

Brief for Head of Delegation Somalia_22 Aug 2024

COP 11 to the Nairobi Convention

August 20-22 2024

Antananarivo, Madagascar

- Good morning, colleagues, distinguished guests, and friends.
- It is a great honor to stand before you today at COP11.
- I extend my gratitude to the Government of Madagascar for their hospitality and efforts in hosting this event.
- I'm thankful for the dedication of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat in organizing this conference.
- Thank you to all partners and collaborators for your essential support and dedication to the Nairobi Convention's initiatives.
- To my fellow Heads of Delegation, thank you for your dedication and commitment. Your leadership is crucial as we navigate the challenges and opportunities in marine and environmental conservation.
- Special thanks to the Nairobi Convention focal points and all partners for your hard work in advancing the proposed decisions the last two days.

- Somalia remains committed to the Nairobi Convention's initiatives, evident through projects that enhance our sustainable development, environmental conservation, and resilience to climate change.
- Updates to our National Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analyses and capacity enhancements for Environmental Flow Assessments reflect this commitment.
- The analysis of the Juba-Shebelle river basin has informed crucial policy, institutional, and legislative recommendations.
- Our Mangrove Restoration and Coastal Community Livelihood Diversification Project has begun to restore mangrove ecosystems and improve community livelihoods and resilience.
- These projects underscore our focus on enhancing local knowledge, technical skills, and community participation in sustainable practices.
- Based on the Proposed Program of Work 2025-2028 under the Nairobi Convention, we hope further benefits in managing and restoring critical habitats.
- The program also highlights potential support for strengthening our ocean governance frameworks and capacity-building initiatives in marine spatial

planning, environmental quality management, and sustainable port development.

- The Proposed Program of Work offers an integrated approach to funding and partnerships that could further aid Somalia by providing access to international funds and expertise.
- Somalia seeks continued support under the Nairobi Convention to fully leverage the Proposed Program of Work.
- To end, I thank the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and all delegates for your collaboration in safeguarding our marine and coastal environments. Thank you.