

Information Note: 20th Meeting of Parties (MOP20) of the CBFP

31 May - 5 June 2024, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

The CBFP Youth Forum and Meeting of Parties will take place from 31 May to 5 June 2024 in Kinshasa and will bring together more than 700 stakeholders committed to preserving the forests of the Congo Basin.

The Meeting of Parties and the Youth Forum will be co-chaired by Ambassador Christophe Guilhou (France) and Ambassador Flore Koumba Pambo (Gabon) and the current President of COMIFAC, His Excellency Mr Prosper Dodiko, with the participation of senior representatives of the DRC.

These events mark an important milestone in the fight against climate change and the protection of biodiversity. The events are the result of close collaboration between COMIFAC, ECCAS, CAFI and the DRC. The meeting will be attended by political leaders, donors and private sector players, with financial and technical support from France, Gabon and the DRC.

Youth Forum (31 May - 1 June)

A preliminary event to the Meeting of Parties, the "Youth Forum for the Forests of Central Africa 2024" will bring together 150 young people from Africa and Europe involved in forest protection and environmental conservation.

Objectives:

1. Show the links between the mobilisation of young people and the preservation of forest ecosystems, particularly in preparation for the 3 Rio COPs (climate, biodiversity and desertification) to be held in the 2nd half of 2024.
2. Facilitate inter-generational exchanges between committed young people from civil society and representatives of governments, international organisations, research institutes and the private sector involved in preserving forests and the environment.
3. Develop innovative ideas and proposals for the protection of forests, to be incorporated into the Meeting of the Parties, thereby giving young people a greater say in decision-making.

Meeting of the Parties (3 - 5 June):

The 20th Meeting of the Parties to the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP), co-facilitated by France and Gabon, will be held from 3 to 5 June 2024 in Kinshasa, DRC. It will bring together around 600 participants, including ministers and senior officials from Central Africa and the international community, experts and representatives of civil society and the private sector

Objectives:

1. Assess the progress made since the Libreville 2022 MOP19.
2. Prepare the region and partners for the upcoming Rio Conventions.
3. Build consensus on key issues including CBFP governance and forest conservation.
4. Examine the preliminary assessment report of the CBFP.

5. Initiate a strategic dialogue between COMIFAC countries and donor countries on international commitments and funding for forest protection.
6. Ensure the implementation of priority actions of the 2023-2025 roadmap of the Franco-Gabonese Co-Facilitation.

Political segment (3 June)

The ministerial political segment of the Meeting of Parties will take place on 3 June. A high-level political dialogue will take place between the regional college and the college of donor countries, to intensify exchanges on forest conservation and initiate discussions on post-2025 financing.

The CBFP Governing Council will hold its 14th meeting on the eve of the Meeting of Parties, on Sunday 2 June.

Technical Segment (4- 5 June)

Six strategic themes will be discussed in six thematic workshops during the technical segment:

1. Consolidating the network of protected areas in Central Africa to achieve the objectives of the Kunming-Montreal Framework (30x30);
2. Ensuring effective and sustainable land-use planning;
3. Developing sustainable value chains in Central Africa;
4. Accelerating the development of innovative financing mechanisms;
5. Combating environmental crime;
6. Scientific and academic cooperation and dialogue.

These topics will also be discussed by participants at the Youth Forum.

Useful information:

- **Meeting of the Parties:** Registration open from 15 March to 5 May 2024.
- **Parallel events :** Proposals accepted from 15 March to 19 April 2024
- **Exposition Centre:** Registration from 22 April to 13 May 2024. An exhibition area for CBFP partners will be set up to accommodate around thirty exhibitors.