



AMCEN AU

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African Ministerial Conference on the Environment Twentieth Session

Ministerial Segment
Nairobi, Kenya 16 and 17 July
2025

Report of the meeting of the twentieth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment

I. Opening of the Meeting

1. The 20th Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) convened under the theme: *“Four Decades of Environmental Action in Africa: Reflecting on the Past and Imagining the Future.”* The session marked AMCEN’s 40th anniversary and was hosted by the Government of Libya.
2. H.E Jacques Assahoré Konan, the Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition for Côte d'Ivoire, and AMCEN Vice-President opened the meeting. H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs delivered the official opening address.
3. Her Excellency Dr. Fitsum Assefa Adela, Minister of Planning and Development of Ethiopia and President of AMCEN was not able to join us due to an unexpected emergency.
4. The meeting was attended by representatives of member States of the Conference, other States, African regional and subregional organizations, United Nations entities and the secretariats of various environmental conventions, partners and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

II. Organizational Matters

A. Election of Officers

5. following countries were elected to serve on the Bureau for the period 2025–2027:

Subregion	Country	Position
North Africa	Libya	President
Central Africa	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Vice-President
East Africa	South Sudan	Vice-President (Rapporteur)
Southern Africa	Namibia	Vice-President
West Africa	Ghana	Vice-President

6. The Acting President invited the incoming President, Mr. Ibrahim Munir of Libya, to take his place on the podium and, at which point the presidency of the Conference was officially handed over from Ethiopia to Libya.

B. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

7. The meeting adopted the agenda for the meeting on the basis of the provisional agenda AMCEN/20/1.
 - Official opening of the twentieth session
 - Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of officers
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
 - Consideration of the report of the meeting of the expert group
 - Outcomes of Africa's Engagement in Recent Key Global Meetings
 - Consideration of Africa's common positions and participation in upcoming international environmental meetings and conferences
 - Progress on Implementation of AMCEN decisions
 - AMCEN priorities for the period 2025 to 2027
 - Ministerial Policy Dialogues
 - Trust Fund of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment
 - Consideration of the draft declaration, decisions, and key messages of the session
 - Venue and dates of the twenty-first ordinary session
 - Adoption of the report of the ministerial meeting
 - Other matters
 - Closure of the meeting
8. The meeting agreed to follow the programme of work set out in annex II to the annotated provisional agenda (AMCEN/20/1/Add.1).

III. Consideration of the report of the meeting of the expert group

9. The Chair of the Expert Group presented the outcomes of the expert segment, including draft decisions and recommendations. Ministers took note of the report. The meeting took note of the report.

IV. Outcomes of Africa's Engagement in Recent Key Global Meetings

10. The Secretariat presented a summary of Africa's participation in key global forums, including: - CBD COP 16; UNFCCC COP 29; INC-5.1 on plastic pollution; UNCCD COP 16 and, the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions. The meeting took note of Africa's contributions to these global meetings as well as the lessons learnt.

V. Consideration of Africa's common positions and participation in upcoming international environmental meetings and conferences

11. Africa's common positions to upcoming conferences and key messages were presented and endorsed by the conference.

VI. Progress on Implementation of AMCEN decisions

12. The Secretariat reported on progress in implementing past AMCEN decisions. The meeting acknowledged the progress and took note of the report.

VII. AMCEN priorities for the period 2025 to 2027

13. The Secretariat outlined proposed priorities for the next biennium, based on expert recommendations. These were endorsed by ministers.

VIII. Ministerial Policy Dialogues

14. Four thematic dialogues were held. These included;
 - (a) Climate-resilient financing and budgeting
 - (b) Leveraging the G20 for Africa's environmental agenda
 - (c) Digital technologies, AI, and early warning systems

(d) Critical minerals and energy transition

15. Outcomes from these dialogues will be incorporated in the outcomes of the Session.

IX. Trust Fund of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment

16. The Secretariat presented the status of the AMCEN Trust Fund and the UNEP Environment Fund emphasizing the need for member states to meet financial commitments. Members pledged to meet their financial commitments and also requested the Secretariat to regularly issue invoices.

X. Consideration of the draft declaration, decisions, and key messages of the session

17. The session reviewed and refined the draft ministerial declaration, decisions, and key messages, which were adopted by consensus.

XI. Venue and dates of the twenty-first ordinary session

18. It was proposed and agreed that the 21st AMCEN session be held jointly with the 59th session of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in 2027. The Secretariat in consultation with the President and Bureau will work on the modalities and the dates.

XII. Adoption of the report of the ministerial meeting

19. A representative of the secretariat introduced the draft report of the ministerial segment. The meeting agreed to entrust the finalization of the report to the secretariat and adopted the report on that basis.

XIII. Other matters

20. There were no other matters

XIV. Closure of the meeting

21. The session concluded with closing remarks and expressions of appreciation to the host country and participants.