Calendar of Major International Meetings

August 2026 - June 2027

Purpose. This information document identifies major international meetings of potential relevance to the Abidjan Convention. Any participation would remain subject to available resources, invitations and coordination with UNEP, Contracting Parties and partners.

Date	Meeting and location	Relevance to the Abidjan Convention
17-28 Aug 2026	**UNCCD COP17** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Land restoration, drought resilience and water security, including links between degraded watersheds, coastal resilience, mangroves and land-based pressures on the marine environment.
7-11 Sep 2026	**UNFCCC Climate Week 4** Baku, Azerbaijan	Implementation-focused discussions ahead of COP31 on adaptation, resilience, climate finance, NDCs and NAPs, with direct relevance to vulnerable coastal communities.
22-26 and 28 Sep 2026	**General Debate of the 81st session of the UN General Assembly** New York, United States	High-level opportunity for bilateral outreach on ratification of the Additional Protocols and BBNJ Agreement, champion countries, Trust Fund recovery, partnerships and visibility for COP15.
19-30 Oct 2026	**UN Biodiversity Conference - CBD COP17** Yerevan, Armenia	First collective review of progress under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including Target 3, restoration, marine and coastal biodiversity, OECMs, indicators and finance.
9-20 Nov 2026	**UN Climate Change Conference - COP31** Antalya, Türkiye	Ocean-climate nexus, coastal adaptation, NDCs and NAPs, loss and damage, nature-based solutions and climate finance for vulnerable coastal communities.
8-10 Dec 2026	**2026 United Nations Water Conference** Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	Direct relevance to source-to-sea management, land-based pollution, coastal water quality and integrated water-coastal governance. Senegal is a co-host.
11-22 Jan 2027	**First meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the BBNJ Agreement (COP1)** United Nations Headquarters, New York	Operationalization of the Agreement, including area-based management tools, capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, finance, institutional arrangements and cooperation with relevant instruments and bodies.
22-27 Mar 2027	**6th International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC6)** Dakar, Senegal	First IMPAC in Africa and hosted by an Abidjan Convention Contracting Party; major platform for 30x30, effective and equitable MPAs, regional networks, sustainable finance and BBNJ implementation.
7-9 Apr 2027	**2027 Ocean Decade Conference** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil *Ocean Decade Week: 5-9 April*	Major science-policy milestone of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, focused on moving from knowledge to action and shaping the Decade's legacy. Direct relevance to ocean data and services, coastal resilience, biodiversity, pollution, capacity development, sustainable ocean management and BBNJ implementation.

Time-sensitive opportunities. The deadline for in-person side-event proposals for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference is 31 July 2026; UN-system entities must submit through headquarters. For Ocean Decade Week 2027, applications to lead full-day Special Events on 5-6 April, including a regional Special Event focused on Africa, close on 31 August 2026. Joint applications are encouraged, but Lead Partners are expected to fully fund and resource the event. The Secretariat may therefore wish to assess promptly whether to join a consortium proposal or prepare for the later call for individual sessions.