenary.docx](#).

- (b) Enhancing the implementation of the Convention and its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;
 - (c) Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;
 - (d) Review of progress in the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification communication plan.
3. Policy frameworks and thematic issues (without the gender sub-item).
 4. High-level segment:
Ministerial dialogues.
 5. Programme and budget for the biennium 2027–2028.
 6. Procedural matters:
 - (a) Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the business engagement strategy;
 - (b) Programme of work for the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties.
 7. Report on the session.

15. The Conference resumed its consideration of agenda item 1 (b) at its 12th meeting, on 26 August 2026, and decided to include agenda item 3 of the provisional agenda, titled “Final report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Future Strategic Framework of the Convention”, in the adopted agenda of its seventeenth session.

B. Election of officers other than the President

(Agenda item 1 (c))

16. The Conference considered this agenda item at its 1st meeting, on 17 August 2026, and, at its 3rd meeting on 20 August 2026, elected the following officers for its seventeenth session:

Vice-Presidents:

- Mr. Jean Kouakou Kouadio (Côte d’Ivoire)
- Mr. David Payang (Cameroon)
- Ms. Tekura Moeka'a (Cook Islands)
- Ms. Laís Loredó Gama (Brazil)
- Mr. Karomo Browne (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
- Ms. Philippine Dutailly (France)
- Ms. Stephanie Piers de Raveschoot (Switzerland)
- Mr. Ulfat Machanov (Azerbaijan)
- Ms. Biljana Kilibarda (Montenegro)

17. At its 3rd meeting, on 20 August 2026, the Conference appointed Mr. Karomo Browne (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) as Rapporteur of the seventeenth session.

Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology

18. At the ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026, the Conference elected _____ (_____) as Chair of the forthcoming eighteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST).

Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

19. At the ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026, the Conference elected _____ (_____) as Chair of the forthcoming twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC).

(to be completed)

C. Credentials of delegations

(Agenda item 1(d))

20. At its ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026, the Conference considered the report on credentials of delegations, as contained in document ICCD/COP(17)/13, and the recommendations contained therein.

21. At its _____ meeting, the Conference adopted a draft decision contained in document ICCD/COP(17)/L.X, approving the report on credentials.

(to be completed)

D. Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers

(Agenda item 1 (e))

22. At the 1st meeting, on 17 August 2026, the President of COP 17 introduced this agenda sub-item.

23. The representative of Azerbaijan made a statement.

24. At its 1st meeting, on 17 August 2026, the Conference agreed to accredit as observers the intergovernmental and civil society organizations (CSOs) and private sector entities, as listed in document ICCD/COP(17)/INF.6.

(to be completed)

E. Committee on Science and Technology

25. The seventeenth session of the CST was convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Nicholas Webb (United States of America), whose appointment was confirmed by the Committee in line with rule 25 of the rules of procedure of the COP.

26. Welcoming remarks were made by Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD.

27. Statements were made by the representatives of Egypt (on behalf of the African Group), Indonesia (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Asia (Annex II)), the Republic of Moldova (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V)) and Uzbekistan (on behalf of the Interregional Group Central Asia–Russia).

28. The Committee held ____ meetings, from 18 to ____ August 2026.

29. The Committee considered agenda item 1 (a) at its 1st meeting, on 18 August 2026.

30. Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, the European Union and Australia. A further statement was made by the representative of Brazil.

31. The Committee adopted its agenda and the organization of work contained in document ICCD/COP(17)/CST/1 without the following item:

1. Items resulting from the work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the biennium 2025–2026:

- (a) Synthesis report of the activities of the Science-Policy Interface;
- (b) Synthesis report on the third edition of the Global Land Outlook.

and deferred the adoption of that agenda item to a later stage on the understanding that additional consultations would take place.

32. The Committee adopted its tentative schedule of work for the session, as contained in the annex to document ICCD/COP(17)/CST/1, as orally revised.

33. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the vacancy for the remaining Vice-Chair from the Group of Central and Eastern European States remained to be filled, and appointed Mr. Chay Asdak (Indonesia) to serve as Rapporteur of the Committee.

34. Also at the same meeting, the Committee agreed to establish a contact group and appointed Mr. Joseph Noel (Grenada) as Facilitator of the contact group.

35. At its 4th meeting, the Committee decided to establish one joint CRIC–CST contact group and appointed the designated CRIC and CST Facilitators as Co-Facilitators.

36. At its ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following as Vice-Chairs for its forthcoming eighteenth session: ____ (____), ____ (____), ____ (____) and ____ (____).

37. The Committee submitted ____ recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026.

(to be completed)

F. Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

38. The twenty-fourth session of the CRIC was opened by Ms. Philippine Dutailly (France) who made a statement.

39. Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, also made a statement.

40. Statements were made by the representatives of Angola (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Africa (Annex I)), China (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Asia (Annex II)), Brazil (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Latin America and the Caribbean (Annex III)), Montenegro (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V)) and Kyrgyzstan (on behalf of the Interregional Group Central Asia–Russia).

41. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Dominican Republic and IUCN.

42. The Committee held ____ meetings, from 17 to ____ August 2026.

43. At the 1st meeting, on 17 August 2026, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(24)/Rev.1, and approved the organization of work for the session, as contained in the annex of the document, as orally revised.

44. At the same meeting, the Committee agreed to establish a contact group and appointed Mr. Charles Lange (Kenya) as Facilitator of the contact group.

45. At its 5th meeting, the Committee decided to establish one joint CRIC–CST contact group and appointed the designated CRIC and CST Facilitators as Co-Facilitators.

46. At its ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following as Vice-Chairs for its forthcoming twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth sessions: ____ (____), ____ (____), ____ (____) and ____ (____).

47. The Committee submitted ____ recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026.

(to be completed)

G. Committee of the Whole

48. At its 1st meeting, on 17 August 2026, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole (COW) and to allocate to the Committee the agenda items listed in paragraph 16 of the COP 17 agenda contained in document ICCD/COP(17)/Rev.1, as orally amended (see paragraph 14 above).

49. At its 12th meeting, the Conference decided to allocate to the COW agenda item 3 of the provisional agenda, titled “Final report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Future Strategic Framework of the Convention”.

50. Also at its 1st meeting, the Conference designated Mr. Khalid Cherki (Morocco) as Chair of the COW. The Committee held _____ meetings, from 17 to _____ August 2026.

51. At its 1st meeting, the Committee established two contact groups: (a) contact group 1 on programme and budget matters; and (b) contact group 2 on COW matters other than the programme and budget. The Committee appointed the Chair of the COW as the Facilitator of contact group 1 on programme and budget matters until a Facilitator was proposed, and Ms. Marine Collignon (France) as the Facilitator of contact group 2 on COW matters other than the programme and budget.

52. At its 2nd meeting, the Committee appointed Mr. Poojanraj Khurun (Mauritius) as the Facilitator of contact group 1 on programme and budget matters.

53. The Committee submitted _____ recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its _____ meeting, on _____ August 2026.

(to be completed)

H. Attendance

54. The seventeenth session of the COP was attended by representatives of the following _____ Parties to the Convention: _____

55. The session was also attended by observers from the following States not Party to the Convention: _____

56. The following United Nations organs, organizations and programmes, offices and specialized agencies were represented: _____

57. The session was also attended by representatives of _____ intergovernmental organizations and _____ CSOs.

(to be completed)

I. Documentation

58. The documents submitted for the consideration of the COP at its seventeenth session are listed in annex XX.

(to be completed)

III. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session

(Agenda item 1 (f))

59. The Conference held two open dialogue sessions under agenda item 1 (b) and (f) at its _ and _ meetings, on 20 and 25 August 2026.

60. Ms. Ellen Otaru-Okoedion (Journalists' Environmental Association of Tanzania) moderated the first open dialogue session held on 20 August 2026 titled "Civil society contributions on pastoralism, rangelands and financing for healthy land".
61. An opening ceremony was performed by the Council of Elders (Mongolia).
62. Introductory remarks were made by Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, and the President of COP 17.
63. A keynote statement was made by Mr. Matti Goldberg (Woodwell Climate Research Center).
64. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Mr. Basele Stephen (Pastoralist Goals Foundation of Kenya), Ms. Garima Rajpal (The ClimAct Initiative of India), Ms. Tatiana Mijaela Blanco Quiroga (Asociación Comunitaria Poopó Uru Uru Team of the Plurinational State of Bolivia), Ms. Hanieh Moghani (Center for Environment and Sustainable Development Studies and Application of the Islamic Republic of Iran), Ms. Laurie Marker (Cheetah Conservation Fund of Namibia) and Mr. Anders Oskal (World Reindeer Herders of Norway).
65. Statements were made by the representatives of the European Union, Armenia, Brazil, Iraq, Maldives, Peru, Turkmenistan, Australia, China, Yemen, Senegal, Uruguay, Equatorial Guinea and Zimbabwe.
66. Statements were made by representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (also on behalf of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women) and the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development.
67. Statements were also made by representatives of civil society.
68. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed from the floor.
69. The second open dialogue session with civil society representatives, titled "Drought resilience, territories and water", was moderated by Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim.
70. A presentation was made by Mr. Byambasuren Pürevdagva (Governor of the Capital City and Mayor of Ulaanbaatar).
71. A keynote statement was made by Mr. Paul Hallett (British Society of Soil Science).
72. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Mr. Gustavo Sánchez Valle (Red Mexicana de Organizaciones Campesinas Forestales), Mr. Innocent Antoine Houedji (Youth Initiative for Land in Africa), Mr. Mohammed Alzuhairi (Al-Mortaqa Foundation for Development), Ms. Marie Bouysse (Coalition Eau), Ms. Cécile Ndjebet (Women's Network for Community Management of Forests), Ms. Irish Baguilat (Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development) and Mr. Patrice Burger (Centre d'Actions et de Réalisations Internationales).
73. Statements were made by representatives of the European Union, Brazil (also on behalf of Brazil, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname and Uruguay), Panama and Australia, as well as IUCN.
74. Statements were also made by the representatives of the National Environmental Youth Council, the Caucus for Indigenous Peoples and Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales.
75. The panellists responded to comments made and questions posed from the floor.
76. The UNCCD Goodwill Ambassador Baaba Maal made a statement.

(to be completed)

IV. High-level segment

(Agenda item 6)

A. Ministerial dialogues

(a) Innovative financial mechanisms for healthy land and drought resilience

77. H.E. Togmidyn Dorjkhand, Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia, made opening remarks.

78. Opening remarks were also made by H.E. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD.

79. The high-level ministerial dialogue was moderated by Ms. Lukwesa Burak.

80. Commitments were announced by the following speakers: Mr. Scott Morris (Asian Development Bank (Financing Investments and Eradicating Land Degradation and Desertification/Green Inclusive Regional Agribusiness Fund)), Mr. Anthony Nyong (African Development Bank (Zambezi and Southern African Development Community Great Green Wall Initiative)), Ms. Grethel Aguilar (IUCN (Global EbA Fund)), H.E. Martine Schommer (Government of Luxembourg (Drought Resilience Investment Facility Commitment and Foundation)), Ms. María Jesús Rodríguez de Sancho (Spanish Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (on behalf of the International Drought Resilience Alliance)), Mr. Johann Saathoff (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (CompensACTIONS Phase 2)) and H.E. Ina Marčiulionytė (Delegation of the European Union to Mongolia (Thrivelihoods)).

81. Presentations were made by the following panellists: H.E. João Paulo Capobianco (Minister of Environment and Climate Change of Brazil), H.E. Osama Ibrahim Faqeeha (Deputy Minister for Environment of Saudi Arabia), H.E. Bernice Swarts (Deputy Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of South Africa), Mr. Liming Zhang (Vice-Administrator of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China), Mr. Guangzhe Chen (Vice-President for Planet of the World Bank Group), Ms. Gelsomina Vigliotti (Vice-President of the European Investment Bank) and Ms. Gim Huay Neo (Managing Director of the Centre for Nature and Climate at the World Economic Forum).

82. Statements were made by representatives of Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation, India, Côte d'Ivoire, Lesotho, Botswana, the State of Palestine, Bhutan, Tajikistan, Madagascar, Chad, Bangladesh, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Maldives, Solomon Islands, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Uganda, Senegal, Zimbabwe, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, the Marshall Islands, Kenya, Nigeria, Eswatini, Tuvalu, the United Republic of Tanzania, Mali and Sierra Leone.

83. The high-level dialogue continued with statements delivered by the representatives of Azerbaijan, Uruguay, Mauritania, Costa Rica, the Philippines, Czechia, Indonesia, Ireland, the Lao Peoples's Democratic Republic, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Burundi, Cambodia, Kazakhstan, the Dominican Republic, Belarus, Ecuador, Burkina Faso, Iraq, Thailand, Zambia, Australia, the Republic of Korea, Nepal, the Sudan, Algeria, Togo, Israel, Guatemala, Mexico, Oman, Guinea, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan and France.

84. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, the Caucus for Indigenous Peoples, the UNDP, the Young Professionals for Agricultural Development, the Pastoralist Goals Foundation and CGIAR.

(b) Drought resilience

85. H.E. Nyamtaishir Nomtoibayar, Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia, made opening remarks.

86. Opening remarks were also made by H.E. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD.

87. Mr. James Famiglietti, Professor at the University of Arizona, delivered the keynote address.

88. The two panel discussions were moderated by Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, former Executive Secretary of the UNCCD.

89. Presentations were made during the first panel discussion by the following panellists: H.E. Osama Ibrahim Faqeeha (Deputy Minister for Environment of Saudi Arabia), H.E. Barbara Pompili (Ambassador for the Environment of France), H.E. Amna bint Abdullah Al Dahak Al Shamsi (Minister of Climate Change and Environment of the United Arab Emirates), H.E. Martine Schommer (Special Envoy for Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg), H.E. Hani Sewilam (Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation of Egypt), and Ms. María Jesús Rodríguez de Sancho (Director-General of Biodiversity, Forests and Desertification of Spain).

90. Presentations were also made during the second panel discussion by the following panellists: H.E. Moses Vilakati (Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Development of the African Union), Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach (Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme), Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana (Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific), Ms. Åsa Regnér (Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and Ms. Valerie Hickey (Director for Environment at the World Bank Group).

91. Statements were made by the representatives of Namibia, Senegal, Bhutan, Tunisia, Eswatini, Angola, Sri Lanka, Cameroon, the Marshall Islands, Fiji, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Solomon Islands, Guyana, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Madagascar and Uganda.

92. Statements were also made by the representatives of India, Côte d'Ivoire, Botswana, the State of Palestine, Chad, Bangladesh, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Maldives, Tuvalu, Zimbabwe, South Sudan, Mali, China, Montenegro, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Azerbaijan, Uruguay, Mauritania, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso, the Philippines, Czechia, Indonesia, Ecuador, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Burundi, the Russian Federation, Pakistan, South Africa, Kyrgyzstan, Chile, Algeria, Togo, Hungary, Mexico, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Korea, Portugal, Italy, Guatemala, Kiribati, Iraq, Panama, Zambia, the European Union, Nepal, Viet Nam, Guinea, Yemen and Kuwait.

93. Further statements were made by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development on behalf of CSOs, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Children's Fund, the Caucus for Indigenous Peoples, the UNDP, the International Water Management Institute, the Council of Palm Oil Producing Countries and CGIAR.

(c) Restoration of rangelands and well-being of pastoralist communities

94. The ministerial dialogue was co-chaired by H.E. Wynter Boipuso Mmolotsi, Minister of the Environment and Tourism of Botswana, and H.E. Oscar Caputi, Vice-Minister of Environment of Uruguay.

95. Keynote addresses were delivered by Ms. Inger Andersen, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, and Ms. Beth Bechdol, Deputy Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

96. Statements were made by the representatives of Mongolia, Namibia, Lesotho, Fiji, India, Bhutan, Tajikistan, Madagascar, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Uganda, Senegal, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Chad, Mali, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Kenya, Pakistan, Japan, Türkiye, Comoros, Mauritania, Nigeria, Costa Rica, Burkina Faso, Kyrgyzstan, Iceland, the Russian Federation, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Dominican Republic, China, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Spain, Mexico, Sudan, Iraq, Burundi, Egypt, the European Union, France, Nepal, Viet Nam and Qatar.

97. Statements in their national capacities were made by the Co-Chairs, the representatives of Botswana and Uruguay.

98. Statements were also made by the representatives of Timor-Leste, Cuba, Guinea, Saudi Arabia and Zambia.

99. Further statements were made by representatives of the UNDP, IFAD, IOM, the Indigenous Movement for Peace Advancement and Conflicts Transformation, IUCN, Steppes Without Borders on behalf of civil society, the International Development Law Organization and the International Institute for the Study of Nomadic Civilizations.

100. The Chairpersons' summaries of the high-level ministerial dialogues may be found in annex XX to the current report.

(to be completed)

V. Gender Caucus

(Agenda item 1 (f))

101. The Conference held the Gender Caucus under the theme “Enhancing women herders and pastoralists’ contribution to stewardship and resilience”.

102. The President of COP 17 made opening remarks and invited H.E. Tarja Halonen, former President of Finland, to chair the meeting.

103. Opening remarks were also made by H.E. Ana Paula Chantre Luna de Carvalho Pereira (Minister of Environment of Angola), H.E. Alicia Jaramillo Cabo (Vice-Minister of Environment and Marine Coastal Affairs of Ecuador), Ms. Yasmine Fouad (Executive Secretary of the UNCCD), Ms. Åsa Regnér (Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), Ms. Chinguundari Navaan-Yunden (National Security and Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister of Mongolia) and Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw (former Executive Secretary of the UNCCD).

104. The UNCCD Goodwill Ambassador Baaba Maal gave a musical performance.

105. The panel discussions were moderated by Ms. Maria Fernandez-Gimenez, Co-Lead of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026 Working Group on Pastoralism and Gender and Professor of Rangeland Ecology and Management at Colorado State University in the United States of America.

106. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Ms. Debbie Dowden (Pastoral Leader and Rangelands Advocate and Director of Australian Women in Agriculture), Ms. Hannah Longole (Executive Director of the Ateker Cultural Center in Uganda), Ms. Bhavana Rabari (President of the Pastoral Women Alliance of Gujarat and Programme Officer at the Maldhari Rural Action Group in India), Ms. Hajia Alima Sagito-Saeed (Executive Director of Savannah Women Integrated Development Agency in Ghana), Ms. Grace Scorey (Pastoral Women’s Council in the United Republic of Tanzania) and Ms. Tamara Crantschaninov (Director and Founder of Vena Public Management Consulting in Brazil).

107. Statements were made by representatives of the European Union, Zimbabwe, Canada, Panama, Spain, Benin, Australia, Eswatini, Sudan and Uganda, as well as UN-Women and UNDP.

108. Further statements were made by representatives of Landesa and the Association des Femmes Peuples Autochtones du Tchad (on behalf of the Caucus for Indigenous Peoples).

(to be completed)

VI. Decisions and resolution adopted by the Conference of the Parties

109. At its __ meeting on __ August 2026, the Conference adopted __ decisions and one resolution.

(to be completed)

A. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the President of the Conference of the Parties

110. At the recommendation of the President of its seventeenth session, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

(to be completed)

B. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Bureau

111. At the recommendation of the Bureau of the COP at its seventeenth session, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

(to be completed)

C. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole

112. At the recommendation of the COW, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

(to be completed)

D. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

113. At the recommendation of the CRIC, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

(to be completed)

E. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology

114. At the recommendation of the CST, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

(to be completed)

F. Resolution adopted by the Conference

115. At its __ meeting, on __ August 2026, the Conference adopted the following resolution at the recommendation of ____:

(to be completed)

VII. Conclusion of the session

A. Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session

(Agenda item 9)

116. At its ____ meeting, on ____ August 2026, the Conference adopted the draft report on its seventeenth session (ICCD/COP(17)/L.____) and authorized the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report, as appropriate.

(to be completed)
