

High Level Environmental Diplomacy and Negotiation Dialogue

Theme: "Empowering National Experts for Effective Environmental Policy Negotiations"

Date: 13-15 October 2025 | **Time:** 08:30 – 16:30 (Each day)

Venue: Royal Villas, Ezulwini, Eswatini

Programme Directors:

Ms Constance Dlamini, Environment Coordinator, Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs (MTEA) and
Mr Kwasi Amankwaah, UN Development Coordination Office & Head, Sub-Regional office for southern Africa – SADC

Final Programme of Work

Day 1: 13 October, 2025 (Opening Session)			
Time	Agenda Item	Speaker/Facilitator	Expected Outcome
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival, Registration & Coffee	Secretariat	Participants settle in and network informally before the session begins.
09:00 – 09:15	Welcoming and Introductions	Ms Constance Dlamini , Environment Coordinator, MTEA	Participants are formally welcomed, introduced and oriented on housekeeping and flow of the sessions
09:15 – 09:30	Remarks	• Dr Matthias Naab, Chair Opportunity Issue-Based Coalitions (OIBC4) • Ms Cecilia Njenga ISCP Director, UNFCCC (represented by Mr Luca Brusa, Chief of External Relations) • Mr George Wachira, UN Resident Coordinator	The role of OIBC4 on the support to UNRCs Key partners reaffirm commitment to capacity building on environmental negotiations Participants understand the reasoning behind the UN's support to

			strengthening Eswatini's capacity in environmental diplomacy
09:30 – 09:35	Introduction of the Guest of Honour	Ms. Hlobisile Dlamini , Acting Principal Secretary, MTEA	Formal introduction of the Guest of Honour
09:35 – 09:50	Keynote Address	Honourable Jane Mkhonta-Simelane , Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs	National vision and high-level motivation for effective climate diplomacy shared. Official opening of the dialogue
09:50 – 10:00	Group Photo	All participants	Official group photograph
10:00 – 10:30	Networking and Health break		
	(Dialogue Sessions)		
10:30 – 10-45	Key dialogue objectives	Mr Excellent Hachileka , Climate Change Specialist, UNDP RSC	Clear understanding of the dialogue's key objectives and agreed priorities to guide coordinated flow of the programme.
10:45 – 11:00	Introduction to the UN Climate Change process	Mr Gianluca Crispi , Legal Officer, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Participants understand the key milestones of the UN climate change process and its treaties.
11:00 – 13:00	Session I: Climate Science Basics: Understanding climate science, IPCC data, and relevance for negotiation framing ▪ Understanding Climate Science Basics ▪ Climate Science in the UNFCCC Process ▪ Eswatini's Context: – Climate science and linkages to initiatives arising from the negotiations	Mr Amir H. Delju Senior Scientific Officer, Climate Services Division, Services Department. World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Ms Heather Maseko-Msyale Programme Officer: Research, Science and Systematic Observations UNFCCC Ms Duduzile Nhlengethwa-Masina , Director, Meteorology &	Participants acquire shared knowledge and share experiences of how to use evidence-based data for negotiation framing Participants can link multilateral environmental negotiations processes with national initiatives & processes

	NAPs, NDCs, Transparency reports, GST	Coordinator for Climate Change, MTEA Ms Suzanne Lekoyiet, Researcher & Climate Change Office, UNEP	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch		
14:00 – 14:30	Session 1 (Contd): Climate Science Basics: Understanding climate science, IPCC data, and relevance for negotiation framing	Mr Amir H. Delju Ms Heather Maseko-Msyale Ms Duduzile Nhlengethwa-Masina Ms Suzanne Lekoyiet	.
14:30 – 16:20 (Working Health break)	Session 2: Legal & Procedural Issues: Understanding the legal architecture of the UNFCCC process, draft rules of procedure and experience sharing	Ms Marianna Bolshakova , Legal Adviser, INC, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Mr Gianluca Crispi , Legal Officer, (UNFCCC) Ms Liva Kaugure , Senior Natural Resources officer, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Participants understand legal frameworks and procedures governing multilateral environmental agreements and share experiences.
16:20: – 16:30	Summary of Day 1/End of Day 1	Mr Excellent Hachileka , Climate Change Specialist, UNDP RSC	Key learnings are consolidated, and linkages between science, policy, and negotiation frameworks are reinforced.
Day 2: 14 October 2025 (Dialogue Sessions)			
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival, Registration & Coffee	Secretariat	Participants prepare for the day 2 sessions

09:00 – 10:00	Session 2: Legal & Procedural Issues (contd): draft rules of procedure and group exercise	Ms Marianna Bolshakova , Legal Adviser, INC, UNEP Mr. Gianluca Crispi , Legal Officer, UNFCCC Ms. Liva Kaugure , FAO	Deepened understanding of negotiation procedures and legal foundations of agreements
10:00 – 11:30	Session 3: Panel on national experiences in climate negotiations	Panelist: Duduzile Nhlengethwa-Masina , Director, Meteorology & Coordinator for Climate Change, MTEA Mr. Isaac Gcina Dladla , Executive Director Eswatini Environmental Authority (EEA) Mr Ncamiso Ngcamphalala , Environmental Economist, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development (MEPD)	Eswatini's experiences with past negotiations are shared to enrich the dialogue
11:30 – 13:00	Session 4: Managing the negotiation process: Exploring pre-, in-, and post-conference planning, information management, document drafting, and coordination	Ms Laurence Pollier , UNFCCC Mr James Murombedzi , Climate Governance Expert, UNECA Ms Karima Bounemra , Director, UNECA/IDEP <i>On ground facilitation by: Ms Liva Kaugure and Mr Harrison Simotwo</i>	Practical skills in managing negotiation logistics, documentation, and coordination acquired.
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch		

14:30 – 15:30	Session 4: Managing the negotiation process (Contd): Exploring pre-, in-, and post-conference planning, information management, document drafting, and coordination	Ms Laurence Pollier , Consultant, UNFCCC Mr James Murombedzi , UNECA Ms Karima Bounemra , Director, ECA/IDEP) <i>On ground facilitation by: Ms Liva Kaugure and Harrison Simotwo</i>	Practical skills in managing negotiation logistics, documentation, and coordination acquired.
15:30 –16:20 (Working Health break)	Session 5: Climate Negotiation Fundamentals: Engaging in a role-play simulation to observe team dynamics and negotiation behaviours, comparing approaches (principled vs. positional) and exploring how to reach mutually acceptable outcomes.	Ms Liva Kaugure , Senior Natural Resources Officer, FAO Ms Christa Castro , Strategic Partner, CEMUNE Mr Excellent Hachileka , Climate Change Specialist, UNDP RSC	Participants enhance their teamwork, communication, and negotiation skills through simulation exercises.
16:20 – 16:30	Summary of Day 2/End of Day 2	Harrison Simotwo , UNEP	Lessons from simulations consolidated and linked to real-world negotiation scenarios
Day 3: 15 October 2025 (Dialogue Sessions)			
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival, Registration & Coffee	Secretariat	Participants prepare for the final day's sessions
09:00 –11:45	Session 5: Climate Negotiation Fundamentals (contd): Engaging in a role-play simulation to observe team dynamics and negotiation behaviours, comparing approaches (principled vs. positional) and	Ms Liva Kaugure , Senior Natural Resources Officer, FAO Ms Christa Castro , Strategic Partner, CEMUNE	Participants enhance their teamwork, communication, and negotiation skills through simulation exercises.

	exploring how to reach mutually acceptable outcomes.	Mr Excellent Hachileka , Climate Change Specialist, UNDP RSC	
11:45 – 13:00	Session 6: Climate Finance Unpacking the concept and mechanisms of climate finance relevant to Africa and Eswatini.	Mr Excellent Hachileka , Climate Change Specialist, UNDP RSC Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil , National Climate Finance Advisor, Commonwealth secretariat	Participants understand key concepts and mechanisms of climate finance and how these apply to Africa and Eswatini's financing opportunities.
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	-	
14:00 – 15:30	Session 7: COP 30 mandates and expectations: Overview of substantive topics for consideration at COP 30	Liva Kaugure , FAO Aiping Chen , UNFCCC Excellent Hachileka , UNDP	Common understanding of COP 30 mandates, negotiation priorities, and emerging global issues and how to prepare effectively for participation
15:30 – 15:45	Summary, Next Steps	Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs (MTEA)/RCO	
15:45 – 16:30	Closing session	• Mr George Wachira, UN Resident Coordinator, • Ms Rose Mwebaza, Convener, Opportunity Issue-Based Coalitions (OIBC4), • Ms Constance Dlamini, Environment Coordinator, MTEA.	Training concluded with commitments to apply skills and knowledge in national and international negotiation processes

