

Blue Future Conference

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE BLUE ECONOMY AND CLIMATE ACTION IN AFRICA : ISLAND AND COASTAL STATES AT THE FOREFRONT

Draft Agenda

June 12-14, 2023 | Moroni, Union of Comoros

	ACTIVITY	REMARKS
DAY 0 – SUNDAY JUNE 11, 2023		
ALL DAY	ARRIVAL OF EXPERTS	
DAY 1 – MONDAY JUNE 12, 2023 Hotel RETAJ, Moroni		
OPENING SESSION		
08.30 - 09.00	REGISTRATION	Master of ceremony: Mr. Idjabou Bakari, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of the Comoros
09.00 - 09.05	WELCOME	Representative of the Union of Comoros
09.05 – 09.35	SETTING THE SCENE <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation of the objectives, format and expected results of the meeting- Questions & answers	Mr. Jean-Paul Adam, Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources, UN Economic Commission for Africa
09.35 – 10.05	OVERVIEW OF THE BLUE ECONOMY IN AFRICA <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Brief overview of the blue economy in Africa, its vision and an introduction on how the Great Blue Wall is crucial for the blue economy in Africa- Questions & answers	Ms. Barkha Mossae, Blue Economy Advisor, African Union Commission

10.05 – 10.35	<p>AFRICAN ISLAND STATES AT THE FOREFRONT OF BLUE ECONOMY AND CLIMATE ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation on Indian Ocean Commission actions on African island states, specificities of islands and opportunities for the blue economy and climate resilience - Consolidating peer to peer exchanges between island and coastal communities - Questions answers 	Pr. V. Marimoutou, Secretary General of the Indian Ocean Commission
10.35 – 11.00	Coffee break	
11.00 – 11.30	<p>PRESENTATION OF THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of the Great Blue Wall Initiative, progress made - Questions and answers 	Mr. Thomas Sberna, Regional Head - Marine and Coastal Resilience, IUCN
11.30 – 12.00	<p>CONTRIBUTION TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE OF WORK AND A JUST TRANSITION TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE LOW-CARBON BLUE ECONOMY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The socio-economic employment impacts of blue economy policies and strategies in the Western Indian Ocean - Discussion on Creating Decent Job Opportunities in the Great Blue Wall region 	Guided by the International Labour Organisation (ILO)
12.00 – 14.00	LUNCH	
2 p.m. – 6 p.m.	ROUND TABLE ON THE SPECIFICITIES OF AFRICAN ISLAND STATES	

14.00 – 14.15	<p>OPENING CEREMONY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcoming note of the UN Resident Coordinator in Comoros, Mr Francois Batalingaya - Opening speech by H.E. Mr Dhoahir Dhoukamal, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in charge of the Diaspora and Francophonie of the Union of the Comoros 	
2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	<p>ROUND TABLE #1: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THE BLUE ECONOMY FOR AFRICAN ISLAND STATES: CONNECTING TO THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA AND MARITIME SECURITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Presentations of 15 to 20 minutes in three parts: 1. Issues; 2. Achievements / actions undertaken; 3. Opportunities for African Island States</i> - <i>Exchanges and identification of recommendations</i> 	<p>Moderator: Mr. Saïd Aboudou, Secretary General of the Ministry of Economy of the Union of the Comoros</p> <p>Presentations (i) on the AFCFTA by Madeleine Nyiratuza, Regional Technical Advisor "Water, Ocean Governance and Biodiversity" of the UNDP and Komi Tsowou, Regional Program Advisor on the AFCFTA and (ii) on maritime security by Mr. Raj Mohabeer, in charge of the IOC mission</p>
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Coffee break and group photo	
16.00 – 17.30	<p>ROUND TABLE # 2: MOBILIZING AFRICAN ISLAND STATES IN COLLECTIVE CLIMATE - OCEAN ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Presentations of 15 to 20 minutes in three parts: 1. Issues; 2. Achievements / actions undertaken; 3. Opportunities for African Island States</i> - <i>Exchanges and identification of recommendations</i> 	<p>Moderator: Mrs. Najat Soidiki, Director General of the National Agency for the Promotion of Investment of the Union of the Comoros</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Anfani Msoili, IOC project manager - World meteorological organization (tbc) - Mr Aboubakar Diane, Senior Policy Officer, Disaster Risk Reduction

17.30 – 18.00	<p>Closing session of the round tables on the specificities of African island states</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conclusions and recommendations of round tables #1 and #2 - Closing remarks by the representative of the Union of the Comoros 	The Government of the Union of the Comoros
DAY 2 – TUESDAY JUNE 13, 2023 Hotel RETAJ, Moroni		
<p>EXPERT MEETING ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL</p> <p>The different sessions of the day will be led by experts to guide the development of the proposal for the implementation of the Great Blue Wall Initiative. Peer exchanges, best practices and inputs will be collected from participants on achieving a nature-positive blue economy/ocean space in Africa with a strong focus on Africa’s coastal communities.</p>		
09.00 - 09.15	FRAMING THE SESSION	
09.15 – 09.45	<p>GUIDANCE ON THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of requirements for developing a proposal under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) <p>Presentation of the GCF result areas, theory of change and co-financing requirements</p>	Representatives of the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

09.45 – 10.30	IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE AND THEORY OF CHANGE	<p>SETTING THE SCENE – Eleanor Mary La Trobe-Hogan (5 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High level reason why we are here; - Getting one step closer from vision to a reality via the Concept stage; - Clarification on GBW as a Program not a Project.; - Setting the scene: what we aim to achieve in the session – what the workshop hopes to achieve; - Guidance on what the experts will be doing; - Overarching principals; <p>THE HISTORY – IUCN (15mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How did GBW get to where it is today - What has happened and been discussed - Who has been involved - Input from others? <p>The THEORY OF CHANGE – Debasmita Boral Roland (5mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How the ToC is an essential piece to getting the Program one step closer to CN stage and reality - Put in context of GCF Blue Co. - GBW <p>THE GREAT BLUE WALL Theory of Change (20mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The development of the GBW ToC from all the work that has gone before (the practical process) - Provide an overview of the Impact statement - Highlight the outcomes and how they will be achieved through the 4 components <p>Q&A - Invitation for Questions</p>
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK	
10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE AND THEORY OF CHANGE	GROUP WORK - COMPONENT ONE

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE AND THEORY OF CHANGE	Group work – COMPONENT TWO As above
12.15 – 13.00	IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE AND THEORY OF CHANGE	Group work - COMPONENT THREE As above
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH	
14.00 – 14.45	IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE AND THEORY OF CHANGE	Group work – COMPONENT FOUR As above
14.45 – 15.30	IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE AND THEORY OF CHANGE	Group work – COMPONENT FOUR As above (CONTINUED)
15.30 – 15.45	COFFEE BREAK	
16.00 – 16.45	IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE AND ITS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE	Presentation Facilitated Q and A Invitation for participants to write suggestions on Post Its and bring to a master flip chart to gather feedback.
16.45 - 17.00	NEXT STEPS	
17.15 - 18.00	WORKING GROUP - MORONI DECLARATION	<i>Experts are invited to provide inputs to finalise the Moroni Declaration</i>
17.00 – 17.15	LAST WORD	IUCN / AUC / UNECA / IOC
DAY 3 – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2023 – PALACE OF THE PEOPLE, MORONI		
HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT		
09.00 – 09.30	ARRIVAL OF DIGNITARIES	

09.30 – 10.15	OPENING SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statements by Heads of AU Commission, UN, WMO, IUCN and IOC - Statement by African Union Champion on Blue Economy, the Republic of Seychelles - Speech by HE Mr. Azali Assoumani, President of the Union of the Comoros and Chairman-in-Office of the African Union 	Master of Ceremonies will guide the opening.
10.15 – 10:30 a.m.	GROUP PHOTO and NETWORKING BREAK	
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.	HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON THE BLUE ECONOMY: “ACCELERATE THE AfCFTA THROUGH A SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY”	<p>The session will engage with the African Union theme of the year “Acceleration of AfCFTA implementation” and provide a platform to discuss how the blue economy can contribute to the AfCFTA in a sustainable manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Interventions from Heads of Delegation; * Mr Wamkele Mene, Secretary General of the CFTA Secretariat; * Intervention of H.E Bernado Forjaz Viera Ivo Cruz, State Secretary for Internationalisation, Portugal * Partner interventions * Summary and closing the panel
11.30 - 11.45	Coffee break	
11.45 - 12.45	HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE ON AFRICAN ISLAND STATES AND THE GREAT BLUE WALL INITIATIVE	The Great Blue Wall Initiative is a game-changing African solution to the compounding crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and economic stagnation in the Western Indian Ocean region.
12.45 - 14.00	WORKING LUNCH – YOUTH AND WOMEN IN THE BLUE ECONOMY	
14.00 - 14.30	CLOSING CEREMONY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of the Moroni Declaration - Closing remarks 	

DAY 4 – THURSDAY JUNE 15, 2023

To be confirmed – SITE VISITS

ALL DAY	DEPARTURES	
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