

AGENCE PANAFRICAINNE
DE LA GRANDE MURAILLE VERTE
APGMV



PAN-AFRICAN AGENCY
OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL
PAGGW

الوكالة الإفريقية للسور الأخضر الكبير

FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Dakar (Senegal)
13rd-14th June 2016

REPORT

June, 2016



1. The fifth (5th) Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW), was held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal on the **Monday 13rd and Tuesday 14th 2016**, under the chairmanship of **H.E. Mr Amédi CAMARA**, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, President of the Council of Ministers.

2. Have taken part in the meeting were,

➤ **The Ministers of the Member States of the PAGGW:**

- **From BURKINA FASO**, Mr Batio BASSIERE, Minister of Environment, the Green Economy and Climate Change;
- **From the Republic of DJIBOUTI**, Moussa MOHAMMED AHMED, Minister of Housing, Urban Planning and Environment;
- **From the Federal Democratic Republic of ETHIOPIA**, Kebede YIMAM, State Minister for the Environment, Forests and Climate Change;
- **From MALI**, Mr Ousmane KONE, Minister of the Environment, Sanitation and Sustainable Development;
- **From the Islamic Republic of Mauritania**, Mr Amédi CAMARA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
- **From the Republic of NIGER**, Mr Boukari WASSALKÉ, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
- **From the Federal Republic of NIGERIA**, Mr Bukar HASSAN, Secretary Permanent, Representing the Federal Minister of the Environment;
- **From the Republic of SENEGAL**, Mr Abdoulaye BALDE, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
- **From the Republic of SUDAN**, Mr Hassan Abdelgadir HILAL, Minister of Environment, Forests and Rural Development;

➤ Were absent, the following Member States:

- The ERITREA;
- The Republic of CHAD.

➤ Have also attended the Session as guests:

- **Institutions Statutory Members of the Technical of Experts of the PAGGW**
 - From the African Union Commission (AUC), Mr Elvis Paul TANGEM representing Madam Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission;
 - From the Permanent Inter-State Committee for the Fight against Drought in the Sahel (CILSS), Mr Ibrahim Lumumba IDI-ISSA, representing the Executive Secretary;
 - From the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Mr Amadou DIALLO, representing the Executive Secretary;
- **Honourable guests invited**
 - H.E. Mr Harun TÜFEKÇİ, Deputy Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey;
 - H.E. Mr Omer Ahmed MIMIR, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Rural Development for the state of Khartoum, Republic of Sudan.
- **Invited organizations:**
 - From the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Ms Juliette Biao KOUDENOUKPO, Regional Director Africa;
 - From the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Mr Boubacar CISSE, Representative of the Executive Secretary of the UN Convention on the fight against desertification;
 - From the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNCCC), Mr Paul V. DESANKER, representing the UNCCC;
 - From the Economic Commission of Central Africa States (ECCAS), Mr Honoré TABUNA, representing the General Secretary of the ECCAS;
 - From the Lake Chad Basin Commission, Mr Abderamane SAIDOU representing the Executive Secretary of the LCBC.

I. **OPENING CEREMONY**

1. The opening ceremony of the fifth (5th) Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall was held at the King Fahd Palace Congress Hall in Dakar, under the chairmanship of HEMr.



Mahammed BOUN ABDALLAH DIONNE, Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal;

2. The ceremony was marked by speeches from the following personalities:

- The Deputy Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, **H.E. Mr TÜFEKÇI Harun**;
- The Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Mr President of the Council of Ministers of PAGGW **H.E. Mr Amédi CAMARA**;
- Opening speech of **H.E. Mr Mahammed Boun Abdullah DIONNE**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal.

The various speeches and presentations are appended to this report.

II. PROCEEDINGS

II.1. Adoption of the meeting agenda, Work program and designation of officers of the fifth (5th) Ordinary Session:

3. The President of the Council of Ministers of PAGGW, **Mr Amédi CAMARA**, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, after ensuring that the quorum was met, recalled the items on the Agenda.

4. After examination, the Draft Agenda and the work program are adopted and attached in appendix.

5. The composition of the Office of the fifth (5th) ordinary Session is presented as follows:

President: Islamic Republic of Mauritania, **Mr Amédi CAMARA**, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;

Vice Presidency: Federal Republic of Nigeria, **Mr BUKAR Hassan**, Permanent Secretary, Representing the Federal Minister of Environment;

Reporters:

- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, **Mr Yimam Kebede**, State Minister for the Environment, Forests and Climate Change;

- Burkina Faso, **Mr Batio BASSIERE**, Minister of Environment, the Green Economy and Climate Change.

6. After installing the office the Representatives of the following institutions delivered a speech on behalf of their institutions:

- **Mr Elvis Paul TANGEM**, Representative of the Commission of the African Union;
- **Ms Juliette Biao KOUDENOUKPO**, Regional Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for Africa.

II.2. Review of the technical Committee of Expert's meeting Report:

7. Upon hearing the report of the technical Committee of Experts, the Council congratulated the experts and took note of the report.

II.3. 2015 Technical Activity Report (TAR) of the Executive Secretariat

8. The Council of Ministers invited the Executive Secretariat to:

- Insert an executive summary and highlight the performance and achievements (achievements, constraints and challenges);
- Ensure consistency between the Activity Report with the Technical Programme of activities and highlight the programmed activities and the executed ones, those that are still unexecuted and other activities carried out of the initial programme.

9. The Council of Ministers took note of the 2015 Technical Activity Report (TAR) of the Executive Secretariat and reiterates the need for improvements.

10. During the discussion on this report, the Minister of Sudan presented a paper on the establishment of the Great Green Wall (GGW) Carbon Bank decided by the Heads of State and Government and the need to put in place a GGW Fund on adaptation and resilience of populations and local communities. The Council of Ministers accepted the proposals and congratulated the Sudanese Minister and the Government of Sudan.

II.4. Financial Activity Report for fiscal year 2015

11. The Council of Ministers took note of the Financial Activity Report for the year 2015 and requested that the accounts be audited and certified.
12. Regarding the significant differences on some items including statutory meetings, workshops and seminars and vehicle repairs, the Council of Ministers requested the Executive Secretariat to make an explanatory note.
13. The Council of Ministers draws the attention of the Executive Secretariat on the need for strict adherence to financial discipline.

II.5. Exchanges on the 2011-2015 balance sheet and outlook report

14. The Council of Ministers after review has adopted the five years technical report and requested the Executive Secretariat to make a summary note to the general public for a better sharing of achievements and to edit and publish the document after updating data from member states, within one (1) month the latest.
15. The five year financial report component needs to be audited and certified before adoption by the Council of Ministers.

II.6. Perspective post 2015: Draft strategy document 2016-2020

16. The Council of Ministers adopted the 2016-2020 Strategy documents and requested to take into consideration the following:
 - The guidelines of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations for 2030, the Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the different orientations of the Rio conventions;
 - The environmental education in the programmed activities, the innovative mechanisms for resources mobilization and the Alternative renewable energy.

As regard to the fund mobilization, the Council of Ministers:

- Reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States for the payment of the statutory contributions arrears and current payments;



- Reaffirms the need of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall to become transformed into an **executing Agency** of the funds destined to the Great Green Wall and for that purpose, calls upon the Executive Secretariat to initiate the process;
- Calls upon the African Union to fully ensure its role of political supervision and support the Agency in mobilizing the necessary funds;
- Also calls on other institutions including UNEP, Regional and Sub region institutions, to support the efforts of PAGGW.

II.7. 2016 Programme of Activities

17. The Council of Ministers adopted the 2016 Programme of Activities and requests that program is fully consistent with the logical framework of the 2016-2020 Strategy.

II.8. 2016 Draft Budget

18. The Council of Ministers has considered, adopted and requested from now on, to take into consideration a new evaluation of the costs of statutory meetings.

19. The Council of Ministers draws the attention of the Executive Secretariat that any over spending must require the prior approval of the President of the Council of Minister.

20. The Council of Ministers had set in place an ad hoc committee composed of four (4) Member States (Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Senegal and Sudan) to examine the draft budget before their presentation to the Council of Ministers which should take place two days before each Session.

II.9. Recruitment in the PAGGW

21. For the position of External Auditor:

The report for the selection of candidates for the position of External Auditor submitted by the Executive Secretariat was adopted by the Council of Ministers.

The Council of Ministers mandated the Executive Secretary to recruit the External Auditor in accordance with the selection report.

22. For the positions of Administrative and Financial Director, Internal Auditor and Communications Officer:

The briefing note on the evaluation of application files of the Administrative and Financial Director, the Internal Auditor and the Communications Officer presented by the Executive Secretariat were discussed and adopted by the Council of Ministers:

- For the Administrative and Financial Director, the council of Ministers mandates the Executive Secretary for the recruitment of the retained candidate;
- For the Position of Internal Auditor and Management Controller, the Council of Ministers mandates the Executive Secretary for the recruitment of the retained candidate;
- For the Position of Communication Officer, the Council of Ministers mandates the Executive Secretary for the recruitment of the candidate after confirmation of his certified degrees.

23. For the selection in view of the nomination to the position of Executive Secretary (ES):

- The Council of Ministers has made the amendment to the Article 30 of the internal regulations in accordance with the decision of the Conference of Heads of State and Government at its third ordinary Session held July 27th 2015 in Nouakchott, Mauritania.
- The document of the call for applications for the appointment to the post of Executive Secretary of the PAGGW developed and presented by the Executive Secretariat was discussed and adopted in the version presented in the annex to this Session report.
- The Council of Ministers requests the Executive Secretary to transmit by Verbal Note the call for applications to each Member State before July 1st 2016.
- The Council of Ministers calls on each of the member states to propose their candidate for the position of Executive Secretary in accordance with the criteria and conditions specified in the call for selection, by September 30th 2016.



- Applications should be forwarded to the Secretariat of the PAGGW through diplomatic channels, the postal date as stake.
- The received files will be submitted to the next Session of the council of Ministers.
- The council of Ministers will considerer all the applications to select three (3) for the consideration of the Heads of State and Governments.

II.10. Holding of the next Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers

24. The Council of Ministers has unanimously chosen the Federal Republic of Nigeria to host the next Session of the Council of Ministers of PAGGW.

II.11. Divers questions

25. Six (6) points were discussed:

- As regard the information shared on the joint celebration between Senegal, the Convention on the Fight against Desertification (UNCCD) and the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall, about the International Day celebration of the fight against Desertification scheduled on June 17th 2016 in Dakar, the Council of Ministers take note of the initiative and proposes that a joint communiqué should be delivered on behalf of the Ministers of Environment of the PAGGW during the celebration of this event;
- Concerning the COP 22 in Marrakech and following the various discussions, the Council of Ministers mandates the Executive Secretary to take necessary practical steps to ensure the participation of the PAGGW to this important event. These steps should be notified on time to the members of council of Ministers;
- Following the deliberations on the holdings of the Council of Ministers of PAGGW Sessions, the Council of Ministers asks the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the President of the Council of Ministers, to elaborate a conceptual note on the practical modalities on that matter and make a financial evaluation;

- Following the information given by the Executive Secretariat to the Council of Ministers on a correspondence received from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in Ethiopia confirming the registration of the Convention establishing the PAGGW to the African Union, the Council of Ministers urges the Executive Secretary to follow up on the process;
- As regard to the signature of the cooperation agreement signed between the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and PAGGW, the Council of Ministers approve the agreement and mandate the Executive Secretary for its implementation;
- Following the discussion on the conclusion of the first Conference on the Great Green Wall of Sahara and Sahel Initiative held by the African Union from May 2 to 7, 2016 in Dakar (Senegal), the Council of Ministers asks the African Union to officially submit the final communiqué of that Conference.

III. Recommendations

The Council of Ministers made the following recommendations (Rec.):

- **Rec.1:** Each Member State to establish a program contract with its National structure GGW;
- **Rec. 2:** To each member state to strengthen the mobilization of domestic funds through the creation of formal National Alliances under the auspices of the Prime Minister of each Member State with the participation of the Ministries concerned by GGW and involve others, in particular the Ministries in charge of Finance, Foreign Affairs to participate in regular meetings of the GGW to enable them better understand the importance of the contribution of Environment and Natural Resources in the National GDP;
- **Rec. 3:** To each Member State, to include in the country-Portfolios, the regional integrated projects defined in the 2016-2020 strategy of the PAGGW;
- **Rec.4:** To the Executive Secretariat of the PAGGW to initiate dialogue with regional institutions in the sector for a better coherence and synergy with their strategies;

- **Rec.5:** To the Executive Secretariat to work for accreditation of the PAGGW as an implementing agency of the GEF funds and other United Nations Institutions;
- **Rec.6:** To the Executive Secretariat of the PAGGW, to hold an extraordinary Session at the end of the year to allow deliberate on technical and financial activities planned for the fiscal year 2017.

IV. Adoption of the Report And Regulations of the fifth (5th) Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers

26. The Council of Ministers adopted the Final Report of the fifth (5th) Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held on 13rd and 14th June 2016 in Dakar, Republic Senegal.

27. The Council of Ministers adopted the following regulations (Reg.):

- **Regulation n° 2016/001/CM/PAGGW/DKR** adopting the report of the fifth (5th) Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW);
- **Regulation n° 2016/002/CM/PAGGW/DKR** adopting the 2015 activity report of the Executive Secretariat of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW);
- **Regulation n° 2016/003/CM/PAGGW/DKR** adopting the financial Activity Report for the year 2015 the Executive Secretariat of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW);
- **Regulation n° 2016/004/CM/PAGGW/DKR** adopting Balance report of the 2011-2015 of the Executive Secretariat of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW);
- **Regulation n° 2016/005/CM/PAGGW/DKR** adopting of the 2016-2020 Strategy of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW);
- **Regulation n° 2016/006/CM/PAGGW/DKR** adopting the 2016 Programme of activities of the Executive Secretariat of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW);
- **Regulation n° 2016/007/CM/PAGGW/DKR** pertaining to the appointment to the PAGGW Staffs;

- Regulation n° 2016/008/CM/PAGGW/DKR adopting the draft budget 2016 the Executive Secretariat of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW);
- Regulation n° 2016/009/CM/PAGGW/DKR pertaining to the organization of the next Session of the Council of Ministers;
- Regulation n° 2016/010/CM/PAGGW/DKR establishing an ad hoc committee for considering the budget draft before their presentation to the Council of Ministers.

V. Closing ceremony

28. Mr Moussa MOHAMMED AHMED, Minister of Housing, Urban Planning and Environment of Djibouti read on behalf of the Council the motion of thanks that we have attached.
29. Professor Abdoulaye DIA, Executive Secretary of the PAGGW and Ramatoulaye N'DIAYE DIENG, General Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Senegal, Abdoulaye BALDE Representing the Minister issued each one of them a speech.
28. Mr Amédi CAMARA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Mauritania, President of the Council of Ministers, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, expressed his thanks to the President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Macky SALL, the Government and People of the Republic of Senegal for their efforts in organizing the current Session and effort in the implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative.

Done and adopted by Regulation n° 2016/001/CM/PAGGW/DKR
on June 14th 2016, Dakar-Senegal

The President of the Council of Ministers
H.E. Amédi CAMARA
Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development
of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania


