





Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP15), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP27)

Joint Statement of the Presidents

Noting the opportunity provided this year by the 31st anniversary of the 1992 Rio Convention to bring together countries, civil society and business to accelerate the implementation of the UN Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of land degradation neutrality, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Recognizing that while the huge finance gaps have been hindering developing countries from achieving the above goals and objectives, the operating entities of the financial mechanisms of the three Conventions, are crucial to ensure the delivery of financing needs of developing countries under the three Conventions. In this regard, the Global Environment Facility, bolstered by its eighth replenishment, the Green Climate Fund through its second replenishment process, are positioned to increasingly meet the financing needs for multi-sector projects and programmes that address land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change in an integrated manner.

We the undersigned wish to highlight the importance of national and global action to maximise delivery of the interlinked objectives of the UNCCD, CBD and UNFCCC.

Climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation pose existential threats to nature and humanity. The linkages between them have been clearly established. Our actions to address them must also be interlinked and coordinated as there is no pathway to achieving our goals on climate, biodiversity or land without tackling them together, and we welcome relevant initiatives in this regard.

Noting we the undersigned highlight the importance of urgent action, restoration and transformation, through, interalia, uniting the land, biodiversity and climate actions for the survival and development of people and the planet.

Achieving the goals of the three Rio Conventions will require enhanced cooperation, coordination and action at all levels: globally, regionally, nationally and sub-nationally, with the full participation of all stakeholders.

The Rio Conventions, along with the Sustainable Development Goals, through their principles and provisions, provide a broad and actionable blueprint for building a better future. Countries, corporations, and communities can draw on each Convention's ambitions, clear targets and principles, and agreed pathways, as appropriate, for action at all levels to prevent, halt and reverse land degradation and the loss of biodiversity, and mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Future meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the three Rio Conventions will be important opportunities to foster collaboration at all levels and set the stage that leaves no one behind.

Therefore, we the undersigned call on Parties to the three Rio Conventions to collectively work to advance the intertwined objectives of the Rio Conventions in accordance with respective mandates of each Convention, both internationally and nationally, to ensure a sustainable future for humanity and the planet.

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H.E Alain-Richard DONWAHI

UNCCD COP15 PRESIDENT

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