

AMCEN@40 and Africa's Environmental Priorities for 2025–2027

A presentation made during the RCM 2025 ahead of the 20th Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment – 11 July 2025

AMCEN History

- Established in 1985 in Cairo
- Was created to coordinate environmental policy across the continent and to articulate joint positions in global negotiations
- Has served as Africa's premier platform for environmental policy and diplomacy

AMCEN Key Achievements

- **Strengthened Africa's Voice in Global Environmental Diplomacy** – establishment of AGNs and Influenced major outcomes like the Loss and Damage Fund and Global Goal on Adaptation
- **Provided Science-to-Policy Leadership** - Africa Environment Outlook (AEO); Africa Waste Management Outlook and Africa Environment Information Network (AEIN)
- **Facilitated Sustainable Finance and Cross-Sector Partnerships** - collaboration with Ministries of Finance; Promoted natural capital accounting, green budgeting, and climate finance training

AMCEN Key Achievements – Cont'd

- Influence within UNEP and UNEA - Sponsored and influenced UNEA resolutions on innovation, regional forums, and sustainable development.
 - Promoted ratification and implementation of MEAs - Rio Conventions, Bamako, Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, and Minamata Conventions
 - Spearheaded Ecosystem Restoration and Land Management initiatives - such as Great Green Wall Initiative and Pan-African Action Agenda on Ecosystem Restoration.
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AMCEN Key Achievements – Cont'd

- Advanced Africa's leadership in Pollution and Waste Management - Promoted circular economy through the Africa Circular Economy Alliance (ACEA) and Launched a multi-stakeholder partnership to eliminate open burning of waste by 2040
- Integrated environmental safeguards into the African Mining Vision and Green Minerals Strategy
- Enhanced inclusive stakeholder engagement – launched the AEO-Youth and Increased UNEP-accredited African CSOs significantly between 2022 and 2025

Strategic Priorities 2025–2027

➤ Climate Action

- Implement AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy
 - Invest in sustainable cooling technologies
 - Leverage African Green Minerals Strategy
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Strategic Priorities 2025–2027 – Cont'd

➤ Biodiversity and Land Restoration

- Implement African Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
 - Address land degradation and drought
 - Promote nature-positive food systems
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Strategic Priorities 2025–2027 – Cont'd

➤ Pollution Control

- -Shift to clean fuels and technologies
 - Implement air quality measures
 - Address mercury pollution from artisanal mining
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Strategic Priorities 2025–2027 – Cont'd

➤ Environmental Governance

- Strengthen legal and institutional frameworks
 - Promote ratification of regional and global agreements
 - Advance environmental rights and rule of law
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Strategic Priorities 2025–2027 – Cont'd

➤ Digital Transformation

- Build inclusive environmental data architecture
 - Use digital public goods for climate and biodiversity goals
 - Engage finance ministries in data-driven policymaking
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Strategic Priorities 2025–2027 – Cont'd

➤ Sustainable Financing

- Develop green investment mechanisms
 - Create a common African framework on sustainable budgeting
 - Convene joint sessions with finance ministers
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Thank you



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