PROGRAMME
2nd World Environmental Law Congress
A Critical Decade for Environmental Law

African Environmental Law Congress
Water, Desertification, and Law
Rabat, Morocco
Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training
Wednesday 28 July – Thursday 29 July, 2021

All times are in Rabat, Morocco time (GMT +1)

Wednesday 28 July 2021

Opening Ceremony & Welcoming Remarks by the Organizers
13:00 – 13:45 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Chair:
● Christina Voigt (Steering Committee Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, Professor, University of Oslo)

Speakers:
● Bruno Oberle (Director General, International Union for the Conservation of Nature), Video
● Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
● Arnold Kreilhuber (Acting Director, United Nations Environment Programme - Law Division)
● Nouzha Alaoui (Secretary General, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection)

Congress Introduction
13:45 – 14:10 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

● Nicholas Bryner (Deputy Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
● Ayman Cherkaoui (Senior Manager, Strategic Development, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection)

Keynote Presentations: Water, Desertification and Climate Change Law in Africa
14:10 – 15:10 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
● Kristen Walker Painemilla (Chair, IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy)
● Samira Benabdellah (Director, Hassan II International Center for Environment Training, Morocco)
Keynote Speakers:
- Cheikh Toure (Head of the Regional Office in Africa, United Nations Convention on the Fight against Desertification)
- Pamela Towela Sambo (Professor, University of Zambia)

Health Break
15:10 – 15:30 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

First High-Level Round-Table Dialogue: Environmental Law, Water and Climate Change: General Trends & Challenges in Africa
15:30 – 16:30 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
- Mamadou Diallo (Regional Councilor for Africa, IUCN)
- Houria Tazi Sadeq (Governor at the World Water Council, President of the Moroccan Coalition for Water, Morocco)

High Level Introduction on the theme:
- Emmanuel Ugirashebuja (Former Chief Justice, East African Court, Rwanda)

Round-Table Speakers:
- Robert Wabunoha (Regional Coordinator, Environment Governance, UNEP)
- Pedi Obani (Assistant Professor, University of Bradford, Nigeria)
- Robert Kibugi (Professor, University of Nairobi, Kenya)

Second High-Level Round-Table Dialogue: Environmental Law, Desertification and Climate Change: General Trends and Challenges in Africa
16:30 – 17:30 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
- Nicholas Bryner (Deputy Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
- Denise Antolini (Steering Committee Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)

Round-Table Speakers:
- Emmanuel Kam Yogo (Professor, University of Douala, Cameroon)
- Leïla Chikhaoui-Mahdaoui (Professor, University of Carthage, Tunisia)

Key Recommendations emerging from the First Day of the Congress
17:30 – 18:00 GMT +1 (Morocco)
- Ayman Cherkaoui (Senior Manager, Strategic Development, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, Morocco)

Reception
18:00 GMT +1 (Morocco)
Thursday 29 July

Summary of the First Day of the Congress
10:15 – 10:30 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)
   ● Ayman Cherkaoui (Senior Manager, Strategic Development, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, Morocco)

Third High Level Round-Table Dialogue: Brasilia 2018 Declaration of Judges on Water Justice & Dakar 2021 (9th World Water Forum)
10:30 – 11:30 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
   ● Aliou Faye (Regional Director, West and Central Africa, IUCN)
   ● Maria Muavesi (Steering Committee, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, Coordinator of the Inaugural IUCN Oceania Environmental Law Conference, Fiji)

High Level Introduction on the Brasilia 2018 Declaration of Judges on Water Justice:
   ● Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
   ● Stefano Burchi (Chair, IUCN WCEL Water and Wetlands Specialist Group)

Speakers:
   ● Saholy Rambintsaotra (Professor, University of Antananarivo, Madagascar)
   ● Ibrahima Ly (Professor, University of Dakar, Senegal)

Discussion on the Key Recommendations of the Congress
11:30 – 11:45 GMT+1 (Rabat, Morocco)
   ● Ayman Cherkaoui (Senior Manager, Strategic Development, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, Morocco)

Health Break
11:45 – 12:00 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Fourth High Level Roundtable: Water, Desertification and Climate Change Law in the Context of UNCBD COP 15, UNFCCC COP26, UNEA 5.2 and UNCCD COP 15
12:00 – 13:00 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
   ● Jennifer Mohamed-Katerere (Regional Councilor for Africa, IUCN)
   ● Brahim Haddane (Regional Vice Chair, North Africa, Commission on Education and Communication, IUCN)

High Level Introduction on the theme:
   ● Christina Voigt (Steering Committee Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, Professor, University of Oslo)
Speakers:
- Yacouba Savadogo (Coordinator, French Speaking Africa Network of Environmental Jurists, Burkina Faso)
- Damilola Olawuyi (Professor, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Expert Member, African Union’s Working Group on Extractive Industries, Environment and Human Rights, Nigeria)

Lunch Break
13:00 – 14:00 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Fifth High Level Roundtable: The Brasilia 2018 Declaration of Judges on Water Justice
14:00 – 15:30 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
- Justice Ragnhild Noer (Steering Committee Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
- Justice Sapana Pradhan Malla (Steering Committee Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
- Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)

Speakers:
- Justice Nambitha Dambuza (Justice, Supreme Court of Appeal, South Africa)
- Justice Millicent Odeny (Justice, High Court of Kenya)
- Justice Elisa Samuel (Dean, Judicial Academy, Mozambique)
- Justice Imane El Malki (Cour de Cassation, Morocco)

WCEL Nicholas Robinson Environmental Law Award Ceremony
15:30 – 16:00 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
- Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
- Christina Voigt (Steering Committee Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, Professor, University of Oslo)
- Ayman Cherkaoui (Senior Manager, Strategic Development, Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, Morocco)

Award Recipients:
- Elizabeth Mrema (Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity)
- Ali Mekouar (Professor, University of Casablanca, Morocco)

Special Guest:
- Nicholas Robinson (Chair Emeritus, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
High Level Closing Sessions of the Congress
16:00 – 17:15 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Closing High Level Keynote Address by Elizabeth Mrema (Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity)
16:00 – 16:30 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
- Nicholas Robinson (Chair Emeritus, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)
- Luther Anukur (Regional Director Eastern and Southern Africa, IUCN)

Keynote Speaker:
- Elizabeth Mrema (Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity)

Closing Ceremony and Special Thanks
16:30 – 17:15 GMT +1 (Rabat, Morocco)

Co-Chairs:
- Grethel Aguilar (Deputy Director General, International Union for the Conservation of Nature)
- Christina Voigt (Steering Committee Member, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, Professor, University of Oslo)

Keynote Speaker:
- Zhang Xinsheng (President, International Union for the Conservation of Nature), Video

Speakers:
- Robert Wabunoha (Regional Coordinator, Environment Governance, UNEP)
- Alejandro Iza (Director, IUCN Environmental Law Centre)
- Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law)