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Operationalizing the Zero Net Land Degradation (ZNLD) Target

Session jointly organized by the BIDR, MASHAV and the UNCCD Secretariat

in

4th International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification

Monday, 12 November 2012:

4th Drylands Deserts & Desertification (DDD) international conference opens

Tuesday, 13 November 2012:

ZNLD session and workshop will take place

Segment 1

- **0900-1040: Session in plenary hall** (no parallel DDD sessions take place)
"ZNLD – What Is It All About?"

Chair: Pedro Berliner, Director of Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research (BIDR)

0900-0930: **Luc Gnacadja**, Executive Secretary of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

Opening remarks: "From Combating Desertification in Drylands to Global Land Degradation Neutrality – the Zero Net Land Degradation"

0935-1005: **Ephraim Nkonya**, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
"Exploiting provision of land economic productivity without degrading its natural capital"

1010-1040: **Rattan Lal**, Ohio State University, USA

"Restoring degraded land and the flow of its provisioning services"

1040-1100: --- Coffee break ---

Segment 2

- **1100-1230: Session in plenary hall** (parallel DDD sessions occur in other halls)
"Operationalizing the ZNLD – insights from the ground"

Chair: Sem Shikongo, former Chairman of the Intersessional Intergovernmental Working Group (IIWG) of the UNCCD

1100-1120: **Tony Rinaudo**, World Vision Australia
"Achieving ZNLD through People Power"

1125-1145: **Paolo Caroli**, Limpopo Transboundary Programme
"Managing Land Degradation in a regional context: the case of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area"

1150-1210: **Veronica Muthui**, UNDP Regional Technical Adviser for Ecosystems and Biodiversity
"Land Degradation from Ecosystems Management and Resilience Perspectives"

1215-1235: **Xian Xue**, Key Laboratory of Desert and Desertification at the Chinese Academy of Sciences
"Combating Aeolian Desertification in Northern China"

1240-1300: **Dinali Jayasinghe**, UNDP Global Environment Facility (GEF), Small Grants Programme
"Evidence on the Ground of ZNLD: Case Study of Community Development Centre, Aranayake, Sri Lanka"

1305-1315: **Uriel Safriel**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUIJ) and the Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research (BIDR)
Concluding Remarks: "What Have He Learned So Far"

1315-1430: --- Campus tours, Poster Session, and Lunch break ---

Segment 3

- **1430-1845: ZNLD Workshop**, elaborating on a
"Draft Framework for Actions Taken to Operationalize the ZNLD"

Chair: Ilan Fluss, MASHAV – Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, MFA

Rapporteur: Pamela Chasek, Executive Editor of Earth Negotiations Bulletin

1430-1450: **Alan Grainger**, School of Geography, University of Leeds, UK
Opening remarks: "Is Zero Net Land Degradation in Dry Areas a Feasible Operational Goal?"

1455-1515: **Michael Cherlet**, Joint Research Center, Action Leader of DESERT
"The new World Atlas of Desertification and its potential for addressing the ZNLD"

1520-1630: Open discussion moderated by **Sem Shikongo**
Participants – session's speakers, interested DDD participants

1630-1645: --- Coffee break ---

1645-1835: Continuation of discussion in breakout groups

1835-1845: **Luc Gnacadja**, Executive Secretary of UNCCD
Concluding Remarks: "What Next?"