



**THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE AND  
GOVERNMENT OF THE PAN-AFRICAN AGENCY OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL  
DECEMBER 02, 2021**

**FINAL COMMUNIQUE**



1. The 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall was held in videoconference on December 02, 2021, under the chair of H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ould GHAZOUANI, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and current President of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall.
2. Have attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit, the following Heads of State and Government or their representatives:
  - **His Excellency Mister. Roch Marc Christian KABORE**, President of FASO, for the Burkina Faso;
  - **His Excellency Mister. Mahamat Idriss Deby**, President of the transition for the Republic of Chad;
  - **His Excellency Mister. Mohamed Ould GHAZOUANI**, President of the Republic for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania;
  - **His Excellency Mister. Mohamed BAZOUM**, President of the Republic, for the Republic of Niger;
  - **His Excellency Mister. Macky SALL**, President of the Republic, for the Republic of Senegal
  - **His Excellency Mister Choguel Kokalla Maiga**, Prime Minister, Representing His Excellency Mister Assimi GOITA, President of the transition, Head of State for the Republic of Mali;
  - **Madam Sharon Okeazor**, State Minister of Environment Representing His Excellency Mister Muhamadu BUHARI, President of the Republic, for the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
  - **Monsieur Al-Hadi Idriss Yahya**, member of the Sovereign Council of the transition representing His Excellency Mister Abdel Fattah Abdelrahmane al-Burhan, President of the Sovereign Council of the transition for the Republic of Sudan.
3. Also took part in the 4<sup>th</sup> Summit and delivered messages, the distinguished guests: H.E.Mr. Emmanuel MACRON, President of the French Republic, Chairperson of the One Planet Summit (OPS), H.E.Mrs. Amina J. Mohamed, Vice-Secretary General of the United Nations, H.E.Mr. Moussa Mahamat FAKI, Chairperson of the African Union Commission and Dr. Kevin KARIUKI Vice-President, representing Dr. Akinwumi ADESINA, President of the African Development Bank Group.
4. Also present at the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit were: Mrs. Marieme BEKAYE, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Mauritania and current President of the Council of Ministers, Prof. Abdoulaye DIA Executive Secretary of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall and heads or representatives of International Financial and Technical Institutions: FAO, World Bank, IFAD, GEF, UNDP, UNEP, AFD, IDB, CNUDL, IUCN and H.E the Ambassador Philippe LACOSTE, Director of Sustainable Development of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France.



5. H.E.Mr. Mohamed Ould GHAZOUANI opened the solemn ceremony with a minute's silence observed in memory of the late Idriss Deby ITNO, former President of Chad and first current President of the Pan- African Agency of the GGW.
6. The Opening Ceremony continued with the speech of President Mohamed Ould GHAZOUANI preceded by messages from distinguished guests: HEM. Emmanuel MACRON, President of the French Republic, President of the One Planet Summit, Mrs. Amina J. Mohamed, Vice Secretary-General of the United Nations, Moussa Mahamat FAKI, President of the African Union Commission, and Dr. Kevin KARIUKI Vice-President, representing the President of the African Development Bank Group and the word of Prof. Abdoulaye DIA, outgoing Executive Secretary of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall.
7. THE CONFERENCE thanked the distinguished guests and took note of their commitments to the implementation of the Great Green Wall, an emblematic and relevant African Flagship Program, hailed by all, as a model solution to sustainably build the resilience of ecosystems and the social and economic development of local communities in the Sahel.
8. THE CONFERENCE heard a communication of Mrs Marieme BEKAYE, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Mauritania, outgoing President of the Council of Ministers, on the Report and Recommendations of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, preparatory to the present 4<sup>th</sup> Summit. The Conference commended the Council of Ministers and the Executive Secretary for the important work accomplished and took note of the Report and Recommendations.
9. THE CONFERENCE after exchanges approved the 2030 Vision and the integrated, multisectoral and holistic approach in the GGW, to bring about the transformational changes of the GGW lands into zones of economic prosperity and sustainable development, through the reversal of advanced degradation trends and the restoration of the natural capital viability and the resilient socio-economic development of the land,
10. THE CONFERENCE commended the significant achievements in the first decade 2011-2020 of actions, despite the lack of funding, which constitute solid milestones and levers for the implementation of the New and Strong GGW 2030 Ambition which targets in particular the restoration of 100 million hectares of degraded agricultural, pastoral and forest lands, the sequestration of 250 million tons of carbon, the creation of 10 million green jobs and the resilient economic development in the GGW terroirs.
11. THE CONFERENCE endorsed the 2021-2030 Decennial Priority Investment Plan (DPIP) and the 2021-2023 Roadmap of the Executive Secretary of the GGW and committed the Pan-African Agency and the national structures of the Great Green Wall to ensure efficient operational coordination and optimal accountability in implementation.
12. THE CONFERENCE acknowledged the relevance and timeliness of the creation of a Great Green Wall Carbon Bank (GGBCB) and an Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change and Local Economic Development Fund (ARCLEDF) and urged the PAGGW to conduct additional studies to ensure the technical and financial viability and operation of these instruments, during the year 2022.



13. THE CONFERENCE also approved the creation of an Economic Forum of the Great Green Wall Outputs (FOREP) and requested the Pan-African Agency, in conjunction with the Member States, the local private sector, the international financial institutions and the economic and monetary communities, to start organizing the first edition before the end of year 2022.
14. THE CONFERENCE, as part of the achievement of the Great Green Wall, designated the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall as the implementing agency and the GGW national structures as the executing Agencies of the Great Green Wall Programs/Projects and requested the African Union Commission to strengthen its support to the Agency and urged the International Financial Institutions to take note and facilitate the implementation.
15. THE CONFERENCE thanked the international financial institutions and renewed its gratitude to H.E.Mr. Emmanuel MACRON, President of the French Republic, and Chairperson of the One Planet Summit, His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, H.E.Mr. Antonio GUTERRES, Secretary General of the United Nations and H.E.Mr. Moussa Mahamat FAKI, Chairperson of the African Union Commission and Mr. David MALPASS, President of the World Bank Group for their advocacy and the GGW Investment Forum organized on the sidelines of the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the One Planet Summit, held at the Elysée in France on January 11, 2021, which resulted in the announcement of financial commitments of the order of 19.6 billion U.S. dollars in the period 2021-2025.
16. THE CONFERENCE approved the important Resolution presented by H.E.Mr. Macky SALL, President of the Republic of Senegal, for the maintenance in African countries of financing mechanisms for the gas sector in the same way as the energies deemed clean, for a sufficient transitional period to enable them to accelerate their processes of resilient development and energy transition and decided to make it a Decision of this Summit.
17. THE CONFERENCE renews its commitment to the implementation of the Great Green Wall, requests that the bulk of GGW financing be in the form of grants and subsidies to relieve the Member States and urges the States, in conjunction with the international financial institutions, the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall and the Accelerator of the GGW, to work towards turning the pledges into concrete actions. It also requests the African Development Bank Group, the Economic and Monetary Communities, the African Union Commission, and the African Union Development Agency (AUDA) to support the PAGGW and the Member States in the process of mobilizing these resources.
18. THE CONFERENCE, considering the integrated and multisectoral approach of the Great Green Wall, involving various sectoral departments in its implementation, requests each Member State to establish a National Ad-Hoc Committee, in charge of mobilizing and monitoring financing and investments of the GGW from Partners and the private sector.
19. THE CONFERENCE took note of the orientations indicated by the Members States during the high-level dialogue with the technical and financial Partners of October 26, 2021, in particular about the urgent need to accelerate the mobilization of resources and the strong involvement of the Pan-African Agency and the national structures of the GGW in the implementation. In this regard, The CONFERENCE urges the National Ad-Hoc Committees, in conjunction with the sectoral ministries, to start bilateral consultations with the various partners.



20. THE CONFERENCE decided to raise the amount of the annual statutory contribution per country to One Hundred (100) million CFA francs as of January 1, 2022, and furthermore urged Member States to clear their arrears and to pay their contributions by the due date
21. The CONFERENCE approved the designation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as the current chair of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall and to host the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government.
22. THE CONFERENCE elected H.E.Mr. Muhammadu BUHARI, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as the new President of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall for a two (02) years term. It expressed its appreciation to the outgoing Chairman, H.E. Mohamed Ould GHAZOUANI, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, for his outstanding leadership, commitment, and remarkable political support during his term as current president of the Agency, which has strongly promoted and consolidated the momentum and international positioning of the GGW Initiative.
23. THE CONFERENCE appointed Dr. Brahim SAID, Chad Nationality as the new Executive Secretary of the Pan-African Agency of the Great Wall for a three (03) year term renewable once (1) only as from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and commended and expressed its appreciation to the outgoing Executive Secretary, Prof. Abdoulaye DIA for having served the Organization with professionalism, diligence and high degree of competence and rigor.
24. THE CONFERENCE designated H.E.Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou, former President of the Republic of Niger, Champion of the Great Green Wall, to accelerate the resource mobilization process.
25. THE CONFERENCE took note of the granting to the PAGGW by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, as a courtesy, of a three thousand and fifty (3,050) square meters plot of land in Nouakchott for the construction of the Agency's headquarters. It warmly thanks Mauritania for this important contribution and urges the Agency and the current Presidency, in conjunction with the Mauritanian Government, to further the process of building the headquarters. In this context, it calls for contributions to finance the technical, architectural, and financial feasibility studies, the construction and equipment of the headquarters.
26. THE CONFERENCE welcomed the announcement of a voluntary contribution for the construction of the APGMV Headquarters in Nouakchott by the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
27. The CONFERENCE reiterated its acknowledgments to the people and government of Mauritania for the successful organization of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Virtual Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government.
28. Madam Sharon IKEAZOR, State Minister of the Environment, representing H.E.Mr. Muhammadu BUHARI the new President of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the PAGGW expressed, on behalf of the country and the new PAGGW's President, Her gratitude for the trust and hope placed in the Federal Republic of Nigeria to chair the Conference of Heads of State and Government and renewed the country's commitment to working to promote the PAGGW and to achieve the objectives and vision of the Great Green Wall Initiative.





29. H.E. Mohamed Ould GHAZOUANI, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, outgoing Chairman, thanked his peers for their expressions of satisfaction and reiterated his personal commitment and that of his government to continue working towards the implementation of the Great Green Wall,
30. The Chairman of the Conference, HEMr. Mohamed Ould GHAZOUANI, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, in his closing speech of the 4th Ordinary Session of the PAGGW Heads of State and Government, thanked the Heads of State and Government, distinguished guests and technical and financial partners for having responded to his invitation.
31. THE CONFERENCE agreed that its next Ordinary Session will be held in the Federal Republic of Nigeria in December 2023.

Done on December 02, 2021 in Nouakchott

THE CONFERENCE

