



**AICD ORDOS ROADMAP**  
**Furthering Partnerships for Enhancing Sustainable Development**  
**through the “African Initiative for Combating Desertification**  
**to Strengthen Resilience to Climate Change in the Sahel and Horn of Africa (AICD)”**  
**September 8<sup>th</sup> 2017, Ordos, China**  
**UNCCD COP13 Side Event**

We, the participating African countries and the Partner Organizations to the “**African Initiative for Combating Desertification to Strengthen Resilience to Climate Change in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa (AICD)**,” meeting in Ordos, China on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2017; at the AICD side event held at the margins of the UNCCD COP 13, and being witnessed by the side event participants, declare as follows:

We recognize the notable progress made so far on AICD since its official launch at side event held at the margins of TICAD VI in August 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya in the key areas of; *securing the political commitment of the African Countries; the commitment of partner organizations to support countries ownership and initiatives, enhanced partnerships for collective actions, and enhancing networking, knowledge-sharing and access to finance.*

More specifically, we wish to highlight the following achievements made under AICD;

- The holding of the Ministerial Meeting for Environment Ministers from the Horn of Africa countries in Nairobi in June 2017 to confirm their political commitments to strengthen actions to combat desertification in their countries through AICD and other initiatives.
- The development and adoption by the participating countries and the partner organizations of Terms of Reference to implement AICD in both the Sahel and the Horn of Africa regions.
- The development of Action Plans to advance measures to combat desertification in each country with support from partner organizations. These Action Plans have facilitated networking, knowledge-sharing and financial resource mobilization.
- Partnerships have been strengthened among participating countries and partner organizations, and further efforts for reaching out to potential partners have been made. In this connection, we welcome the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) as a new partner organization.





Despite the notable progress made so far, we recognized that further actions are required to advance measures for combating desertification, which is a critical and urgent issue for addressing the fight against poverty, the adverse effects of climate change particularly drought, natural resources driven conflicts, increasing human migration and instability caused by those factors in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa regions.

To facilitate these actions, we call upon all participating countries, partner organizations, and all stakeholders to;

- Further mainstream the fight against land degradation, desertification and drought as a priority agenda item to be addressed as one measure to meet SDG target 15.3 in the strategies, policies, and plans of participating countries;
- Identify gaps in the measures for combating land degradation and desertification and seek further support from the international community through greater cooperation and collaboration;
- Recognize AICD as a good opportunity for countries in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa to unite to combat desertification through sharing useful knowledge, capacity development and improving access to finance with a view to achieve tangible results at the local level; and
- Welcome any new partners to join AICD thus strengthening partnerships with a view to harmonize activities to enhance the effectiveness of the initiative.

Finally, we again call upon all participants here today and all stakeholders to commit ourselves to work together towards changing the world for the better through actively supporting programs on combating desertification in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa.

END

**Participating Countries**

\* Regional hub, \*\* Co-organizer, \*\*\* Secretariat

Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Chad	Djibouti
Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya */**	Mali
Mauritania	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal */**
Somalia	South Sudan	Sudan	

**Partner Organizations**

As of September 8<sup>th</sup> 2017

- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) \*\*/\*\*
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) \*\*
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
- Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (TBC) African Union (TBC)

