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ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT – FOURTH SESSION- 2016

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

REPORT ON THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION  
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE OF PARTIES (UNCCD COP 12)

HELD IN ANKARA, TURKEY ON 12<sup>th</sup> TO 23<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER, 2015

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## ABBREVIATIONS /ACRONYMS

COW	-	Committee of the Whole (COW)
COP	-	Conference Of Parties
CRIC	-	The Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
CST	-	The Committee on Science and Technology (CST)
DLDD	-	Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought
GM	-	Global Mechanism
LDN	-	Land Degradation Neutrality
NGO	-	Non Governmental Organisations
SLM	-	Sustainable Land Management
SDG	-	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	-	United Nations
UNCCD	-	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

## **1.0 PREFACE**

On behalf of the Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 199 (6), it is my pleasant privilege and honour to present to the House the Report of the Committee on the Twelfth Session of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Conference of Parties.

The Conference was held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2015 in Ankara, Turkey. The Committee participated in the conference as part of the Kenyan delegation.

### **1.1 Committee Mandate**

The Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources is established under the National Assembly Standing Orders No. 216(1). The functions and mandate of the Committee are also contained under the National Assembly Standing Orders, No. 216(5) as:-

- a) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned Ministries and departments;
- b) Study the program and policy objectives of the Ministries and departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- c) Study and review all legislation referred to it;
- d) Study, access and analyze the relative success of the Ministries and Departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with its stated objectives;
- e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned Ministries and departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the House;
- f) Vet and report on all appointments where the constitution or any law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 204; and
- g) Make reports and recommendations to the House as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

The subject matter of the Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources are stated in the Second Schedule of the National Assembly Standing Orders No. 216 (f) as follows:

climate change, environment management and conservation, forestry, water resource management, wildlife, mining and natural resources, pollution and waste management.

## 1.2 Committee Membership

The Committee comprises of the following membership:-

1. Hon. Amina Abdalla, M.P. - Chairperson
2. Hon. Alexander. K. Kosgey, M.P. - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Alice Ng'ang'a, M.P.
4. Hon. Samuel Ndiritu, M.P.
5. Hon. Aisha Jumwa Karisa, M.P.
6. Hon. Ejidius Njogu Barua, M.P.
7. Hon. Jude Njomo, M.P.
8. Hon. Moitalel Ole Kenta, M.P.
9. Hon. Kathuri Murungi, M.P.
10. Hon. Sunjeev Birdi, M.P.
11. Hon. Jackson K. Rop, M.P.
12. Hon. Abdi Noor Ali, M.P.
13. Hon. Joyce Emanikor, M.P.
14. Hon. Abdulaziz Farah, M.P.
15. Hon. Ronald Tonui, M.P.
16. Hon. (Dr.) Reginalda Wanyonyi, M.P.
17. Hon. Gideon Mwiti, M.P.
18. Hon. Hassan Dukicha, M.P.
19. Hon. Chachu Ganya, M.P.
20. Hon. Opiyo Wandayi, M.P.
21. Hon. Charles Geni. Mongare, M.P.
22. Hon. (Dr.) Wilber K. Ottichilo, M.P.
23. Hon. Khatib Mwashetani, M.P.
24. Hon. George Ogalo, M.P.
25. Hon. (Major) Muluvi Mutua, M.P.
26. Hon. Mohamed, Diriye M.P.

27. Hon. Peter Kinyua, MP.

28. Hon. Shukra Hussein Gure, M.P

### **1.3 The Twelfth Session of the Conference of Parties**

The Conference is the main decision-making body of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Decisions at the Conference are taken by the representatives of Party countries to the Convention.

The Conference was opened during the high level segment on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 by the President of Turkey H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

The Parliamentary delegation comprised of the following:-

1. Hon. Amina Abdalla, MP – Leader of delegation
2. Hon. Kathuri Murungi, MP
3. Mr. Nicholas Emejen – Secretary to delegation

### **1.4 Adoption**

We the members of the Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources have pursuant to Standing Order 199 adopted this Report and affix our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity as per the attached adoption list.

### **1.5 Acknowledgement**

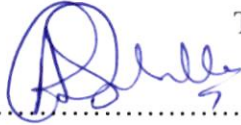
Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee wishes to register its appreciation to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the National Assembly for the support accorded to the Committee and the staff, in the execution of its mandate.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the Kenyan delegation to the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Conference of Parties for their patience, endurance and dedication in actively participating in the Conference.

On behalf of the Departmental Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, and pursuant to Standing Orders No.199 of the National Assembly, I now have the honour to present the Report of the Committee on the Twelfth Session of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Conference of Parties and commend it for adoption pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders of the National Assembly.

Thank You,



SIGNED .....

CHAIRPERSON

(HON. AMINA ABDALLA, MP)

DATE..... 28/6/2016 .....

## **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **Background**

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) conferences have since inception been held, respectively, in Italy, Senegal, Brazil, Switzerland, Cuba, Kenya, Spain, Argentina, South Korea and in Namibia. Turkey hosted and Chaired the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

### **2.1 Convention Bodies**

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification consists of a supreme body of decision-making and subsidiary bodies. These are:-

- The Conference of the Parties (COP);
- The Committee on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC);
- The Committee on Science and Technology;
- The Global Mechanism (GM); and
- The Secretariat

#### **2.1.1. Conference of the Parties (COP)**

The Conference is the supreme decision-making mechanism of the Convention and it is taking decisions with getting together the representatives of the Convention's Party countries representatives. As the supreme body of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties has been held annually from 1997 to 2001 (COP 1 - COP 5), and biennially from the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties. It has gathered eleven times until today.

#### **2.1.2 The Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC)**

CRIC is the body regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention's engagements required from the country parties. The 7<sup>th</sup> CRIC was held in Turkey, as the host country, in Istanbul in November 2008. CRIC works with the following objectives:-

- Identification of best practices for the implementation of the Convention and its



dissemination,

- Review of the strategic plan for the implementation of the Convention,
- Review of contributions to the implementation of the Convention by the Country Parties;
- Evaluation and monitoring of performance and effectiveness of the CRIC.

### **2.1.3. The Committee on Science and Technology (CST)**

CST is the body established to provide information and advice in technological and scientific matters on combating desertification and mitigating climate effects. CST sessions are conducted in parallel and are open to participation by all Country Parties. With the decision of COP and in order to take place in the CST, a group called "Independent Experts" of international experts with expertise and experience in related topics has been established. The Special Session of the CST was held once again in our country as host country, in Istanbul in November 2008.

CST work areas include thematic topics below:-

- Monitoring and Evaluation;
- Technical Conference of the United Nations Convention for combating Desertification;
- International Scientific Advices;
- Information Management; and
- Membership Program to Scientific Council.

### **3.0 CONFERENCE OPENING - THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT**

The high level segment of the UNCCD COP 12 was opened by H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the President of turkey. The President of Turkey called for a new approach to nature in order to find a lasting solution to climate change and desertification. The President emphasized Turkey's promotion of climate smart technologies and investment in land rehabilitation and called for

increased international cooperation and a new system to be agreed at the Paris climate change conference.

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) hosted its Twelfth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP12) in Ankara, Turkey, from 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2015. The Conference took place at the Congressium Ankara-ATO International Convention and Exhibition Centre.

During the opening plenary, Mr. Veysel Eroğlu, Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs of Turkey was elected as the new COP 12 President. The new President expressed his country's commitment to share its expertise in combating Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD) through afforestation measures, and announced the forthcoming launch of the Ankara Initiative, a multicultural platform for actions to combat DLDD. He said Turkey will provide an initial financial contribution of US\$5 million as well as capacity building support, particularly for African countries.

The COP's two subsidiary bodies, the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC), also convened in Ankara during COP 12.

In addition to hearing opening statements by parties, UN agencies and civil society, the opening plenary adopted the COP 12 agenda and organization of work, elected COP 12 Vice Presidents representing the five regional groups, and established a Committee of the Whole (COW) to consider, among other agenda items: implications for the UNCCD of the post-2015 development agenda; effective implementation of the Convention; programme and budget; and the mandate and scope of the Convention. Delegates also adopted the document on accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and admissions of observers.

Noting that recent reforms at the UNCCD Secretariat and the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD have introduced administrative reforms and cut operational costs, Barbud informed parties that the Secretariat will achieve "zero nominal growth" of the core budget for the next biennium.

In recognition of a three-day period of mourning for victims of the recent bomb attacks in Ankara, delegates observed a moment of silence to express their solidarity.

#### **4.0 TOPICAL ISSUES DURING THE CONFERENCE**

Decision-makers from the member States attended the COP 12 and discussed solutions to issues related to Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD).

##### **4.1 Land degradation**

Land rehabilitation is one of the pathways to sustainable development. By rehabilitating degraded land, many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would be more attainable. Land that is properly nurtured fosters food and water security and reverses negative climate change impacts, such as forced migration, by cultivating opportunities for growth and ensuring stability. To invest in the land is to invest in sustainable livelihoods. The goal of COP 12 was to provide practical steps to make the rehabilitation of degrading land areas a reality.

During the high-level meeting of the conference, ministers and other heads of delegation held round-table discussions and special plenary sessions to identify possible solutions to water scarcity, land degradation and desertification while upholding efforts to mitigate the effects of drought and preventing further land degradation.

COP 12 was expected to strengthen and expand stakeholder engagement and encourage more involvement of the parliamentarians, civil society organizations and the private sector in identifying and developing solutions to land degradation.

A breakthrough agreement, that will see that the amount of healthy and productive land may stay stable starting in 2030, was reached at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification. The parties also agreed on the indicators to measure progress and also strengthen measures to make the land resilient to climate change and to halt the biodiversity loss that follows the destruction of ecosystems.

With the adoption of the land degradation neutrality target all countries are required to formulate voluntary targets to achieve land degradation neutrality (LDN) according to their specific national circumstances and development priorities. The indicators will provide the basis for the monitoring and evaluation approach to assess implementation.

The agreement follows the adoption of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development in New York in September 2015. The Conference in Ankara was responding to a key target for 2030,

which is to combat desertification, and restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land-degradation neutral world.

The Parties meeting in Ankara agreed on the scientific definition of what it means to become land degradation neutral. The decision put the Desertification Convention on par with the Climate Change and Biodiversity Conventions, both of which have their own targets.

The COP 12 participants also agreed on the set of land-based indicators that will be used to measure progress, and adopted as the primary measures of land degradation neutrality globally. The Ankara Initiative valued at US\$5million from Turkey and an estimated US\$3 million to be sourced from the Global Environment Facility will provide the initial support, including for target setting. An estimated US\$2billion will be needed every year to support the actual restoration activities. The money will be mobilized through the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund that will be operation by end of 2016, and with diverse sources of financing, including from the private sector.

Turkey, as COP 12 President was tasked to present the Conference outcomes to the Paris 2015 Climate Conference taking place in December, 2015.

#### **4.2 Economics of land degradation**

Land degradation and desertification threaten fertile land and the benefits human society derives from it throughout the world. On a global scale, around 10 – 20% of drylands and 24% of the world's productive lands are degraded. The consequences are alarming: food insecurity, poverty, reduced availability of clean water, and increased vulnerability of affected areas to climate change. It is estimated that 1.5 billion people across the world are already directly affected through reduced income or food security. The annual economic losses due to deforestation and land degradation were estimated at 1.5 – 3.4 trillion Euro in 2008, equaling 3.3 – 7.5% of the global GDP in 2008. Competition for the scarce resources of soil and water is further intensified by the growing world population and increasing demand for alternative land management products.

Desertification, land degradation and drought are among the most serious environmental and

developmental threats the world faces today. They threaten global food and water security and contribute to biodiversity loss and climate change.

The inclusion of Land Degradation Neutrality in the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals reflects the growing consensus over this critical issue. Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) is a target that responds to the immediate challenge: How do we sustainably intensify the production of food, fuel and fibre to meet future demand without further degrading our finite land resources.

Globally, almost one third of all land on the planet is considered to be degraded or degrading, affecting 1.5 billion people. Many of these people live in developing countries in which the need to increase agricultural production is greatest. So land degradation lies at the heart of many development challenges, reducing land productivity and contributing to food insecurity, migration, and many other social and economic problems.

Land degradation also has a serious environmental impact. Biodiversity is essential for healthy, functioning ecosystems, and where soil is degraded, biodiversity is invariably lost. Land degradation can lead to wider ecosystem degradation and a breakdown of water and nutrient cycles, contributing to floods and droughts.

#### **4.1.1 Round Table 1: From global to local: Translating land degradation neutrality into action**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland, Mr. Gunnar Bragi Sveinsson, gave an inspiring keynote speech in which he urged Parties to think ‘outside the box’ in order to prosper. Drawing on lessons learned and recent efforts in land rehabilitation in Iceland, he emphasized the need to include all stakeholders from the beginning. He warned that without major achievements on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15 and its target 15.3, hunger and poverty will not be ended.

Many ministers alluded to decoupling economic growth from land degradation. Most ministers stressed the importance of strong investments from both private and public funding sources and how a target-setting approach could be effective in most countries. In mentioning that land degradation neutrality (LDN) represents a new paradigm for sustainable development that will require policy measures based on science, with simple indicators that can be monitored, references were made to the fact that traditional knowledge should also be harnessed to achieve

target 15.3. It was stated that LDN is a universally applicable target and each country needs to look at its own legal framework to decide how to proceed.

Several ministers highlighted the effectiveness of large-scale projects that improve livelihoods. Those ministers whose countries participated in the Land Degradation Neutrality Project (LDN Project) saw great benefits for operationalizing the LDN target, including how the monitoring framework was very helpful in prioritizing action on the ground. Since indicators and datasets must be validated at the national level, the need to understand what these indicators mean was stressed. Many ministers strongly supported the development of the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund (LDN Fund) to ensure sustained public–private financing to deal with poverty and land degradation simultaneously.

The Ministers strongly emphasized the direct linkages between land degradation, migration, insurgency and conflict and note that only an adequate legal framework for LDN would enable local communities to build capacity and make long-term plans that would create jobs, economic perspective and opportunity. It was also stressed that dust and sand storms increasingly affect large swathes of humanity. Preventing and mitigating their effects should be looked at critically in the UNCCD process. The round table meeting noted that degradation leads to hunger, poverty and migration. Political will that translates to action to achieve LDN is required urgently.

#### **4.1.2 Round Table 2: “Drought adaptation: mainstreaming drought management policy in national agendas and mitigating the effects of drought”**

The second roundtable was chaired by H.E. Pohamba Shiefta, Minister of Environment and Tourism of Namibia. The meeting was guided by the question, “What needs to be done by Parties to the Convention to enhance drought adaptation?”

It was stressed that combating drought is one of the most important issues for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The chairperson while acknowledging the joint efforts on capacity development in recent years in the formulation of national drought

management policies, called for more targeted support, including technical know-how, financial support for drought issues, and the urgent need to identify and adopt best practices in the area of drought management and mitigation. Countries were invited to contribute to the upcoming international conference on Drought Preparedness to be hosted by Namibia in August 2016.

The speakers emphasized the use of indigenous knowledge ('common sense science') by increasing community awareness of water management ('water literacy') and investing in small scale water harvesting. The involvement of diverse stakeholders, including civil society, government, NGOs, politicians, universities and research centres on drought issues was emphasized.

Participating countries called for the UNCCD to play a leading role in drought mitigation efforts and to invest in drought preparedness. Parties stressed that "environmental change is happening fast" and that "without water there is no food and no life". In particular, the link between drought, migration and insecurity was highlighted. Parties stressed that as more intense drought is a result of climate change and land degradation, it is therefore time for action on drought.

Countries came up with practical policy options to tackle drought, ranging from the need to integrate drought management at basin level, making best use of indigenous knowledge, to developing cutting-edge technology, community mobilization and enhancing the capacities of the drought-prone countries.

The following practical proposals for driving forward our agenda on drought were suggested:-

1. Institutionalizing a systematic approach to proactive drought management, especially early warning systems;
2. Developing comprehensive indicators of the prevailing drought situation in country Parties, including early warning systems, water quantity, access and quality, vulnerability and risk assessments;
3. Improving public awareness of drought risk and preparedness for drought, including financial incentives for the rational use of water;

4. Strengthening the link between land and water management measures to manage drought more sustainably;
5. Integrating early warning systems and land use planning at watershed level to mitigate the effects of drought;
6. Enhancing capacity at all levels of government to mitigate the effects of drought. In particular, countries should commit to developing and implementing national drought management policies and be supported in this endeavour;
7. Promoting international North–South cooperation, complemented by South–South cooperation, to foster drought policies in developing countries;
8. Establishing best practices for drought to enable the sharing of experiences among countries.

#### **4.1.3 Round Table 3: Land-based approaches to climate change: resilience through sustainable land management**

Round table three was co-chaired by Dr. Abdeladim Lhafi, High Commissioner for Water, Forestry and Desertification Control, Morocco and Mr. Gabriel Quijandria Acosta, Vice Minister for Strategic Development of Natural Resources, Peru

The meeting noted that Climate change, the loss of ecosystems and land degradation cannot be addressed in isolation from one another and require comprehensive solutions especially for the rural poor living in drylands.

Participants pointing out that climate change is a major driver of land degradation and vice versa. Land use and land-use change, produce a large part of global greenhouse gas emissions. On the other hand, climate change leads to changing rainfall patterns and more extreme droughts, which exacerbate land degradation. Parties highlighted that the combined effects of land degradation and climate change are a major threat to food security, impair rural livelihoods and cause out-migration. In this context drylands and poor communities are particularly vulnerable, considering their dependence on land for their livelihoods.



Considering the close interlinkages between land degradation and climate change, participants called for the role of land-based approaches to be strengthened in the fight against climate change. Representatives from several countries stated that land-based approaches are fundamental in most forms of climate change adaptation. In other words, adaptation needs to be 'down to earth'. Making sustainable use of the land's ecosystem services is key for maintaining and enhancing the resilience of communities.

Parties called for the scaling up of successful sustainable land management practices and stressed that the use of traditional knowledge and the implementation of early warning systems are effective tools in mitigating the destructive effects of climate change and land degradation before they occur.

The meeting participants highlighted that the land sector holds a vast, and largely untapped, potential for climate protection as land-based mitigation allows for both emission reductions and carbon sequestration. In view of the upcoming climate negotiations, it was emphasized that the land sector must be an integral part of any future climate agreement: "The 2 degree target can only be reached if the mitigation potential of the land is used much more comprehensively". Representatives added that the intended nationally determined contributions (INDCs) offer a tremendous opportunity for many African States, which can only act on climate change through land-based approaches.

Representatives called for a paradigm shift in climate finance, as current climate funds are insufficient. Integrated investment frameworks as well as microfinancing opportunities should be further developed. The meeting called for making better use of the synergies between fighting land degradation and mitigating climate change which requires closer collaboration between the Rio conventions and the involvement of NGOs, local communities and the private sector for real comprehensive action on the ground.

## 5.0 CONFERENCE DECLARATIONS

### 5.1 Ankara Ministerial Declaration

The Ministers, who attended the High-Level Segment at the Twelfth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), held on 20 and 21 October 2015 in Ankara at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Turkey declared that:-

1. Renew their commitment to the effective implementation of the UNCCD in order to address DLDD, combat its worst impacts and help eradicate poverty;
2. Take into consideration efforts to reinforce technical and scientific knowledge on DLDD;
3. Encourage active, diverse multi-stakeholder participation from all sectors of society in the implementation of the Convention;
4. Dedicate themselves to promoting gender equality and the role of women as actors of change in addressing DLDD;
5. Encourage efforts to scale up sustainable land management and promote practices that restore and rehabilitate degraded land;
6. Urge leadership to halt and reverse land degradation and combat desertification while taking into account biodiversity conservation and climate change;
7. Encourage Parties affected by DLDD to adopt voluntary national targets to achieve LDN;
8. Encourage stakeholders in a position to do so to facilitate technical and financial support for Parties wishing to develop the land degradation neutral target at national and local levels, with a focus on strengthening the capacities of the most affected countries;
9. Support policy measures and reforms that both enhance efforts to combat DLDD and ensure the access, control and stewardship of land, including the strengthening of tenure security, equal access and user rights for women and men;
10. Declare that sustainable land use can play a vital role in addressing climate change;
11. Resolve to enhance the resilience of the most vulnerable people to drought and sand and dust storms, including through concrete action such as facilitating the deployment of early warning systems and other relevant responses;
12. Encourage all stakeholders to strive to maintain and improve soil organic carbon levels as a means to address the three-fold challenges of food security, land degradation and

climate change.

## **5.2 Declaration by the Members of Parliament**

Under the banner “Framing of legislation to protect and rehabilitate land in the context of strengthened resilience to climate change” Parliamentarians and Parliaments declared and emphasized that:-

1. Desertification/land degradation and the needs of drylands deserve more global policy attention; cooperation and coordination among parliaments is encouraged to develop more coherent approaches;
2. In order to implement the Convention and achieve SDGs, country Parties and Parliaments need to integrate the goals and targets into national planning, policy, laws and budgets;
3. During COP 12, Parties of the Convention should consider adopting land degradation neutrality (LDN) as a global target to be reached by 2030 and an organizing principle;
4. Political parties should include the implementation of the SDGs, in particular SDG 15, in their manifestos and other policy documents as a matter of priority;
5. The enactment of enabling legislations and standards aligned with the objectives of the UNCCD and the LDN target must be supported by a clear roadmap in line with climate-resilient development pathways, and be accompanied by regular review processes;
6. Land should be fully integrated into the new global climate change agreement as both a mitigation and adaptation measure;
7. The mainstreaming of sustainable agriculture, farming with healthy soils and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in national priorities, and the coordination with international development cooperation efforts should be encouraged. An end must be put to calamitous agricultural protection arrangements and subsidized agricultural exports;

8. Land degradation issues, water scarcity, floods and water management problems deserve higher priority in order to overcome the marginalization and catastrophic situations experienced by dry land communities;
9. An integrative approach to dealing with the three Rio conventions the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UNCCD and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change must be realized and the synergies between them enhanced. Parties should adopt the use of common indicators for reporting under the Conventions as a way of effectively establishing a common baseline and measuring progress;
10. The improved governance of land, including the implementation of human rights-based approaches that incorporate gender mainstreaming and the consideration of the rights of the indigenous peoples, especially related to matters of access to and tenure of land, is vital;
11. Substantial, adequate, timely and predictable financial resources are needed to support activities to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought especially in Africa taking into account and advancing the natural capital approach;
12. While much of the investment in SLM comes from domestic and private sources, developed countries are urged to provide and mobilize enhanced financial support to developing countries for ambitious land - based actions, especially in those countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;
13. Higher and qualitatively better Official Development Assistance should also be used to support countries in establishing an enabling environment to achieve domestic resource mobilization, strengthen tax systems, and scale up and strengthen the institutional and human capacity from local to national levels, including targeted capacity - building for executive institutions, the judiciary and parliamentarians and other elected representatives;

14. The Global Environment Facility, the Global Mechanism, the Green Climate Fund and Initiative 20 x 20, with its target to restore 20 million hectares of degraded land in Latin America and the Caribbean by 2020, are and in the case of an investment fund for land degradation neutrality, could be appropriate instruments, if equipped with the necessary budgetary resources for promoting climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience measures undertaken within the UNCCD framework or soil-related programmes;
15. Public participation in political processes and civic engagement at all levels must be enhanced as population pressure mounts. In order to achieve LDN, partnerships at various scales and levels should be promoted and encouraged, including partnerships between parliaments, policymakers and decision-makers, the business sector, non-governmental organizations, local and community based organizations, youth and women's associations and the academic community. Regional cooperation among neighbouring countries with similar climate challenges should be promoted;
16. The creation of worthwhile and economically viable employment for a large number of people should be a joint task as it will help manage population dynamics and provide for basic needs in terms of food, energy and water;
17. Parliamentarians oppose soil sealing, land grabbing and other activities that degrade the land, harm the rural poor and undermine the LDN target. They recognize that land is often a private and productive asset, and that private investments should be encouraged if they are conducive to corporate social responsibility and sustainable, socioeconomic and human development, and consistent with environmental protection and climate resilience;
18. Parliamentarians welcome the active engagement and leadership of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the Turkish Chamber of Commerce at COP 12. They further welcome the launch of the United Nations Global Compact Soil Principles

aimed at sustainable soil management, which are to be respected by companies and the United Nations in collaboration with key civil society organizations and experts;

19. Legislation to support sustainable consumption and the production of ‘farm-to-fork’ agricultural products should be encouraged as such measures would prevent food waste and reduce the land footprint;
20. Financial tools and mechanisms should be developed to dissuade the private sector from engaging in degrading land practices while incentivizing private sector investment for the transition to SLM and the large-scale rehabilitation of degraded land with its inherent market opportunities;
21. Parliamentarians recognize that investing in early warning systems and land-based infrastructure is a cost-effective measure that builds resilience. Existing climate risk insurance, which provides coverage in the event of unavoidable weather -related risks and extreme drought, is intended to help people adapt to the adverse impacts of desertification and strengthen drought resilience. It should be made widely available and the coverage should be expanded further;
22. Sharing good practices, information, knowledge, experience and lessons learned with regard to SLM and LDN projects and programmes would facilitate the identification and replication of successful practices;
23. Parliaments and parliamentarians should act as agents of change and sensitize the public about the SDGs, particularly the goal of halting and reversing land degradation. The parliamentarians must proactively engage in spreading good practices as a cost-effective tool for combating desertification and spreading further awareness of land restoration practices. They are convinced that better teaching, education and training in land related issues are prerequisites for achieving LDN. Relevant land-related events, such as the World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June, help to raise awareness and ensure

greater visibility for DLDD issues. Such activities should be enhanced with more focused outreach to schools, academics, writers, artists and the mass media;

24. Parliamentarians will call for an annual debate on the state of the land at national level, including the opportunities inherent to SLM and the impacts of degraded land on urbanization and migration trends;
25. Parliamentarians will support effective land use planning that (i) manages the competing demands on land at local and national level; (ii) enhances land-based infrastructure; (iii) introduces taxation and subsidy systems in favour of the sustainable use of land resources; and (iv) secures access and tenure rights for all citizens and services that support local capacity development. Parliamentarians will review budget allocations for all programmes and legislation with these positions in mind;
26. Parliaments and parliamentarians endeavour to promote science and technology research findings on DLDD, for instance in the fields of desalinization and renewable energies; harness traditional knowledge; strengthen access to and capitalize on the benefits of modern information and communication technologies; and use the results of these scientific activities in policies and decision-making to benefit the public, private and civil society organization sectors in their efforts to address DLDD;
27. Parliamentarians will lead by example and convene meetings at constituency level to explore how to become land-degradation-neutral and integrate that approach into local development objectives and funding opportunities.





REPUBLIC OF KENYA



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

AGENDA: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION  
CONFERENCE OF PARTIES (UNCCD COP 12)

DATE: 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016 - TIME 4.00 PM VENUE: SERENA HOTEL MOMBASA

No.	Name	Signature
	<b>The Committee comprises of the following Members:-</b>	
1.	Hon. Abdalla, Amina, MP CBS, - Chairperson	
2.	Hon. Alexander Koskey, MP	
3.	Hon. Dukicha, Hassan Abdi, MP	
4.	Hon. Emanikor, Joyce Akai, MP	
5.	Hon. Ganya, Francis Chachu, MP	
6.	Hon. Geni, Charles Mongare, MP	
7.	Hon. Gure, Shukra Hussein, MP	
8.	Hon. Ole Kenta, Richard Moitalel, MP	
9.	Hon. Mohammed, Diriye Abdullahi, MP	
10.	Hon. Murungi Kathuri, MP	
11.	Hon. Ogalo, George Oner, MP	
12.	Hon. Sunjeev Kour Birdi, MP	
13.	Hon. Tonui, Ronald Kiprotich, MP	
14.	Hon. Dr. Wanyonyi, Reginalda, MP	

15.	Hon. Farah, Abdulaziz Ali, MP	
16.	Hon. Barua, Ejidius Njogu, MP	
17.	Hon. Irea, Gedion Mwiti, MP	
18.	Hon. Muluvi, Marcus Mutua, MP	
19.	Hon. Ndiritu, Samuel Mathenge, MP	
20.	Hon. Ottichilo, Wilber Khasilwa, MP	
21.	Hon. Rop, Jackson Kipkorir, MP	
22.	Hon. Abdinoor, Mohammed Ali, MP	
23.	Hon. Ng'ang'a, Alice Wambui, MP	
24.	Hon. Peter Kinyua, MP	
25.	Hon. Richard Makenga, MP	
26.	Hon. Jude Njomo, MP	
27.	Hon. Joyce Lay, MP	
28.	Hon. Isaac Mwaura, MP	
29.	Hon. Zuleikha Hassan Juma, MP	

MINUTES OF THE 39<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES HELD ON MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2016 AT 9.00 AM AT SERENA HOTEL, MOMBASA

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PRESENT

1. Hon. Ndiritu Samuel Mathenge, M.P
2. Hon. Geni Charles Mong'are, M.P.
3. Hon. Isaac Mwaura, M.P.
4. Hon. Zuleikha Hassan Juma, M.P
5. Hon. Muluvi Marcus Mutua, M.P.
6. Hon. Ganya Francis Chachu, M.P.
7. Hon. Ole Kenta Richard Moitalel, M.P.
8. Hon. Dr. Wanyonyi Reginalda N. M.P.
9. Hon. Dukicha Hassan Abdi, M.P.
10. Hon. Sunjeev Kaur Birdi, M.P.
11. Hon. Tonui Ronald Kiprotich, M.P
12. Hon. Ottichillo K. Wilber, M.P.
13. Hon. Richard Makenga, M.P
14. Hon. Jude Njomo, M.P.

APOLOGIES

1. Hon. Abdalla Amina, M.P. – **Chairperson**
2. Hon. Alexander Kosgey, M.P. – **Vice Chairperson**
3. Hon. Gure Shukra Hussein, M.P.
4. Hon. Mohamed Diriye Abdullahi, M.P
5. Hon. Kathuri Murungi, M.P.
6. Hon. Farah, Abdulaziz Ali, M.P.
7. Hon. Abdinoor Mohammed Ali, M.P.
8. Hon. Barua Ejidius Njogu, M.P.
9. Hon. Ng'ang'a Alice Wambui, M.P.
10. Hon. Peter Kinyua, M.P.
11. Hon. Joyce Lay, M.P
12. Hon. Emanikor Joyce, M.P.
13. Hon. Ogalo George Oner, M.P.
14. Hon. Irea Gideon Mwiti, M.P.
15. Hon. Rop Jackson Kipkorir, M.P

## THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

- |                            |   |                     |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Ms. Tracy Chebet Koskei | - | Clerk Assistant II  |
| 2. Mr. Hassan A. Arale     | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 3. Ms. Amran Yunis         | - | Fiscal Analyst      |
| 4. Mr. James Muguna        | - | Researcher          |
| 5. Mr. Joshua Lenambeti    | - | Serjeant At Arms    |
| 6. Ms. Alice Kitur         | - | Office Assistant    |

MIN.NO. DC-ENR/0141/2016:

### PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at 9.30 am after which prayers were said. The chair then welcomed the members to the meeting.

### MIN. NO. DC-ENR/0142/2016: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORTS

The Committee considered the following reports;

- I. Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pan-African parliamentary summit on climate change on 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Safari Park, Nairobi.
- II. Report on the inspection visit to Rangwe water supply project (Kosiga dam) phase I, Kimira-oluch small holder farm improvement project ( KOSFIP) and Lake Basin Development Authority Mall project.
- III. Report on the Inquiry on the Impact of the Standard Gauge Railway on the Biodiversity of Tsavo National park.
- IV. Report on the Twelve Session of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Conference of Parties (UNCCD COP 12) October 2015.
- V. Report on the Petition by Hon. Abdullahi Mohamed Diriye, M.P on behalf of the residents of downstream Ewaso Ng'iro river basin on the management of River Ewaso Ng'iro by the Water Resources Management Authority.
- VI. Report on the Petition by Hon. James Gakuya, M.P on the Dumping of soil in Ngong river side on Reuben side opposite St. Elizabeth primary school.

After lengthy consideration the following reports were adopted;

- a. Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pan-African parliamentary summit on climate change on 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Safari Park, Nairobi was adopted after it was proposed by Hon. Francis Chachu Ganya, M.P and seconded by Hon. Richard Makenga, M.P.
- b. Report on the Petition by Hon. Abdullahi Mohamed Diriye, M.P on behalf of the residents of downstream Ewaso Ng'iro river basin on the management of Ewaso Ng'iro water by the Water Resources Management Authority was adopted after it was proposed by Hon. Muluvi Marcus Mutua, M.P and seconded by Hon. Zuleikha Hassan Juma, M.P.

With the recommendations that, there is need for the construction of check dams along the river. Hon. Richard Ole Kenta, M.P and Hon. Samuel Ndiritu, M.P were tasked to work with the Secretariat to finalize the report.

- c. The Report on the twelve session of the United Nations convention to combat desertification conference of parties (UNCCD COP 12) October 2015 was adopted after it was proposed by Hon. Dr. Reginalda Wanyonyi and seconded by Hon. Ole Kenta Richard Moitalel.

The committee made the following observation and recommendations on the following reports; that,

- i. Report on the inquiry in the impact of the standard gauge Railway on the biodiversity of Tsavo National park. The committee constituted a sub-committee of nine members to analyze the submissions made by the Kenya wildlife service and report back to the committee by 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2016. The following were nominated, Hon. Ole Kenta, Hon. Samuel Nderitu, Hon. Wilber Ottichilo, Hon. Sunjeev Birdi, Hon. Dr. Reginalda Wanyonyi, Hon. Hassan Dukicha, Hon. Richard Makenga, Hon. Francis Chachu Ganya and Hon. Geni Mogare.
- ii. Report on the inspection visit to Rangwe water supply project (kosiga dam) phase 1, Kimira-Oluch small holder farm improvement project (KOSFIP) and Lake Basin Development Authority Mall project. The committee recommended that,
  - a) The Kimira –Oluch small holder farm improvement project the funds needs to be dispersed for the intended project not just allocated amount of 580Million by the National Treasury and invite treasury to shade light on the matter.
  - b) LBDA to proof whether the attorney general was made aware in the guarantee of land title deed in securing of loan from cooperative bank for the construction of the Mall.
  - c) LBDA to bring the partnership agreement with said investor plus his technical capabilities and the valuation report for project. Thereafter a subcommittee was formed comprising the following Members:
    1. Hon. Ogalo George oner, M.P
    2. Hon. Muluvi Marcus Mutua, M.P
    3. Hon. Francis Chachu Ganya, M.P
    4. Hon. Sunjeev Birdi, M.P
    5. Hon. Jude Njomo, M.P
    6. Hon. Tonui Ronald Kiprotich, M.P
    7. Hon. Peter Kinyua, M.P
    8. Hon. Joyce Emanikor, M.P
    9. Hon. Dr. Reginalda Wanyonyi, M.P
- iii. Report on the petition by Hon. James Gakuya, M.P on the Dumping of soil in Ngong river side on Reuben side opposite St. Elizabeth primary school.

The committee observed that, there is need;

- A. To engage the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources on how to deal with the Petition as the encroachment of the river was very hazardous and if not dealt with could result into a national disaster;
- B. Waste management is county function and the Committee had no oversight role over county governments;
- C. During the Committee's field visit, the Committee was informed of various action points agreed upon at a stakeholders meeting that comprised the Water Resources Management Authority, Nairobi County Government and the officials of the Ministry of Interior & National Coordination, there was need for all agreed action points to be implemented; and
- D. The 100 million allocate to ministry of environment and natural resources for rehabilitation programme should be spent on this river.

**WAY FORWARD.**

- 1. The committee should invite the cabinet secretary Ministry of Environment and Natural resources accompanied by NEMA and WRMA; the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Education; the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Lands those in charge of physical planning must accompany and the director of disaster management.
- 2. The Kshs. 100 million allocated to the Ministry of Environment and Natural resources for the Nairobi River rehabilitation programme should be used to be rehabilitate the river.

MIN.NO. DC/ENR-0143/2016:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1.30pm.

SIGNED.....

  
(Chairperson)

DATE.....

14/6/2016