



**AGENCE PANAFRICAINNE DE GRANDE MURAILLE VERTE**  
**PAN-AFRICAN AGENCY OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL**  
**الوكالة الإفريقية للسباج الأخضر الكبير**

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**FOURTH (4<sup>TH</sup>) ORDINARY SESSION  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE MINISTERS**

**Nouakchott (Mauritania) 25-26 July, 2015**

# REPORT

----July, 2015----



1. The Fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW) was held on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2015** in Nouakchott, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, under the chairmanship of **Mr. Amédi CAMARA**, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and current President of the Council of Ministers.

2. Took part to this session:

**Ministers of the GGW's member States**

- **FOR BURKINA FASO**, **Mr. Saidou MAIGA**, Minister of Environment and Fishing Resources;
- **FOR THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA**, **Mr. Belete TAFERE DESTA**, Minister of Environment and Forests;
- **FOR THE REPUBLIC OF MALI**, **Mr. Mohamed Ag ERLAF**, Minister of Environment, Sanitation and Sustainable Development;
- **FOR THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA**, **Mr. Amédi CAMARA**, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
- **FOR THE REPUBLIC OF NIGER**, **Mr. Amadou CHAÏFOU**, Minister of Environment, Urban Safety and Sustainable Development;
- **FOR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**, **HE Ambassador O. AGAMAH GODWIN**, representing the Department in charge of Environment;
- **FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL**, **Mr. Abdoulaye BALDE**, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
- **FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN**, **Mr. Hassan ABDELGADIR HILAL**, Minister of Environment, Natural Resources and Physical Development;
- **FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD**, **Mrs. BAIWONG DJIBERGUI Amane Rosine**, Minister of Agriculture and Environment;

3. The following Member States were absent:

- DJIBOUTI;
- ERITREA STATE .

4. The following institutions attended also the session as observers:

- **Statutory member organizations of the Technical Committee of Experts of the GGW:**
- **For the African Union Commission**, **Mr. Elvis PAUL TANGEM**, Representative of the Commissioner in charge of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union;



- For the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), H.E. The Ambassador Amadou Diallo, Representative of the Executive Secretary;
- For The Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), Mr. Ibrahim Lumumba IDI - ISSA, Representative of the Executive Secretary;
- For the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC), Mr. Choauibou NCHOUTPOUEN, Representative of the Executive Secretary.
- **Invited Organizations:**
  - For the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Mr. Levis KAVAGI, Africa Regional Coordinator of Ecosystem Management;
  - For the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Mr. Melchaid BUKURU, Chief of the UNCCD office in New York, Representative of the Executive Secretary;
  - For the International Francophone Organisation (IOF), Mr. Tharcisse URAYENEZA Representative of the General Secretary of IOF;
  - For the African Development Bank (ADB), Mr. Lamine NDONGO, resident Representative of the ADB in Dakar, Representative of the President;
  - For the Institute of Research for Development (IRD), Mr. Laurent VIDAL, Representative of the IRD President/General Director.

#### **I. OPENING CEREMONY**

5. The opening ceremony of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall was held at the International Center of Congress (Congress Palace), Nouakchott, under the chairmanship of H. E. Mr. Yahya OULD HADEMINE, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.
6. This ceremony was marked by several speeches made by the following High Personalities:
  - the Representative of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Mr. Melchaid BUKURU ;
  - the Resident Representative of the Delegation of the European Union in Mauritania, Mr Pedro Martinez-VARGAF, on behalf of the technical and financial Partners;
  - the Executive Secretary of the PAGGW, Prof. Abdoulaye DIA;

- the Representative of the Commission of the African Union, **Mr. Paul ELVIS TANGEM**;
- the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, **Mr. Amédi CAMARA**, Chairman of the Council of Ministers;
- And lastly **H.E. MR. Yahya OULD HADEMINE**, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

## II. COURSE OF THE WORK

### II.1. Adoption of the Agenda and work Programme and designation of the Bureau of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session

7. The President of the Council of the Ministers of the PAGGW, H.E. Mr. Amedi CAMARA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, after having noticed that there was a quorum, remembered the Council of Ministers the project of Agenda and the bureau proposed by the Technical Committee of Experts.
8. The project of Agenda is adopted by the council and placed in appendix.
9. The proposed bureau is adopted and composed as follows:

Chairman: H.E.Mr.Amedi CAMARA, The Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania;

Vice chair: HE Ambassador O. AGAMAH GODWIN, Representing the Department in charge of Environment of the federal Republic of Nigeria;

Rapporteur(French version): H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye BALDE, The Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Republic of Senegal

Rapporteur (English version): H.E.Mr. Hassan ABDELGADIR HILAL, The Minister of Environment, Natural Resources and Physical Development of the Republic of Sudan.

### II.2. Examination of the Report of the Technical Committee of Experts' Meeting

10. After hearing the Report of the Technical Committee of Experts focusing on the items registered in the agenda and the recommendations proposed, the Council of Ministers took note of the Report.

### II.3. Technical and Financial Activities Report 2014

11. Regarding the technical aspects of the report, the Council of Ministers invites the Executive Secretariat to adapt the implementation of activities to their planning.



12. As for the financial aspects, the Council of Ministers asked the Executive Secretariat to improve the coherency of the document.

II.4. **The Council of Ministers**, In a close-door session restricted to ministers examined again points of the Agenda and took the following resolutions :

13. the Technical and Financial Report of Activities of the year 2014 of the Executive Secretariat, is examined and adopted under the condition that the financial accounts are audited and certified;

14. the projects of the Programme of Activities and the Budget of the Year 2015 were examined and adopted;

15. the issues related to the implementation of the GGW Initiative, in particular:

(i) **the report of the technical and financial execution was examined and adopted, ,**

(ii) **the Status of progress of the implementation of the GGW in the member States.** The country profiles were examined and validated;

(iii) **the financial contributions of the member States.** The Council of ministers proposed the maintain of the annual statutory contribution of each Member States at the current level of fifty million (50,000,000) FCFA and invited the member States to be up to date in terms of their due statutory contributions;

16. **The 2016-2017 roadmap of the Executive Secretary of the PAGGW.** The following Flagship Activities (FA) were reformulated after examination as follows:

(i) **FA02:** develop, evaluate and validate by the Council of Ministers, the 2011-2015 PAGGW' Global Report on the implementation of the GGW, including the certified and overdue financial report;

(ii) **FA05:** accelerate the accreditation process of the PAGGW before the African Union and the United Nations;

(iii) **FA06:** ask the member Countries that have not yet ratified to speed up the process of ratification;

II.5. The Council of Ministers then formulates the following Recommendations (Rec) and decides to submit them to the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the PAGGW:

**Rec.1.** Adopt the Technical and Financial Report of Activities, subject to accounts' audit and certification before the end of 2015;

**Rec.2.** Gives mandate to President of the Council of ministers to oversee the recruitment of the Administrative and Financial Director, the Internal Auditor and the External Auditor, avoiding they are of the same

nationality. For this end, it will make any necessary adjustments for the softening of selection criteria;

**Rec.3.** accelerate the process of the PAGGW's accreditation before the African Union Commission and the United Nations,

**Rec.4.** propose to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit of Heads of States and Government of PAGGW the recruitment of a new Executive Secretary for a mandate of three (3) years renewable once,

**Rec.5.** recommend the renewal of the mandate of current presidency of the Conference of the Heads of state and Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in recognition of efforts made by this country and the need to consolidate the PAGGW in its new headquarters established in 2013 in Nouakchott,

**Rec.6.** express gratitude to the Republic of Chad, its people and its President, **H.E. Idriss Deby ITNO**, for the efforts made for the PAGGW's radiation and functioning.

**II.6. Adoption of the final Report and Resolutions of the 4<sup>th</sup> ordinary Session of the Council of the Ministers**

17. The Council of ministers examined and approved the Report and resolutions of the 4<sup>th</sup> ordinary session held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 in Nouakchott

**II.7. Examination of the Draft Agenda and Programme of the Summit of Head of States and Government**

18. The Council of Ministers examined and approved the Drafts of the Agenda and Programme of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ordinary Summit of Head of States and Government.

**II.8. Other matters:**

19. Two (2) points have been addressed:

- (i) the Sudan's proposal to create a carbon bank in the framework of the Great Green Wall which could play a great role in the Great Green Wall's funding for the fighting against poverty and climate change has been accepted,
- (ii) the projects of Trans Africa Pipeline (TAP) and the protection of the transcontinental road infrastructures. The Council of Ministers mandated the PAGGW's Executive Secretary to proceed to the collection of additional information before the promoters for better assessment and proposal of decisions on the projects of Trans Africa Pipeline (TAP) and the protection of the transcontinental road infrastructures.



**III. CLOSING CEREMONY**

20. The Council of Ministers congratulates H.E.Mr. **Mohamed OULD ABDEL AZIZ**, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, his Government and the Mauritanian people for the efforts made in the implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative.

Done and adopted in Nouakchott on the 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2015

The President of the Council of Ministers

H.E.M. Amédi CAMARA,  
The Minister of Environment  
And Sustainable Development  
of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania

