



## Regional consultations for the Parties Annex I

**Date:** 30 August - 2 September 2024

**Location:** Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

**Working languages:** English/French

**Working hours:** 9:00 - 18:00

**Venue:** Sofitel Hotel Ivoire

### Provisional agenda

#### Day 1

Friday 30 August 2024

09 :00- 10 :00	<b>Official opening moderated by Cheikh Toure, RLO Africa</b> a) Welcome by the UNCCD Secretariat by Ms. Birguy Lamizana, Chief GPARC b) Opening remarks by Mr. Khalid Cherki, Chairman of the Regional Group c) Opening remarks by the AU SAFGRAD Coordinator d) Opening speech by UNEP Representative e) Opening remarks by the COP 15 President Representative f) Remarks by the Head of Saudi Delegation g) Opening remarks by the Representative of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire
10 :00-10 :30	<b>Group Photo &amp; Coffee break</b>
10 :30- 11 :45	<b>I. Organizational matters by Mr. Khalid Cherki, Chairman of the Regional Group</b> a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work b) Appointment of rapporteurs
10 :45- 11 :30	<b>II. Overview of COP16- UNCCD by Ms. Birguy Lamizana, Chief GPARC</b> a) Organization of work, including sessions of subsidiary bodies and logistical considerations b) High-level Summit c) Business Forum, Youth Forum, Women's Forum, Rio Conventions Pavilion and side events Discussion, questions and answers
11: 30- 12 :00	Presentation on "Towards a global ambition for soil restoration" G20 Global Land Initiative by M. <b>Abdel Salam El Vilaly, Programme Officer, G20 Global Initiative Coordination Office (Virtual)</b> Discussion and Q&A
12: 30- 14 :00	<b>Lunch break</b>



<p><b>14: 00 - 15 :20</b></p>	<p><b>III. Follow-up to political and thematic issues</b> <b>- Presentation, questions, discussion of regional position</b></p> <p><b>(ICCD/COP (16)/5, ICCD/COP (16)/6-ICCD/CRIC (22)/2, ICCD/COP (16)/22)-</b> Programme and budget for the biennium 2025-2026 by <b>Ms. Satu Ravola, Programme management officer, UNCCD Evaluation Office</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16)/20</b>-Final report of the intergovernmental working group on effective policy measures and implementation to combat drought in the context of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification by <b>IWG on drought Africa member</b></p> <p>Discussion on the report presented by the Intergovernmental Working Group on Drought</p>
<p><b>15 :20- 15 :40</b> <b>Coffee break</b></p>	
<p><b>15 :40 -17 :00</b></p>	<p><b>ICCD/COP (16) /2</b>-Mid-term evaluation of the strategic framework 2018-2030 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Report of the intergovernmental working group on the mid-term review by <b>Ahmed Abdelati, IWG MTE Africa Member</b></p> <p>Discussion on the report presented by the intergovernmental working group on the mid-term evaluation</p>
<p><b>17: 00</b> <b>End of the first day</b></p>	
<p><b>Day 2</b> <b>Saturday 31 August 2024</b></p>	
<p><b>09 :00 – 09 :10</b></p>	<p><b>Moderated by Cheikh Toure, RLO Africa</b> <b>Opening of the Day 2 session</b></p> <p>Recap of Day 1 and agenda for Day 2, by the rapporteurs and Mr. Khalid Cherki, Group Chairman</p>
<p><b>09 :10 - 11 :10</b></p>	<p><b>IV. Follow-up on policy and thematic issues - Presentation, questions, discussion of regional position</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/CRIC (21) /11</b>- Report of the twenty-first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 13 to 17 November 2023 by <b>Ms. Anja Thust, Secretary of the CRIC, Science, Technology and Innovation</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16)/3</b>- Review of the progress made in the implementation of the communication plan of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification by <b>Ms. Xenya Scanlon, Chief Communications, External Relations and Partnerships Unit</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16) /11</b> - Report of the Bureau of Assessment by <b>Ms. Satu Ravola, Programme management officer, UNCCD Evaluation Office</b></p>



11 :10 – 11 :30		Coffee break
11.30 - 13.00	<p><b>IV. Follow-up on policy and thematic issues - Presentation, questions, discussion of regional position</b></p> <p><b>(ICCD/COP (16)/CST/8)</b> - Report of the Committee on Science and Technology and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties by <b>M. Barron Joseph Orr, Chief Scientist</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16)/19</b> - Follow-up to policy frameworks and thematic issues: Land tenure by <b>Mr. Sasha Alexander, Policy Officer, GPARC</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16) /18</b> - The positive role that measures taken within the framework of the Convention can play in combating desertification, land degradation and drought, which are among the drivers of migration by <b>Mr. Sasha Alexander, Policy Officer, GPARC</b></p>	
13 :00-14 :00		Lunch break
14 :00-16 :00	<p><b>VI. Follow-up to political and thematic issues - Presentation, questions and discussion of regional positions</b></p> <p>Discussion and adoption of regional positions on the following agenda items</p> <p>Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility by STI &amp; GM</p>	
16 :00-16 :15		Coffee break
16 :15- 18 :00	<p><b>ICCD/COP (16) /16</b> - Monitoring of policy frameworks and thematic issues: Sand and dust storms by Sasha Alexander, Policy Officer, GPARC</p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16) /17</b> - Monitoring of policy frameworks and thematic issues: Gender by <b>Ms. Karen Elizabeth Bernard, Gender Policy Officer, GPARC</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16) /4</b> - Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies by <b>Fragiska Megaloudi, Communication Officer, CERP</b></p> <p><b>ICCD/COP (16) /15</b> - Monitoring of policy frameworks and thematic issues: Drought by <b>M. Daniel Tsegai, Programme Officer, UNCCD Global Policy Advocacy and Regional Cooperation Unit</b></p>	



	<b>ICCD/COP (16) /21-ICCD/COP (16) /CST/9 - New emerging issues: Grasslands and rangelands and ecologically sustainable agrifood systems by Ms. <b>Birguy Lamizana, Chief GPARC and led by Botswana</b></b>
<b>18:00</b>	<b>End of the second day</b>
<b>Day 3 Sunday 1 September 2024</b>	
<b>09:00 – 10:00</b>	Coffee Break
<b>10 :00 – 10 :10</b>	<b>Moderated by Cheikh Toure, RLO Africa</b> <b>Recap of day 2 and agenda for day 3 by the rapporteurs and Mr. Khalid Cherki</b>
<b>10:00 – 12:10</b>	<b>CLP on Drought presentation, GPARC (online)</b> <b>Discussion/Q&amp;A</b>
<b>13:00</b>	<b>End of Third Day</b>
<b>Day 4 Monday 2 September 2024</b>	
<b>9 :00 - 09 :10</b>	<b>Moderated by Cheikh Toure, RLO Africa</b> Opening of the session on day 3 Recap of day 2 and agenda for day 3 by the rapporteurs and Mr. Khalid Cherki
<b>09 :10-11 :00</b>	<b>Discussion on the regional positions on previous items presented</b>  Preparation and adoption of the report of the meeting
<b>11 :00-11 :30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11 :30 -13: 00</b>	<b>Discussion of negotiations and appointment of lead negotiators on the main agenda items for the Africa region</b>
<b>13 :00-14 :00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>



<b>14 :00-17 :00</b>	<p>Adoption of regional positions and closing ceremony</p> <p>Election of the Chairman of the African Group</p> <p>Designation and appointment of regional representatives within the group</p> <p>Adoption of a report to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)</p> <p>Closing session of the meeting</p> <p>Remarks by the Chairman of the African Group</p> <p>Remarks by the African Union Commission</p> <p>Remarks by UNEP</p> <p>Remarks by the UNCCD Secretariat</p> <p>Remarks by the Host country</p>
<b>17:00</b>	<b>End of Africa Group regional consultations</b>