



Report on the round table
“Two years after the Kunming-Montreal agreement: what are the challenges for the COP16 Biodiversity in Cali and what is the role of Guineans and French actors?” of the event “*African/European perspectives – Connecting development, climate and conservation actors*”

Description:

Two years after the historic Kunming-Montreal agreement at COP15 in Montreal, COP16 in Cali must turn global commitments into concrete action. Countries will have to demonstrate how they align their national biodiversity strategies with the ambitious objectives of the Kunming-Montreal framework. The mobilisation of financial resources, needed to make up a shortfall of 700 billion dollars a year, will be a central point of the discussions, with particular emphasis on innovative financing mechanisms. Discussions will also focus on the equitable sharing of the benefits derived from genetic resources and the importance of the rights of indigenous peoples in the conservation of biodiversity. These issues will provide an opportunity to measure progress since Montreal and to strengthen collective action to protect the world's biodiversity. The aim of this round table is to debate these issues and to consider the progress made in multi-level action to achieve the objectives of the Kunming-Montréal framework.

Moderation:

- **Ronan Dantec**, Senator for Loire-Atlantique and President of Climate Chance

Speakers:

- **Aloïs Aguetant**, Biodiversity and Nature-based Solutions Officer, French Water Partnership
- **Adja Aïssatou SY**, Coordinator, l’Observatoire des aires Protégées de l’Afrique de l’Ouest, Sénégal (OBAPAO)
- **Marie-Cécile Thirion**, Deputy Head of the Agriculture, Rural Development and Biodiversity Division, AFD

Notes:

Speaker	Subject
Alois Aguetant	<p>PFE (French Water Partnership) strategy for Cali:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indicators: Water is a key indicator for assessing the state of aquatic environments and wetlands around the world. There is still a lack of data and an inventory by country on these issues, which should be highlighted in Cali. 2. Nature-based Solutions: The issue of water is central, and it is important to develop new financing mechanisms for environmental services. 3. Maintaining an understanding of aquatic environments: The Soil to Sea platform should be promoted to encourage an integrated vision of the aquatic



	<p>environment.</p> <p>4. Breaking down silos between conferences: It is crucial to link the COP16 discussions on biodiversity with other international conferences, particularly those of the UN, to avoid a fragmented approach to solutions.</p>
Marie-Cécile Thirion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One of the obstacles to financing biodiversity is the difficulty of demonstrating a clear return on investment, which is complicating the mobilisation of funds for COP16.• At COP16, the financing of biodiversity will be discussed, particularly in the context of indebted countries. Mechanisms such as Nature Swaps, which allow debt forgiveness to be exchanged for commitments to biodiversity conservation, will be explored.
Adja Aïssatou SY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical expertise is essential to strengthen the local level, particularly access to satellite data to monitor biodiversity.• The flow of funding from North to South is becoming more complicated, and this is likely to lead to frustration. We therefore need to develop other funding mechanisms. In Cali, this issue will be discussed, with examples of reflections similar to those initiated by Christophe Béchu in Montreal.• It is important to find a range of innovative financing mechanisms, including carbon and local financing, in order to reconcile economic development with the preservation of biodiversity.• In Africa, biodiversity is still an integral part of people's daily lives, particularly in protected areas. However, this connection is being lost in urban areas. Biodiversity conservation is a natural practice for many African communities.• Tourism often changes the perception of conservation, disrupting pre-existing community rules. It is essential to understand and promote the endogenous practices that have enabled biodiversity to be preserved over time.