Minutes of the OIBC4 Co-conveners and Plenary Meeting held on 28 May 2026 in Microsoft Teams

Present

Edward Kilawe, Chair, Co-Convener (FAO)
Mathias Naab, Co-convener (UNDP)
Cosmas Milton Obote Ochieng. Co-Convener (UNECA)
Louis Lubango - (UNECA)
Nana Antwi Boasiako Amoah (AGN, Chair)
Chiagozi Udeh (UNFPA)
Margaret Oduk (UNEP)
Irie Yuka (FAO)
Linus Asanji Mofor (UNICEF)
Mariane Diop Kane (WMO)
Daisy Mukarakate (UNDP, OIBC4 Secretariat)
Catherine Mwangi (UNEP, OIBC4 Secretariat)
Omar Zemrag (UNDP, OIBC4 Secretariat)
Kindie Getnet (FAO, OIBC4 Secretariat)

Absent with apologies

Rose Mwebaza (Co-convener, UNEP)
Nassim Oulman (UNECA)
Sara Castro De Hallgren (UNOSD)

Discussions and Resolutions

The plenary meeting was preceded by a meeting of Co-conveners to agree on the main agenda items, and AOBs proposed for the plenary meeting that followed. The agenda items were all approved. The Secretariat shared an update from the members of DRC Task Force which is led by Nassim Oulmane from UNECA on Carbon credit, climate economy and the establishment of Modern Research Center. The Co-Conveners provided feedback indicating the need for additional information so that proper guidance can be provided. They requested the Members of the Task Force to submit a written report detailing the status of the assignment. They further requested that this matter be

included on the agenda for discussion with the Task Force members during the next Conveners Meeting, scheduled for 25 June 2026.[1]

The Chair of OIBC-4 called the plenary meeting into order at 3:03pm by making a welcome remark and thanking the participants for showing up for the meeting. Edward then read out the two main agenda items set for discussion and requested the participants for approval. He also urged the members to include items to be included as AOBs. In response Margaret Oduk (UNEP) proposed (and got approval) to provide updates on the upcoming AMCEN Ordinary Session meeting.

Agenda item 1: Debriefing Session on the Outcomes of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD-12) – OIBC-4 Conveners

The chair called upon individuals from UNECA (specifically on Mr. Cosmas) to reflect on the outcomes of the ARSDF12. Thanking everyone for participating both at the pre-event and the main events of the ARFSD12, Cosmas reflected on his general observations, especially on the pre-event, as below.

Positive outcomes

- OIBC4 is recognized by the DCO as one of the most organized OIBCs.
- The pre-event observed a high attendance and engagement.
- Appreciation was extended to the OIBC4 Secretariat for its coordination, the OIBC4 Co-conveners for their successful leadership, the penholders (Sarah and Louis) for preparing the concept note, program and for the presentations made. ECA was recognized for successfully coordinating the overall ARFSD12 event.

Challenges

- There is low visibility OIBC4's activities and contributions among Resident Coordinators (RCs); hence a need for more systematic engagement with RCs.
- Limited stakeholder diversity (mostly UN system participation). Fragmented coordination across agencies during the main ARFSD

[1] a. Debriefing Session on the Outcomes of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD-12), and b. (i) Introduction of the Chair of the Africa Group of Negotiators (AGN) at the OIBC-4 and (i) Update from AGN-Chair.

Suggestions on the way forward

- Develop regular communication on products (newsletter or regular updates) to improve the visibility of OIBC4, to showcase its work to better convey key messages to the RCS.
- Improve early coordination and planning across agencies for the ARFSD sessions.
- Increase the number of days (2 days) and focus on deeper discussions
- Develop a concrete action plan to operationalize the nexus solution.

Agenda Item 2: **Introduction of the Chair of the Africa Group of Negotiators (AGN) and updates from the AGN-Chair**

On behalf of Rose Mwebaza, Margaret Oduk introduced the Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) for Climate Change (Mr. Nana Antwi Boasiako Amoah) and invited him to update the meeting on Africa's preparation for the next COPs (COP31 and COP32).[2]

Dr. Nana thanked the Chair for the opportunity given to him to engage with the OIBC4 platform and made a presentation titled as UNFCCC COP Process and Africa's Common Platform. He echoed the AGN Chair's central message that Africa is poised to enter COP31 with a clear proposition - **Climate ambition and implementation must be financed, adaptation must be measurable and meaningful, and transition pathways must protect development space while accelerating resilience and opportunity**. He then elaborated the five priorities of AGN in alignment to such proposition:

- Finance that is adequate, predictable and accessible;
- Adaptation / GGA indicators that work for Africa;
- Loss and damage support that is operational and capitalized;
- Just transition that protects development and creates jobs; and

[2] Cosmas later gave highlight about the background as why the AGN chair was invited to give an update to the OIBC4 meeting. The meeting learned that the AGN chair was met during the ARFSD12 event where one of the questions raised during the then discussion was how to position the AGN in COP31 to make the negotiations successful. As mentioned, the AGN had then elaborated about the AGN's ambition (**climate ambition and implementation must be financed, adaptation must be measurable and meaningful, and transition pathways must protect development space while accelerating resilience and opportunity**) and the needed support (including finance, human resources, etc) over the coming two years to achieve that ambition. The invitation of the AGN chair to the OIBC4 platform is therefore to be able to develop a two-year plan of partnership, including immediate supports required to enable the AGN attend the forthcoming June meetings in Bonn and the coming ones in the two years span till COP32.

- Technology, capacity and transparency support for delivery.

In his presentation Dr. Nana mentioned about Africa's common political platforms (such as AU, CAHOSCC, AMCEN) and technical platforms (AGN) for climate change negotiation (including also RECs, Member States, and Partners such as OIBC4). He concluded his presentation by highlighting that **"Africa is ready to engage constructively, but the credibility of the COP process will be judged by delivery, finance that reaches countries, adaptation that protects people, loss and damage support that is real, and transitions that create development opportunity"**.

To the OIBC4 platform, Dr. Nana made the below requests:

- **Align support:** Coordinate UN agency inputs around Africa's agreed priority tracks, avoiding fragmented offers and ensure dedicated and coordinated financial support through the journey till COP32;
- **Build evidence:** Help quantify adaptation, food systems, loss and damage, resilience and finance needs in ways usable by negotiators; and
- **Prepare delivery:** Support countries and RECs to convert COP outcomes into funded programs ahead of COP31 and COP32.

The Chair thanked Dr. Nana for his presentation and invited the participants for feedback on how OIBC4 can support the AGN as we move forward to COP31 and COP32. Suggesting that Climate and Health issues can be possible area of support to AGN (as the theme is included in the COP31 agenda). Chiagozie of UNFPA asked whether (1) the AGN chair regarded Climate and Health as an important agenda, and (2) generating evidence on loss and damage can be an important area where OIBC4 can provide support to generate evidence to be used by the AGN in their negotiations.

Following the suggestions made by different participants, an agreement was reached to coordinate OIBC4's support along two lines:

- **Immediate support to AGN** to allow it to participate in the Bonn Climate Meeting to be convened in June 2026 (Agencies were requested to indicate support - financial or technical - within one to two days); and
- **Two-Year Partnership (to COP32)**, including development of a coordinated OIBC4–AGN partnership plan (2026–2027) by charting agency expertise, ongoing projects, and

available evidence and knowledge products (for example, compiling existing analytical work on loss & damage, just transition, agriculture, and health).

With the above agreement in mind, the OIBC4 Secretariat was requested to reach out to the different OIBC4 agencies for them to express their possible support for AGN's participation in the forthcoming June meeting in Bonn.

Any Other business: Updates on the AMCEN

Margaret mentioned that AMCEN has an Ordinary Session running every two years, and Special Sessions are called in-between, if necessary. The next Ordinary Session will be held in conjunction with the Ministers of Finance and the Ministers of Environment. The meeting will be co-organized by UNEP and UNECA and it will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She stated that the OIBC4 conveners were welcome to attend the meeting and to provide support. She also added that AMCEN will hold a Bureau Meeting on 9-10 June 2026. where AGN chair will update their preparations to the ministers. The agenda and other documentation will be shared.

OIBC4 members were reminded that the OIBC-4 workplan for the 2026 period provides an output on support to AGN. The meeting reiterated the needs of the AGN Chair by urging the agencies to express their intent of support.

Meeting Adjournment

The chair adjourned the meeting at: 4:25pm EAT.

Action points

Action	Responsible	Date
1. Request the DRC Task Force (Nassim) to update the OIBC4 Co-conveners on the progress of the assignment	Secretariat (and Nassim)	15 June 2026
2. Solicit agencies to express their intent of support to AGN for participation in the June Climate Meeting in Bonn	Secretariat (and OIBC4 agencies)	As early as possible
3. Agenda on the forthcoming AMCEN meeting to be distributed	Margaret	As early as possible

4. Develop a concrete action plan to operationalize the Climate-Water-Energy Food Nexus solution.	ARFSD12 Task Force	As early as possible