Standalone 2026 Regional Consultative Meeting of the UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders, Africa

Agenda

16th-18th September, 2026

Best Western Premier Dynasty, Addis Ababa

***Theme:** African Civic Leadership in Environmental Multilateralism and Trade Amidst Geopolitical Volatility*

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD/RESPONSIBLE
<u>Wednesday, September 16, 2025</u> **High-Level Opening Session** **Facilitator:** Mũnene. Regional Facilitator, UNEP MGS, Africa		
0830	Welcome Address	Margaret Oduk, Acting Deputy Director, UNEP Regional Office for Africa
0840	Regional Facilitator	Fatou Ndiaye, Regional Facilitator UNEP MGS, Africa
0845	UNEP Civil Society Unit	Isaiah Otieno, Civil Society Unit, UNEP
0850	Women Major Group	Tess Gitau, Global Co-Facilitator UNEP WMG
0855	Children and Youth	Clive Donnley, UNEP CYMG Global Focal Point
0900	Partner Address	Norah Mugita, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)
0910		Durrel Halleson, WWF International – Africa
0920		Fred Kwame (Vice President, Global Leadership, African Wildlife Foundation)
0930		Mũkuhĩ Kamau – Deputy Finance Director, CYNESA
0940		Annastacia Kuria - Partnerships & Development Director, Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW)
1000		Niguse Hagazi - Ethiopia Country Representative, Landscape Alliance
1010	Address from the Federal Republic of Ethiopia	H. E. Dr. Fitsum Assefa Adela, Minister for Planning and Development, Federal Republic of Ethiopia
1020	Keynote address and Official Opening	H. E. Ambassador Moses Vilakazi, AU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
1030	Photo Session	Brian Nderitu Warigia (Designated Photographer)
	Tea break	
Youth and Women Day **Leads:** Clive Donnley, Global Coordinator, UNEP Children & Youth Major Group (CYMG) and Tess Gitau,		

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Global Facilitator, Women Major Group to the UNEP		
1100	Opening the meeting	Global Coordinators - Clive Donnley, Tess Gitau
1110	Scene Setting WMG/CYMG overview, and 2026 RCM Agenda Presentation	Oumnia Anfer, UNEP CYMG Africa Focal Point
11:25	Present a concise evidence-based overview of climate, biodiversity, pollution, trade and ocean challenges. Each speaker should identify one policy gap and one entry point for women and youth	AWF, CYMG and WMG technical speakers: TBC
11:40	Discuss meaningful participation in light of UNEP/EA.7/Res.6, the Pact for the Future, CSW70 and African environmental processes. Focus on representation, influence, financing, accountability and barriers to participation.	Moderator: TBC; Rabeb Aloui (WMG); UNEP representative; youth and African institutional voices: TBC
12:10	Examine how climate impacts interact with displacement, resource pressures, livelihoods, conflict and human security in Africa.	Emmanuel Justine, Programs Manager - Climate Change, ESAFF
12:35	UNEA 8 Preparations and women and youth participation	Isaiah Otieno, UNEP CSU
1300	Lunch	
1430	Thematic Group Work	Thematic Group Leads
1630	Tea break	
1700	Finalisation of Youth and Women Statement(s) and Propositions for adoption by the UNEP MGS Africa	Clive Donnley, Tess Gitau (Global Coordinators), Oumnia Anfer (UNEP CYMG Africa Focal Point), & Rabeb Aloui (UNEP WMG Africa Focal Point)
1745	Closing for the Day	TBD
Thursday, September 17, 2025 Facilitator: Fatou, Regional Facilitator UNEP MGS, Africa		
0900	Opening and Organization of the Day	Mũnene, Regional Facilitator, UNEP MGS, Africa
0905	Recap of the Youth and Women Day	CYMG Africa and WMG Africa – Pierra Wanjau (WMG Nairobi Focal Point & Member, CYMG)
0915	UNECA, the AMCEN21-COM59, and the Role of Africa's Civil Society	Cosmas Milton Obote Ochieng, Director, Climate Change, Food Security and Natural Resources Division, UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

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0935	Accreditation and MGS, Africa Capacity-sharing on UNEP/UNEA Processes	Peter Kirongothi, UNEP CSU
1000	Tea Break	
1030	**Multilateralism and Multilateral Order: The African Civil Society Perspective** ● Promoting "People's Multilateralism" ● Enhancing Regional-Global Multilateral Partnerships (synergies between UNEP MGS Africa and AU ECOSOCC) ● Geopolitical tensions and the impact on Africa	Dr. Gowtam Raj Chintaram - CSO Engagement Officer and Desk Officer for National Chapters, AU ECOSOCC (TBC) UNEP MGS, Africa AMCEN/UNEA Working Group (Clive Donnley, CYMG Global Coordinator & Co-Chair Group of Friends)
1055	**Climate Change and ICJ Advisory Opinion** ● COP32 ● Human Rights, Legal Accountability & Litigation ● Advocating for Climate Justice & Finance ● Mobilization, Sensitisation & Education	Niguse Hagazi - Ethiopia Country Representative, Landscape Alliance Allan Meso, Managing Partner at A.O. Meso Advocates
1120	**Trade and Environment** ● Implementing Climate-Resilient Trade ● Evidence-Based Policy Governance ● Sustainable and Inclusive AfCFTA Implementation ● Environmental and Community Safeguards	Carl Kibwage (Program Manager, KAS Regional Economy Programme)
1145	**Biodiversity** ● African Union Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (ABSAP) 2023–2030 and KM-GBF ● UNCBD COP17 ● Forest Restoration in Africa	Leah Wanambwa Naess (Senior Policy Officer Climate Change and Desertification Control, African Union Commission for Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy (SEBE) Directorate) UNEP MGS, Africa Biodiversity Working Group
1210	**Pollution** ● Plastic Pollution and the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to End Plastic Pollution Including in the Marine Environment ● Chemicals and Waste	Alexander Mangwiro Regional Coordinator, Chemicals and Pollution Action UNEP MGS, Africa Pollution Working Group
1235	**MGS Role in Implementation of UNEA Resolutions**	Isaiah Otieno, UNEP CSU
1255	Briefing on Drafting	Fatou/Mũnene, Regional Facilitators, UNEP MGS, Africa
1300	Lunch	

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1430	Thematic Drafting	Fatou/Mũnene, Regional Facilitators, UNEP MGS, Africa
1440	Organization of Thematic Drafting	Group Leads: 1. AMCEN/UNEA (Catherine Chumo + Clive Donnley) 2. Pollution/Minamata Convention (Tess Gitau) 3. INC 5.2 and Plastic Pollution (Ana Rocha, Anna Odur + Mohamed Kamal) 4. Climate change and COP32 (Oumnia Anfer + Nora Mugita) 5. Biodiversity, RAMSAR, CMS & CITES (Harifidy Ralison, Wellington Matsika and Peter Njeru) 6. Trade and Environment (Ellen Otaru-Okoedion + Carl Kibwage)
1530	Check-in	Regional Facilitators/Working Group Co-Chairs, UNEP MGS, Africa
1630	Tea Break	
1700	Closing	Fatou Ndiaye, Regional Facilitators, UNEP MGS, Africa
Friday, September 18, 2025		
0900	Opening and Organization of the Day	Fatou/Mũnene, Regional Facilitators, UNEP MGS, Africa
0905	Recap of the Previous Day	Rapporteur (Joyce Nyaga, Patriciah, KAS)
0915	Consolidation of Final Outcomes	Fatou/Mũnene, Regional Facilitators, UNEP MGS, Africa
1100	Tea Break	
1130	Consolidation of Final Outcomes	Fatou/Mũnene, Regional Facilitators, UNEP MGS, Africa
1300	Lunch	
1430	Enhancing the UNEP MGS, Africa: Going Forward, Opportunities and Means	Isaiah Otieno, UNEP CSU MG and Regional Facilitators
1500	Adoption of Final Outcomes Closing	Fatou/Mũnene, Regional Facilitators, UNEP MGS, Africa
1530	Tea Break	