



**Report of the CRIC Bureau meeting at COP17
In person meeting in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
15 August 2026**

1. The meeting of the Bureau of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) took place in Ulaanbaatar Mongolia on 15 August 2026 ahead of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP17). The meeting was chaired by Ms. Philippine Dutailly, the Chair of the CRIC Bureau.

2. Four Bureau members attended the meeting (see annex I).

I. Welcoming remarks by the CRIC Chair

3. The meeting was opened by the CRIC Chair, who thanked the Government and people of Mongolia for their kind hosting. The Chair also welcomed all participants to Ulaanbaatar and thanked Bureau members for availing themselves for COP 17 and the twenty-fourth session of the CRIC (CRIC 24).

II. Adoption of the Agenda

4. The Bureau adopted the agenda as contained in annex II with the addition of one agenda item namely, an update on the agenda items blocked during CRIC 23, to be discussed under any other matters.

III. Organization of work of CRIC 24

5. The secretariat presented the planned programme of work for CRIC 24 as included in CRIC 24 preliminary agenda¹ and discussed some key procedural and organizational matters.

6. The Bureau agreed to amend the tentative schedule of work for the first meeting of the CRIC by first considering the report of CRIC 23 as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(23)/8, before proceeding to the agenda items on the multi-year workplan and the performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (documents ICCD/COP(17)/7 and ICCD/COP(17)/INF.4, respectively). The revised schedule of work will be reflected in the Daily Journal in advance of the session.

IV. Establishment of CRIC contact group and joint CRIC/CST contact group

7. In accordance with past practice, it is expected that, during its first meeting, the Chair of the CRIC will establish a CRIC contact group. Charles Lange, CRIC Vice Chair and Rapporteur, accepted to facilitate the CRIC Contact group.

8. The agenda item relating to “Improving procedures for the communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the COP” will be considered by a joint CRIC/CST contact group to ensure input from both subsidiary bodies.

¹ <https://www.unccd.int/convention/official-documents/cric-24-ulaanbaatar-mongolia-2026/documents/iccdcric245>



9. Draft decisions for consideration by the CRIC contact group are contained in document ICCD/CRIC(24)/5.² In addition, the CRIC contact group will consider a draft decision on the collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) which is available on the UNCCD website at <https://www.unccd.int/resources/other/collaboration-global-environment-facility-draft-decision>.

V. Schedule of CRIC Bureau meetings during COP 17

10. The Bureau agreed that the next CRIC Bureau meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 August 2026 at 13:30pm and further agreed to meet on ad hoc basis during COP17.

VI. Any other matter

11. At the request of Bureau members under this agenda item, the CRIC Chair and the secretariat provided an update on the two agenda items deferred from CRIC 23, namely “Interim report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Future Strategic Framework”, and “Consideration of priorities for science–policy guidance”. The secretariat provided some clarifications on the relevant procedural aspects and possible scenarios for the consideration of these items during COP 17.

² <https://www.unccd.int/convention/official-documents/cric-24-ulaanbaatar-mongolia-2026/documents/iccdcric245>

Annex I – List of participants

CRIC BUREAU MEMBERS attending the meeting:

REGION	COUNTRY/ REPRESENTATIVE	CONTACT DETAILS
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	France Chair	Ms. Philippine Dutailly Desertification and land degradation officer UNCCD, G20 Global Land Initiative, Great Green Wall Accelerator Environment and Climate Department Global Affairs Directorate Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs 27, rue de la Convention CS 91533 - 75015 Paris Cedex 15 France Tel.: +33 (0)1 43 17 73 80 Mobile: +33 (0)7 62 09 83 70 Email: philippine.dutailly@diplomatie.gouv.fr;
Annex I: Africa	Kenya Vice-Chair	Mr. Charles Lange Deputy Director, Environmental Research and Planning Coordination, National Environment Management Authority Nairobi, Kenya Tel: +254 722 841 927 Email: clange@nema.go.ke; nzavi2001@yahoo.com;
Annex II: Asia	China Vice-Chair	Ms. Jia Xiaoxia Deputy Director General Department of Combating Desertification National Forestry and Grassland Administration Beijing, China Tel: +86 8423 8306 Mobile: +86 1391 1624 203 Email: cciccd@126.com; xiaoxia_jia@outlook.com ; jia_xiaoxia@forestry.gov.cn
Annex III: Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)	Argentina Vice-Chair	Mr. Pablo Hernan Viegas Aurelio Punto Focal Técnico Subsecretaría de Ambiente San Martin 451 (1004) Buenos Aires, Argentina Tel: +5411 5457 2295 Email: ViegasAurelioP@jefatura.gob.ar; phviegas@yahoo.com.ar;



Annex II- Agenda of the meeting

- I. Welcoming remarks by the CRIC Chair
- II. Adoption of the Agenda
- III. Organisation of work of CRIC 24
- IV. Establishment of CRIC contact group and joint CRIC/CST contact group
- V. Schedule of CRIC Bureau meetings during COP 17
- VI. Any other matter
