



## **MEDIA ADVISORY – PRESS CONFERENCE**

### ***Great Green Wall Implementation Status and Way Ahead to 2030***

*The Great Green Wall Implementation Status and Way Ahead to 2030*, the first comprehensive assessment of the status of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGW) will be released on Monday, 7 September 2020 at a virtual ministerial meeting organized to agree on the next steps. A **press conference** hosted by the UNCCD secretariat to present the actions countries will take going forward will be held back-to-back with the launch. Pre-registration is required. The event is exclusively for media and will be conducted in English and French. Embargoed documentation will be shared with pre-registered journalists.

**When:** Monday, 7 September 2020 at 15:40-16:40 hrs UTC/GMT

**Where:** Virtual Webinar registration is on this link:  
[https://unccd-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_SzvA-1cSyenzqb\\_KmRtHQ](https://unccd-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SzvA-1cSyenzqb_KmRtHQ)

**Who:** **Ms Amina Mohammed**  
Deputy-Secretary General of the United Nations  
(representing the UN)

**Ms. Marieme Bekaye**  
Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Mauritania

**Prof. Fekadu Beyene** (tbc)  
Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, Ethiopia

**Mr. Mohammad Mahmood Abubakar** (tbc)  
Minister of Environment, Nigeria

**Mr. Baaba Maal**  
UNCCD Land Ambassador  
(representing civil society)

**Moderator** **Ms. Wagaki Wischnewski**  
Public Information and Media Officer  
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

#### **Background**

*The Great Green Wall Implementation Status and Way Ahead to 2030* provides an overview of the progress made by countries to create a 15km wide and 8,000 km long green corridor stretching across Africa from Senegal to Djibouti.

The report will be released on Monday, 7 September 2020 at a virtual Ministerial meeting of the Member States of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall convened to discuss the outlook and actions to 2030. Ministers will share the share proposed way forward at the press conference.



The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel (GGW) reflects the will and commitment of the Heads of State and Government of the Sahelo-Saharan States to unite their efforts to tackle the challenges of climate change, land degradation, and loss of biodiversity. GGW was created in 2005 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso during the Cen-Sad Summit. The African Union endorsed it in 2007.

### **Notes to Editors**

A press kit is available to pre-registered journalists with the products below in English and/or French.

- 1) Embargoed press release (available 31 August 2020)
- 2) Embargoed Executive Summary (31 August 2020)
- 3) Frequently Asked Questions (available 31 August 2020)
- 4) Fact sheet (available 31 August 2020)
- 5) High resolution photographs (Available 4 September 2020, credit © Makewaves)
- 6) High resolution film footage (4 September 2020, see terms of use in package)
- 7) Biographies of panelists (7 September 2020)
- 8) Ministerial Declaration (available 7 September)
- 9) Embargoed copy of the full report (available 7 September)

For media information, contact: [wwischnewski@unccd.int](mailto:wwischnewski@unccd.int) or [kjimenez@unccd.int](mailto:kjimenez@unccd.int)

About the Great Green Wall, contact: [cnordheim@unccd.int](mailto:cnordheim@unccd.int)

### **About the Great Green Wall**

An African-led initiative to transform the lives of 100 million of the poorest people on Earth by growing an 8,000 km corridor of trees and plants that will restore land, produce food, create jobs and promote peace.

### **About the UNCCD**

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is an international agreement on good land stewardship. Through partnerships, the Convention's 197 Parties set up robust systems to manage land degradation and drought promptly and effectively. Good land stewardship based on a sound policy and science helps integrate and accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, builds resilience to climate change and prevents biodiversity loss. Land also plays a key role in the prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery phases of the COVID-19 pandemic, securing rural livelihoods and creating green jobs, supporting community resilience and maintaining the sustainable delivery of ecosystem services.