



18th Meeting of Parties of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership

Brussels, 28 November 2018

Agenda of the opening ceremony and High-level statements

Moderation by Ambassador Jozef Smets, Director Sub-Saharan Africa, Belgium

09.00 – 10 :00 Inaugural opening session of the 18th Meeting of Parties of the CBFP (Speaking time 7min/statement)

- Speech of **H.E.M. Charles Michel**, Prime Minister, Head of Government
- Message from **Her Royal Highness Princess Marie-Esméralda** of the Kingdom of Belgium
- Speech by COMIFAC, **H.E.M. Amandin Rugira**, Rwandan ambassador to Belgium, Representing **H.E. Honorable Dr Vincent Biruta**, Minister of Environment, Republic of Rwanda, Acting Chair of Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC);
- Speech by ECCAS, **H.E.Ms. Marie Thérèse Chantal MFOULA**, Deputy Secretary General of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS);
- Opening speech of **H.E. Mr. François-Xavier de Donnea**, Minister of State of the Kingdom of Belgium

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

High-level statement- Continuity of Partners' commitment (Speaking time 4 min /statement)

- Statement by UNESCO, **Ms. Mechtild Rössler**, Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre
- Statement by the African Development Bank (AfDB), **M. Ousmane Dore**, Directeur Général de l'Afrique centrale
- Statement by the World Bank, **Mr. Loïc Braune**, Senior Natural Resources Management Specialist
- Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany, **Mr. Günter Nooke**, Personal Representative of the German Chancellor for Africa, BMZ Commissioner for Africa
- Statement by the United States, **Ms. Christine Dawson**, Director of the Office of Conservation and Water, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State of the United States of America
- Statement by Norway, H.E. Ms. **Ingrid Schulerud**, Ambassador, Norway
- **H.E. Ms. Rosalie Matondo**, Minister Forest Economy, Republic of the Congo
- Statement by the European Union, **Honorable Heidi Hautala**, Vice-President of the European Parliament

11 :15 – 12 :30

Press Conference in Parallel of the Plenary Session on Stream, Private Sector and Scientific Day

- **Signing ceremony of European contracts** in favor of the Protected areas and sustainable forest management in Congo Basin
 - Point de presse – Paneliste : **Facilitation du PFBC - UE - COMIFAC - CEEAC**
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