



Conference of the Parties

Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session, held in Windhoek from 16 to 27 September 2013

Part two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session

Addendum

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Decision 1/COP.11

Multi-year workplans of the Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 3/COP.8 and 11/COP.9,

Having reviewed documents ICCD/CRIC(12)/2-ICCD/COP(11)/CST/9 and

ICCD/CRIC(12)/3,

Taking note of the report by the Intersessional Working Group on the mid-term evaluation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Underlining the importance of the efficient and coordinated functioning of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies in supporting Parties in their implementation of The Strategy,

1. *Approves* the strategic orientation of the secretariat, the Global Mechanism, the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, as contained in the annexed integrated workplan;
2. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology, the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, the Global Mechanism and the secretariat to utilize the workplan in annex to this decision, organizing their work in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Convention and decisions taken by the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties, and in line with the guidance outlined in The Strategy;
3. *Also requests* the Global Mechanism, subject to the availability of resources and as requested by Parties, to increase its capacity-building support to affected country Parties to assist them in better identifying and accessing internal, external and innovative sources of funding, building on the recommendations of its recent results and impact assessment process;
4. *Further requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to prepare, in line with decision 3/COP.8, multi-year workplans (2016–2019), utilizing the results-based management approach;
5. *Requests* the secretariat to integrate these plans into a comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention, to be considered at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties.

Performance of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies

6. *Decides* that future performance reviews to be conducted by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, starting with its twelfth session, should be based on the reports on the implementation of the two-year costed work programmes of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies;

7. *Also decides* to use the performance indicators and their related targets included in the workplans in order to allow for the proper performance assessment of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies.

10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013

Annex

A. Operational objective 1 – Advocacy, awareness-raising and education

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
1(a) Increased awareness of the importance of addressing desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) as a solution to many global challenges	<p>The extent to which online DLDD information tools and social media of the Convention are used</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistics on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) website, social media and other tools show a positive trend in the number of visitors, downloads and other aspects related to use
1(b) Increased awareness of financing opportunities, methods and tools for addressing DLDD	<p>The extent to which the Global Mechanism (GM) online information and tools on DLDD financing are used</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistics on the GM website, social media and other tools show a positive trend in the number of visitors, downloads and other aspects related to use - Forty printed publications and 160 online publications
1(c) The Convention process is increasingly recognized as a normative reference for addressing DLDD issues in decisions concerning land	<p>The extent to which messages from the UNCCD process are integrated in major global processes relevant to UNCCD implementation</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DLDD issues within the mandate of the Convention are included in the outcomes of 80 per cent of those major global processes or high-level events that the secretariat or the GM has addressed
1(d) Civil society contributions to meetings and processes of the Convention are effectively facilitated	<p>The extent to which civil society organization (CSO) participation in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies is balanced according to criteria contained in decision 5/COP.9</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased involvement of the CSOs in the UNCCD at the national and regional levels

B. Operational objective 2 – Policy framework

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
2(a) Increased effectiveness in servicing countries in aligning and mainstreaming NAPs	<p>The number of national action programmes (NAPs) aligned with The Strategy</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eighty per cent of affected countries have aligned their NAPs
2(b) Effective regional cooperation and coordination in implementing the UNCCD	<p>The extent to which countries belonging to each Regional Implementation Annex participate in regional coordination activities</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seventy five per cent of countries belonging to each Annex participate in at least one regional coordination activity <p>The extent to which regional and subregional action programmes are consistent with the objectives defined in the UNCCD process</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least two RAPs are aligned with The Strategy
2(c) Affected country Parties have increased support from major multilateral cooperation organizations and programmes in addressing DLDD	<p>The extent to which policies and programmes of United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, World Meteorological Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and International Union for Conservation of Nature reflect UNCCD objectives and activities</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNCCD provisions are increasingly reflected in national drought policies in the follow-up to the 2013 conference - UNCCD provisions are increasingly reflected in international processes and initiatives related to land and soil
2(d) Improved understanding of interlinkages between implementing the Convention and addressing food security, water scarcity and drought, forestry and gender issues	<p>The extent to which DLDD-related elements are referred to in major international processes and meetings concerning food security, water, drought, forests and gender issues, building on inputs made by the secretariat and the GM</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNCCD provisions are reflected in the work of the UN-Water and the seventh World Water Forum in 2015 - UNCCD provisions are increasingly reflected in the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
2(e) Improved synergies between addressing DLDD and climate change and/or biodiversity	<p>The extent to which DLDD-related elements are referred to in decisions concerning climate change and biodiversity</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efforts to increase ecosystem resilience, sustainable forest management and agroforestry in drylands are noted in decisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - The importance of addressing DLDD is noted in decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity

C. Operational objective 3 – Science, technology and knowledge

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
3(a) Parties conduct impact assessments under the UNCCD, focusing on progress made in meeting strategic objectives (SOs) 1–4	<p>The number of affected Parties that report on progress made in meeting SOs 1–4</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approach and methodology for reporting on the impact indicators is revised in accordance with lessons learned in the first reporting cycle (2013)
3(b) National and global baselines for assessing progress in meeting SOs 1–3 are established	<p>The extent to which Parties advance in establishing baselines for assessing progress in meeting SOs 1–3</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring and evaluation methodology tested at national level in five countries - Agreement on whether a global baseline will be developed
3(c) Parties base their decisions for action towards meeting operational objectives (OOs) 1–4 on updated information of related successes and challenges experienced by affected countries and other UNCCD stakeholders	<p>The extent to which reporting entities report on progress made in meeting OOs 1–4</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase from 2013 in reports received <p>The extent to which the performance review and assessment of implementation effectively leads to targeted recommendations emerging from the the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC)</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CRIC at its thirteenth session makes recommendations on next steps based on reporting outcomes
3(d) Parties are satisfied with the methods and tools for	<p>The extent to which the reports of Parties follow the reporting guidelines</p>

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
communicating information through reporting under the UNCCD	<p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 75 per cent of reports received follow the guidelines
3(e) The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) advances knowledge on combating DLDD for poverty reduction and sustainable development, with an emphasis on the contribution of science, technology, and traditional knowledge and practices.	<p>The extent to which the 3rd Scientific Conference raises interest among the scientific community</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 200 abstracts submitted for the 3rd Scientific Conference
3(f) The CST benefits from the work of scientific organizations and cooperation bodies that deal with issues relevant to DLDD, including by the establishment of the Science-Policy Interface as created by decision 23/COP.11.	<p>The extent to which the CST uses the work of other scientific cooperation bodies in its considerations</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information on the work of scientific organizations and cooperation bodies is regularly delivered to the CST
3(g) Parties use scientific knowledge to support decision-making concerning the UNCCD	<p>The extent to which targeted scientific knowledge on DLDD is available under the Convention</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scientific advice is provided according to guidance from the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session - The Science-Policy Interface is successfully established and operating - The number of partners participating in the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal doubles from 2013
3(h) Parties use best practices to support the implementation of the UNCCD	<p>The extent to which best practices concerning DLDD are available to UNCCD stakeholders</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal facilitates access to best practices under UNCCD
3(i) Provisions for the engagement of science and institutions are improved	<p>The extent to which scientific networks and institutions participate in the work of the UNCCD</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The roster of experts is revised - There is an increase in the number of scientists that register for the 3rd Scientific Conference compared to the 2nd Scientific Conference

D. Operational objective 4 – Capacity-building

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
4(a) Opportunities for targeted capacity-building under the Convention are improved	<p>The extent to which the Capacity-Building Marketplace is used</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase from 2013 in the capacity-building activities received by the affected Parties, including those offered through the Marketplace - Increase from 2013 in visits to the Marketplace

E. Operational objective 5 – Financing and technology transfer

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
5(a) Parties base their decisions for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of financial resources on updated information on related successes and challenges experienced by affected countries and other UNCCD stakeholders	<p>The extent to which reporting entities report on progress made in meeting OO 5</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase from 2013 in reports received <p>The extent to which Parties use the outcomes of their assessment of progress made in meeting OOs 5 in deciding on the next steps towards this objective</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At its thirteenth session, the CRIC makes recommendations on next steps on the basis of the reporting outcomes
5(b) Affected country Parties increasingly use an integrated approach to mobilize resources for UNCCD implementation at the national level	<p>Increase in number of IIFs/IFSs prepared with support of the Global Mechanism</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thirty countries supported by the Global Mechanism in the development or implementation of integrated investment frameworks (IIFs) and/or the integrated financial strategy (IFS)
5(c) Multi-stakeholder and South-South cooperation platforms/coalitions effectively contribute to financing UNCCD implementation	<p>Increase in number of platforms/coalitions that begin contributing or increase their contribution to financing UNCCD implementation with support from the GM</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thirty platforms are supported by the GM
5(d) Improved evidence to support decisions to invest in activities contributing to UNCCD	<p>Increase in number of countries and organizations supported by the GM in understanding, generating and using economic arguments for investing in activities contributing to UNCCD implementation</p>

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
implementation	<p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Twelve countries and organizations supported by the GM in understanding, generating and using economic arguments for their decisions to invest in activities contributing to UNCCD implementation
5(e) Increased support from developed countries and multilateral donors in addressing DLDD issues/UNCCD implementation	<p>The extent to which DLDD issues/UNCCD implementation feature in the sixth GEF replenishment</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved allocation of funds to land degradation under the sixth GEF replenishment compared to the fifth GEF replenishment <p>The extent to which developed countries and multilateral donors express commitment to supporting UNCCD implementation</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in financial resources provided by developed countries and multilateral donors to UNCCD implementation, as reported to the CRIC at its thirteenth session - Increase in partnerships involving the GM or the secretariat for providing financial support to UNCCD implementation
5(f) Private sector and innovative sources/mechanisms of financing are increasingly involved in financing sustainable land management (SLM)	<p>The extent of initiatives for increasing financing for SLM through innovative sources and mechanisms, which are generated through GM or secretariat input</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forty organizations involved in partnerships on innovative and private finance for SLM with the GM or the secretariat - Forty-eight countries and subregions assisted by the GM - Fifteen innovative financing mechanisms explored by the GM that enable and motivate investments in SLM - Thirty-five knowledge and advocacy products developed and outreach/capacity-building initiatives supported by the GM on innovative and private sector finance
5(g) Improved access by affected countries to SLM technology	<p>Increase in number of initiatives to facilitate technology transfer supported by the GM</p> <p><u>Target 2014–15:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eight technology transfer initiatives supported

F. Management and services

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
Executive direction and management of the secretariat	
6.1.(a) Improved integrity and coherence of the Convention process	The extent to which Parties express their satisfaction
Direction and management of the GM	
6.1.(b) The GM is an effective and trusted partner in financing the implementation of the UNCCD	The proportion of the core budget adopted by the COP received for GM operations
6.1.(c) Effective and transparent management of the GM work programme	The extent to which quality assurance and results-based management, monitoring and assessment are enforced <u>Target for 2015:</u> - The amount of voluntary contributions raised
Conference services	
6.2.(a) Parties are satisfied with improved conditions and changes in conference patterns for taking informed decisions at the level of the COP and its subsidiary bodies	The extent to which implementation of the new conference patterns related to the organization of the sessions of the COP and its subsidiary bodies has a positive impact <u>Target for 2015:</u> - Positive feedback from Parties about the arrangements
	The extent to which official documents are promptly and effectively submitted to Parties in all UN official languages within the established timeline <u>Target for 2015:</u> - All documents are available online on time
6.2.(b) Exchanges among Parties' representatives, scientific experts and/or other key stakeholders are efficiently facilitated	The extent to which requested meetings, workshops and seminars are organized promptly and within the limits of the allocated budget <u>Target for 2015:</u> - Positive feedback from partners on the organization of the meetings
Administration	
6.3.(a) The financial and human resources are administered effectively and efficiently, and in accordance with the financial rules of the Convention and the regulations and rules of the United Nations	The proportion of actual expenditure compared to the approved budget <u>Target for 2015:</u> - 100 per cent

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>
6.3.(b) Improved information and communication technology services of the secretariat	<p>The extent to which staff members' training requirements are met for implementing the work programme</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 30 per cent of the staff participates in training relating to their own work <p>The extent to which information and communication technology services meet the secretariat's requirements</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff recognizes improvements in ICT services <p>The extent to which Parties and other users express their satisfaction with services at conferences</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No complaints from Parties

Decision 2/COP.11

Strengthening and enhancing the process of alignment and implementation of action programmes with The Strategy

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 2 (a) and (c), of the Convention,

Also recalling article 23, paragraph 2 (a), (b) and (c), and article 26 of the Convention,

Further recalling decision 3/COP.8 that requested affected country Parties to align their action programmes with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (The Strategy),

Recalling decision 2/COP.10,

Aware of decision 16/COP.11,

Recognizing that national action programmes should be integrated into national development plans and take advantage of partnerships,

Acknowledging the need to facilitate and simplify access to financing, including that obtained through the Global Environment Facility and climate financing, in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the Convention at local and national levels,

Recognizing the roles, differing concerns and shared interests of the private sector and grassroots organizations in the alignment process, and that their engagement is essential in the alignment and implementation of national action programmes,

Recalling the urgent need for national, subregional and regional action programme implementation to receive adequate, predictable and timely financing and funding from national, bilateral and multilateral financing,

Alignment of action programmes to combat desertification

1. *Urges* affected country Parties to intensify their efforts to formulate and/or align, as appropriate, and review and update, their national action programmes (NAPs) with The Strategy, and adopt them as a policy document, in order to achieve the target of all affected countries having an aligned national action programme by 2014;
2. *Invites* affected country Parties to use the guidelines for national action programme alignment provided by the secretariat and adapt them to their countries' needs;
3. *Also invites* affected country Parties to use available national monitoring systems and incorporate, as appropriate, sustainable land management monitoring into them, with the aim of helping to build capacity and providing inputs and technical support for decision-making;
4. *Encourages* affected country Parties, while aligning their national action programmes, to: (a) address specific gaps in sustainable land management; (b) ensure coherence with other national sectoral policies and development plans at all levels; (c) establish specific internal coordination mechanisms in order to drive the process and ensure

coherence during implementation; and (d) apply a participatory process that is inclusive of all involved stakeholders, including, inter alia, those from the private sector and civil society, taking into account decentralization and local governance issues;

5. *Also encourages* affected country Parties to develop action programmes at subnational level, as appropriate;

6. *Further encourages* affected country Parties to use the national action programme alignment process, including its added value and documented benefits such as geo-referenced data, as a means to raise the awareness of policymakers;

7. *Calls on* Parties, as needed, to consider the added value of the alignment process in the light of the outcome of the mid-term evaluation of The Strategy, including possible incentive schemes for alignment;

Facilitating the alignment of action programmes

8. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources and in cooperation with Parties, Regional Coordination Mechanisms, relevant organizations and other stakeholders, to continue providing: support for the alignment of action programmes, including through capacity-building on national action programme alignment in each region or subregion, and to evaluate the effectiveness of these activities for 2014–2015; technical support; awareness-raising; and high-level political advocacy, which are key to an effective alignment process;

9. *Invites* the secretariat to further explore ways to promote awareness-raising;

10. *Requests* the secretariat to continue facilitating the use and improvement of effective tools to guide the alignment process that take into account changing government priorities and the need for monitoring and independently evaluating the process at national and regional levels;

11. *Also requests* the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, at its thirteenth session, to agree on a clear understanding of the integrated financing strategy/integrated investment framework processes and their relationships with the national action programme alignment process, ensuring that all stakeholders are aware of the same, and to advise on the ways to integrate integrated financing strategies/integrated investment frameworks into the national action programme alignment process;

12. *Further requests* the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the Convention to discuss at its thirteenth session a plan for the national action programme alignment process vis-à-vis the overall sustainable land management goals;

13. *Requests furthermore* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to present options to mobilize the resources and capacities required for the realization of the plan mentioned in paragraph 12 above at the national level;

14. *Invites* affected country Parties to adopt (1) a participatory approach to operational planning, the identification of resource mobilization opportunities, as appropriate, and the outlining of challenges such as gaps in technical and human capacity; and (2) a systematic approach to the realization of synergies between the Rio conventions at national level;

15. *Also invites* the Environmental Management Group and other relevant United Nations system partners to continue their work on a coherent United Nations system-wide contribution to implementing the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and tackling land challenges, in order to ensure maximum impact from limited resources and to mainstream desertification/land degradation and drought;

Support to the alignment and implementation of action programmes

16. *Encourages* development partners and financial institutions to provide resources for capacity-building for national focal points on advocacy for the national action programmes to be fully integrated into the national development planning process, in partnership with affected developing country Parties, in order to facilitate national action programme implementation;
17. *Also encourages* developed country Parties, other Governments, and technical and financial institutions to provide affected developing country Parties with the required regional and subregional support and training for the alignment process, and *requests* the secretariat to help in the regional assessment of national action programmes;
18. *Further encourages* affected developing country Parties to use financial resources made available by the Global Environment Facility for enabling activities in order to formulate and/or align their national action programmes and to inform Convention institutions on possible support needed in this regard;
19. *Invites* developed country Parties, other Governments, and technical and financial organizations to identify and support joint actions aimed at fostering the national action programme formulation and alignment process, including incentives for the implementation of aligned action programmes;
20. *Requests* the Global Mechanism to continue to provide advice to help affected country Parties to access Global Environment Facility funds for the implementation of national action programmes;
21. *Calls upon* Parties to engage civil society and the private sector to support the effective implementation of the Convention through greater incentives for investment, including financial and market-based incentives;
22. *Invites* the private sector to join national coordinating bodies where they exist and to support the implementation of national action programmes;
23. *Encourages* affected country Parties to strengthen the roles of science and technology institutions and civil society organizations in the national action programme alignment process;
24. *Invites* developed country Parties and other Governments to increase their support to the affected developing country Parties and to facilitate synergistic mechanisms among all stakeholders in affected country Parties;
25. *Urges* those subregions and regions that already plan to align their subregional or regional action programmes to undertake the steps required to revise them in accordance with The Strategy and the requirements of the guidelines on national action programme alignment; and *also urges* those subregions and regions which still have no such plans to take steps to formulate them;
26. *Invites* development partners, financial institutions and Governments to provide further assistance to affected developing country Parties or subregional and regional entities for the formulation and alignment of subregional action programmes and regional action programmes, as well as for the preparation of reports according to the provisions of the Convention;
27. *Also invites* development partners, financial institutions and Governments to provide specific support for project development within the framework of subregional and regional action programmes, thereby fostering their implementation;

28. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, with the assistance of Regional Coordination Units, as appropriate, to improve the effectiveness of the communication with donor agencies, in order to support the formulation and/or alignment of action programmes in affected developing country Parties, subregions and regions;

29. *Also requests* the secretariat, the Global Mechanism and Convention bodies to improve the effectiveness of collaboration with other Rio conventions at national, subregional and regional levels to support the formulation and/or alignment of action programmes;

30. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on progress made in implementing this decision.

*9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013*

Decision 3/COP.11

Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 3 (b) of the Convention and decisions 3/COP.3, 4/COP.4, 6/COP.5, 11/COP.6, 11/COP.7 and 3/COP.8 on Regional Coordination Units, as well as decisions 3/COP.9 and 3/COP.10 on mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination, and decisions 6/COP.9 and 6/COP.10 on regional work programmes,

Taking into account the role of Regional Coordination Mechanisms in responding to existing and emerging challenges, capacities and the specific issues of regions as regards the implementation of the Convention and the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Bearing in mind the conclusions and recommendations contained in documents ICCD/COP(10)/MISC.1 and ICCD/COP(11)/21, the actions taken thus far by the Executive Secretary and the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism to implement the same as reported in document ICCD/COP(11)/14, and also the conclusions and recommendations outlined therein,

Recognizing the need to further improve the capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the Regional Coordination Mechanisms, and the importance of ensuring that the Regional Coordination Units carry out their functions most effectively,

1. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to provide to the Regional Coordination Units a document outlining the respective roles and responsibilities of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism with respect to the Regional Coordination Units;

2. *Also requests* affected country Parties under each Regional Implementation Annex, with the support of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to:

(a) Establish or revise, as appropriate, the mandates for the Regional Committees, Regional Coordination Units and thematic programme networks, based on regional priorities, in order to specify and strengthen their role in implementing priority activities set by the regions;

(b) Establish links between national, subregional and regional action programmes and other regional environmental agreements, processes and institutions, including those focused on land management in drylands and other desertification/land degradation and drought-related issues;

(c) Review the respective roles of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism in facilitating regional activities, which may involve the development of joint two-year work programmes;

(d) Promote regional scientific cooperation;

and make proposals for any changes of arrangements, as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session;

3. *Further requests* affected country Parties under each Regional Implementation Annex, with the support of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, to establish or

activate a regional committee with the aim of guiding and promoting regional cooperation and supporting the incorporation of desertification/land degradation and drought issues into various regional processes, involving representatives of civil society organizations and the scientific community where appropriate;

4. *Requests* affected country Parties under each Regional Implementation Annex, subject to availability of resources and with the support of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, to review, prior to the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties, existing subregional and regional action programmes for implementing the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) to ensure that they reflect regional priorities and synergies with regional programmes, that they are consistent with and support the implementation of The Strategy, taking into account the updates proposed through the mid-term evaluation, and that they contribute to strengthening synergies at national level in addressing desertification/land degradation and drought and climate change/biodiversity loss;

5. *Also requests* the Regional Coordination Units to strengthen cooperation and partnerships with civil society organizations, the private sector and other key UNCCD stakeholders (e.g. farmers, women and youth), and to explore opportunities for further collaboration with the host institutions and the host countries;

6. *Further requests* affected country Parties under each Regional Implementation Annex, with the assistance of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, to improve their financial support to Regional Coordination Mechanisms in order to address their identified priorities by, inter alia, developing a systematic approach to mobilize resources for Regional Coordination Mechanisms and their activities, and involving various sources, including regional partnership platforms that are outside the Convention budget;

7. *Calls on* the affected country Parties concerned to take the necessary actions, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, to ensure a speedy conclusion of the relevant host agreements, guaranteeing the proper institutional status necessary for the efficient functioning of the Regional Coordination Units for Africa and Asia;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to fill the vacant staff positions at the Regional Coordination Units in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Asia, in accordance with decisions 3/COP.9 and 6/COP.10 and in consultation with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, by making the necessary appointments in an expeditious manner;

9. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, to ensure that all regional entities identified as part of the Regional Coordination Mechanisms of the respective Regional Implementation Annexes, or those potentially participating in the Regional Coordination Mechanisms, are invited to all relevant UNCCD activities at the regional and global levels where the inputs of these Regional Coordination Mechanisms could be important to the Convention process at the said levels, subject to the availability of voluntary funds;

10. *Encourages* the Regional Committees, where they exist, to play a more active and meaningful role in supporting and strengthening the Regional Coordination Mechanisms in their respective regions, including improving cooperation and collaboration with their respective Regional Coordination Units, with the aim of, inter alia:

(a) Providing support on request for the elaboration, alignment and implementation of action programmes at all levels, in particular for the integration of national action programmes of affected country Parties into the national development strategies;

(b) Providing support for the effective functioning of the thematic programme networks;

(c) Helping to promote awareness-raising about the UNCCD process throughout their respective regions, in particular at the political and policy levels;

(d) Supporting bilateral and multilateral cooperation at the regional and subregional levels;

(e) Strengthening and building capacity by encouraging the transfer of technology, the sharing of expertise and knowledge, and the general exchange of information by supporting the creation of subregional and regional knowledge management and sharing systems as part of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal;

(f) Supporting a more comprehensive and efficient reporting exercise at the regional level through cooperating and collaborating closely with the regional reporting entities as identified in decision 3/COP.10;

(g) Seeking to secure adequate and predictable financial resources to allow greater participation of civil society organizations in UNCCD processes at the subregional and regional levels;

(h) Supporting individual country Parties in their regions in these Parties' efforts to build partnerships and capacity, and to mobilize financial, human and technical resources necessary for the effective implementation of the Convention and The Strategy;

11. *Invites* Parties to consider the role that new initiatives could play as tools for strengthening the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy, including, inter alia, the Changwon Initiative, the Kubuqi International Desert Forum and the High-level Meeting on National Drought Policy;

12. *Also invites* Parties, international organizations, the private sector and civil society to become more involved with the Regional Coordination Mechanisms process by, inter alia, providing technical and financial support to the process and to the Regional Coordination Units, including through voluntary contributions to the Supplementary Fund and contributions in-kind, as appropriate;

13. *Requests* the Regional Committees and the secretariat to encourage and facilitate North–South and South–South cooperation platforms, especially with affected regions, with a view to exchanging lessons learned, best practices and knowledge management practices to enhance technology transfer and capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy;

14. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 4/COP.11

Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 4/COP.9 and 4/COP.10,

Recalling also the importance of addressing the information and communication needs of various partners involved in the global partnership under the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy, as reported in document ICCD/COP(11)/2,

Appreciating the constructive discussion made during the eleventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on advancing the operational objective 1 of The Strategy, as reported in document ICCD/CRIC(11)/19, paragraphs 37–48,

Recognizing United Nations observance events such as the World Day to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020) as outstanding opportunities to raise public awareness on issues concerning the Convention and its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018);

Also recognizing the importance of awareness-raising activities on the need to mitigate the effects of drought as highlighted, inter alia, by the High-level Meeting on National Drought Policy held in Geneva in 2013;

Cognizant of the importance of recognizing excellence, innovation and best practices in sustainable land management through recognition initiatives such as, inter alia, the Land for Life Award initiated under the Changwon Initiative and the Dryland Champions programme in inspiring leadership for future generations and raising awareness of the global benefits of land conservation and restoration,

Noting the rapid progress in the field of information and communication technologies and its potential for awareness-raising on desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD),

Recognizing that awareness-raising and educational activities on addressing desertification/land degradation and drought-related issues should receive greater attention in cooperation programmes in order to address the operational objectives of The Strategy,

Taking note of document ICCD/COP(11)/21,

1. *Encourages* Parties to continue their awareness raising initiatives at national level in line with the Convention and its comprehensive communication strategy;
2. *Also encourages* Parties to: (1) use the information generated through, inter alia, the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, that demonstrates the key role of actions to combat

desertification and land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought, in accordance with the mandate of the Convention, in addressing climate change impacts and biodiversity loss; and (2) strengthen the incorporation of these issues into the processes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant agreements, while respecting the individual mandates of these processes;

3. *Urges* Parties to inform the secretariat annually at early stage about their planned activities for the observances of the World Day to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, in particular their intention to host a global event on these observances in cooperation with the secretariat;

4. *Encourages* Parties to make efforts to raise awareness among policymakers and planners in order to further mainstream United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) issues into their domestic and development cooperation agendas in order to enhance the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Convention;

5. *Invites* Parties, the international community, civil society organizations and the private sector to place higher priority on their in-kind and financial support to: (1) awareness-raising, communication and education activities related to sustainable land management; and (2) the synergetic implementation of the Rio conventions, as demonstrated by the Rio Conventions Pavilion;

6. *Also invites* Parties, the international community, civil society organizations, the private sector and other major cooperating partners to continue providing voluntary support to the UNCCD recognition programmes, including the Land for Life Award, allowing for the programme participants to become advocates for UNCCD issues, including sustainable land management in drylands;

7. *Requests* the secretariat to further align its comprehensive communication strategy with the decisions taken by Parties at the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties;

8. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate, and other relevant stakeholders to include in their communication programmes awareness-raising actions pursuant to the implementation of the Convention and its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018);

9. *Requests* the secretariat to focus its comprehensive communication strategy awareness-raising actions on the mandate of the Convention and on the mission and objectives of its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018);

10. *Invites* Parties to support and strengthen training and capacity development among journalists and environmental correspondents, including strengthening collaboration between journalists and national focal points;

11. *Requests* the secretariat to increase its efforts to draw media attention to the outcomes of the activities of the Committee on Science and Technology and to further use the internet, publications, the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and other communication tools in raising awareness on these outcomes;

12. *Also requests* the secretariat to continue coordinating the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy;

13. *Further requests* the secretariat to report on progress made in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties.

9th plenary meeting

26 September 2013

Decision 5/COP.11

Revised procedures for the accreditation of civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector to the Conference of the Parties and their participation in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

Recalling also rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties on the participation of other bodies or agencies, and decisions 1/COP.1 and 26/COP.1 on the accreditation of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations,

Further recalling decisions 5/COP.9 and 5/COP.10,

Stressing the importance of the participation of civil society organizations and the private sector in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, as well as the involvement of these stakeholders in the implementation of the UNCCD and the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (The Strategy),

Taking note of the recommendations made by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its eleventh session on the above-mentioned issues as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(11)/19 and Add.1,

Concerned with the limited attendance of civil society at the eleventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention,

Having considered document ICCD/COP(11)/4,

1. *Invites* Parties to promote the active involvement of civil society organizations, including those of indigenous people, local communities and youth, in the Convention process at the international level, including through the accreditation process, with a view to ensuring the increased and more representative participation of civil society organizations in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies;
2. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to further promote the involvement of business and private entities in UNCCD meetings and processes, and to develop a business engagement strategy outlining the objectives, modalities and conditions of UNCCD partnerships with business and private entities for consideration and approval of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties ad interim and for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session;
3. *Urges* those Parties, organizations and private sector entities in a position to do so to make voluntary and in-kind contributions to support a wider participation of civil society organizations in UNCCD meetings; and *requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to, as appropriate, explore ways and means to raise more funding in this regard through specific initiatives based on substantive inputs from civil society organizations in the intergovernmental process;

4. *Decides* that the composition of the Civil Society Organization Selection Panel should include two representatives from the secretariat and one representative from civil society organizations from countries belonging to each of the five United Nations Regional Groups of Member States,¹
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate the renewal of memberships to the Civil Society Organization Selection Panel by January 2014, and *decides* that these memberships should be renewed every two years;
6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision, including the report of the Civil Society Organization Selection Panel on the implementation of its tasks.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

¹ African Group, Asia-Pacific Group, Eastern European Group, Latin American and Caribbean Group, Western European and Others Group.

Decision 6/COP.11

Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing the need to ensure accountability, efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and institutional coherence in the delivery of services by the Convention's institutions and bodies for the implementation of the Convention and its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy), in line with the relevant provisions of decision 3/COP.8,

Recalling articles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Convention,

Recalling also article 27 of the Convention, which requires the Conference of the Parties to consider and adopt procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to the implementation of the Convention,

Having noted the revised memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on the “governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism”, signed in April 2012, replacing the original understanding as contained in decision 10/COP.3, in compliance with decision 6/COP.10 on the “governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism”, particularly its operative paragraphs 8, 9 and 10,

Recalling decisions 10/COP.3, 3/COP.7 and 3/COP.8 and particularly decision 6/COP.9, notably its paragraph 9, and the resulting report by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session on the evaluation of existing and potential reporting, accountability and institutional arrangements for the Global Mechanism as a follow-up to the assessment of the Global Mechanism by the Joint Inspection Unit,

Recalling also decision 6/COP.10, paragraph 11, which requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session, to undertake a process to identify a new housing arrangement for the Global Mechanism, including potential co-location with the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), with consideration given to information on costs, operational modalities and synergies, and governance efficiencies,

Recalling further paragraph 14 of the same decision which directs the Executive Secretary to present to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session a recommendation on the new housing arrangement for the Global Mechanism, including potential co-location with the UNCCD secretariat, for the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to adopt a final decision,

Having considered the report by the Executive Secretary as presented in document ICCD/COP(11)/3, whose recommendations are the result of consultations held since 1 July 2012 with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session, and informal discussions with Parties in conjunction with the eleventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, in compliance with decision 6/COP.10,

Taking note that United Nations duty stations other than Rome and Bonn also serve as centres of excellence in the domain of environment and sustainable development and that the present decision does not prejudice any future decision on the location and hosting organizations of the UNCCD secretariat and its entities,

Having taken note of the letter contained in document ICCD/COP(10)/INF.5 in which the International Fund for Agricultural Development states that should the Conference of the Parties decide to retain the International Fund for Agricultural Development as a host for the Global Mechanism, there “should be no cost or liability to the IFAD” in any future possible relationship,

Mindful that the accountability and legal representation of the Global Mechanism was transferred from the International Fund for Agricultural Development to the UNCCD secretariat through decision 6/COP.10,

Recalling the responsibilities of the Executive Secretary to assume overall management responsibility, including coordinating reporting on, inter alia, accounting, performance and activities of the Global Mechanism, to the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the same decision,

1. Noting the recommendation contained in the document ICCD/COP(11)/3 further reaffirming decision 6/COP.10, *decides* to relocate the Global Mechanism from the International Fund for Agricultural Development in Rome to Bonn, to be co-located with the UNCCD secretariat;

2. Further recognizing the importance and need to continue with coordination and interaction with United Nations agricultural agencies and donor community in Rome, *decides* to establish a liaison office in Rome with appropriate staff. The purpose and functioning of the liaison office is to be decided by the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism in agreement with the Executive Secretary;

3. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary, from the 1st of October 2013, to take all necessary measures, in consultation with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and, going forward, with others as appropriate, to develop the institutional arrangements in this decision in an expeditious manner so as to ensure that the administrative, procedural and legal aspects are implemented;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism to prepare and submit progress reports to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session and to the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its thirteenth session as well as the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session, on the implementation of this decision.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 7/COP.11

United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020)

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/195 and resolution 64/201 on the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (UNDDD),

Also recalling decision 30/COP.9 and decision 31/COP.10,

Recognizing the importance of the UNDDD and the opportunity it offers all countries, in particular countries with deserts and those affected by desertification/land degradation and drought, in raising awareness on the value of deserts and mobilizing populations on issues of desertification,

Deeply concerned about the exacerbation of desertification/land degradation in all regions of the world, particularly in Africa, and about its grave implications for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, specifically those relating to the eradication of poverty and environmental sustainability,

Welcoming the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Task Force of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification and its enhanced support for observances of the World Day to Combat Desertification,

Having reviewed document ICCD/COP(11)/19 and *taking note* of document ICCD/COP(11)/MISC.1,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to support the implementation of the programme elaborated by United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) stakeholders in support of the Decade (UNDDD programme), prioritizing activities that enhance global visibility and the joint observance of the Decade and the World Day to Combat Desertification;
2. *Also requests* the secretariat, with the support of the Inter-Agency Task Force of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, to strengthen communication platforms and develop products, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, to demonstrate the outcomes and impact of the UNDDD programme on affected communities and affected ecosystems;
3. *Further requests* the secretariat to continue coordinating Decade activities in line with the mandate given by the General Assembly and to promote their integration in the work programmes of relevant United Nations system-wide entities;
4. *Invites* Parties, observers, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations that have not yet done so to submit to the secretariat proposals and contributions in the form of activities and events to mark the Decade for the period 2014–2015 and beyond;
5. *Encourages* Parties, observers, civil society organizations and intergovernmental organizations implementing Decade activities to specify in their national reports the nature of activities carried out and their results;

6. *Invites* Parties, multilateral funds including the Global Environment Facility and the World Bank, the private sector, and other partners of the Convention to provide financial contributions and technical support, including through North–South and South–South cooperation and partnerships, for the implementation of Decade programmes and activities of the Inter-Agency Task Force of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision.

9th plenary meeting

26 September 2013

Decision 8/COP.11

Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

1. *Decides* to establish an intergovernmental working group to: (1) establish a science-based definition of land degradation neutrality in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas; (2) develop options relating to arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas that Parties might consider should they strive to achieve land degradation neutrality; and (3) advise the Convention on the implications for its current and future strategy, programmes and the resource requirements;
2. *Also decides* that this intergovernmental working group will consist of a maximum of five representatives from each region, nominated by the respective regional groups on the basis of nominations by national Governments;
3. *Further decides* that, in undertaking this work, the intergovernmental working group should also take note of the following, inter alia:
 - (a) The ongoing process of elaborating the post-2015 development agenda, including, inter alia, the discussions in the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals called for at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Relevant economic studies and work undertaken by the Science-Policy Interface, as appropriate;
 - (c) The importance of identifying synergies to avoid duplication among the Rio conventions, other international bodies, and agencies addressing environment and development issues;
4. *Resolves* that the intergovernmental working group should report periodically on its progress to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties;
5. *Also resolves* that the intergovernmental working group should prepare a report to be submitted to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties no later than 60 days before the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties and that this report should be sent for consideration by the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention prior to the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties;
6. *Decides* that the intergovernmental working group and its activities should be funded through voluntary contributions earmarked for this purpose;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision.

10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013

Decision 9/COP.11

Ways of promoting and strengthening relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies

The Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of resolution 66/288 by the United Nations General Assembly and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (“The future we want”) calling for further mainstreaming of sustainable development at all levels integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their inter-linkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

Reaffirming that the impacts of desertification, land degradation and drought on economic and social development and poverty eradication are global challenges that require concerted action to address them,

Resolving to concertedly enhance the implementation of the Convention in order to achieve its ultimate objective in full accordance with its principles and commitments,

Recalling decisions 4/COP.8, 8/COP.9 and 9/COP.10,

Welcoming the proposed standard approach and process for the formulation of future advocacy policy frameworks and the advocacy policy framework on the thematic issue of drought, including water scarcity, as contained in documents ICCD/CRIC(11)/16 and ICCD/CRIC(11)/17,

Cognizant of the proposed action plan for 2012–2018 on the “Global Drylands: A UN system-wide response” developed as a joint contribution of the United Nations system towards the implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (The Strategy), as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/INF.1,

Acknowledging the role of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) secretariat during the organization of the High-level Meeting on National Drought Policy, pursuant to the decision of the 16th Congress of the World Meteorological Organization,

Recognizing the outcomes and recommendations of the Final Declaration of the High-level Meeting on National Drought Policy, as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(11)/INF.6, stating that:

- (a) Drought has major implications in terms of social, economic and environmental impacts;
- (b) There are insufficient policies for appropriate drought management and proactive drought preparedness in many countries around the world;
- (c) Most countries continue to respond to drought in a reactive, crisis management mode,

Taking note of the report of the secretariat on the progress made on the implementation of existing UNCCD advocacy policy frameworks on gender, climate change and food security, and on the development of an advocacy strategy to foster the

future implementation of the advocacy policy frameworks, as presented in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/CRP.1,

Resolving that there is need to engage in the context of the process of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC), in cooperation with the Committee on Science and Technology (CST), in dialogue sessions at regular meetings of the UNCCD, on substantive thematic issues that are informed by, inter alia, the best available scientific information, experience acquired during the implementation of the Convention as well as recognized good practices and processes thereunder, outputs from other relevant intergovernmental processes and insights from the business and research communities and civil society,

Reiterating the need for the secretariat to identify partnerships relevant to the implementation of the Convention,

By strengthening partnerships

1. *Encourages* the secretariat to continue strengthening existing strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders, building on established and new cooperation initiatives with the Rio conventions and relevant international agencies and bodies;
2. *Also encourages* the secretariat to continue to collaborate with Rio convention secretariats and organizations in order to advocate inclusion of UNCCD-related matters in their communication, education and public awareness programmes;
3. *Further encourages* the secretariat to enhance its cooperation with the United Nations agencies, organizations and treaties that are members of the United Nations Environment Management Group, based on the valuable recommendations in the “Global Drylands: A UN system-wide response” (ICCD/CRIC(10)/INF.1), and to share the information contained in the action plan (ICCD/CRIC(12)/INF.1), as appropriate, for potential use as an important tool to strengthen the effectiveness of the implementation process of The Strategy;
4. *Invites* the United Nations agencies, organizations and treaties that are members of the United Nations Environment Management Group, through the secretariat, to report on the progress of the action plan on “Global Drylands: A UN system-wide response” at each subsequent Conference of the Parties until 2018;

By following up on the outcomes of the High Level Meeting on National Drought Policy

5. *Urges* Parties to develop and implement national drought management policies, consistent with their national development priorities, objectives and policies that address the social, economic and environmental impacts of drought;
6. *Requests* the secretariat, making use of the advocacy policy framework on drought, including water scarcity, as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(11)/17, to assist country Parties, as appropriate, to promote and strengthen partnerships to develop and implement national drought management policies;
7. *Invites* the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, other United Nations agencies, programmes and treaties, as well as other concerned parties, to collaborate with the UNCCD towards assisting country Parties, especially the developing countries, in elaborating national drought management policies and their implementation;

8. *Also invites* the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development to continue collaborating with the UNCCD in undertaking capacity building initiatives towards assisting countries to develop and implement comprehensive national drought management policies in accordance with the principles and provisions of the UNCCD, and in line with the advocacy policy framework on drought, including water scarcity;

By taking action on advocacy policy frameworks

9. *Requests* the secretariat, in promoting and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies, to assess and report on the effectiveness of existing advocacy policy frameworks, for consideration by Parties at the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session;

10. *Encourages* the secretariat to identify and formulate, as appropriate and subject to availability of resources, additional advocacy policy frameworks, in consultation with Parties, for approval at the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session;

11. *Further requests* the secretariat to facilitate the mainstreaming of gender issues at various levels involving multiple stakeholders;

12. *Urges* the secretariat, pursuant to decision 9/COP.10 paragraph 10, to increase efforts in undertaking policy advocacy based on the UNCCD advocacy strategy, making use of the available advocacy policy frameworks on gender, food security, climate change and drought, including water scarcity, and to ensure harmonization, alignment and mutual reinforcement of thematic advocacy policy frameworks in line with the UNCCD's objective and principles;

13. *Authorizes* the secretariat, consistent with decision 8/COP.9, paragraph 8, and decision 9/COP.10, paragraph 12, to utilize relevant advocacy policy frameworks and their consultative approach, to seek financial resources for their implementation, consistent with the fundraising activities of the secretariat;

14. *Invites* Parties and financial institutions, and *encourages* the Global Mechanism, in line with its mandate, as appropriate, to continue supporting the implementation of existing advocacy policy frameworks, as well as the development and implementation of any additional advocacy policy frameworks, as decided by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session, subject to availability of resources;

By undertaking advocacy on thematic issues

15. *Requests* the secretariat, at the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, to foster dialogue among stakeholders in the context of existing advocacy policy frameworks on substantive thematic issues and elaboration of strategies and recommendations for policy development, implementation and reporting at all levels in support of policy advocacy by the secretariat;

16. *Decides* that the secretariat shall present the outcomes of the work of the dialogue sessions on substantive thematic issues at the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session, for consideration and adoption, as appropriate;

Further issues for action

17. *Calls on* the secretariat to collaborate with other monitoring and evaluation processes under other conventions, in particular the Rio conventions, including through the Joint Liaison Group, in implementing a monitoring and evaluation approach at national level in order to address the objectives of the Convention and reporting under the UNCCD;
18. *Requests* the secretariat to explore the possibility of enhancing advocacy through, among others, the creation of a Global UNCCD platform, in partnership with key stakeholders;
19. *Urges* Parties to mainstream the objectives of the Convention and national action programmes into their national planning processes, with the aim of increasing resources, resource efficiency and the number of implementing partners;
20. *Decides* to include a review and assessment of the progress of this decision in the programme of work of the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session.

*9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013*

Decision 10/COP.11

Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),²

Also recalling the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),³

Taking note of the report by the Intersessional Working Group on the Mid-term Evaluation of The Strategy,⁴

Having considered the information contained in the documents prepared by the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on the programme and budget,⁵

Programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015

1. *Approves* the programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 in the amount of EUR 16,122,431 for the purposes specified in table 1 below;
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Germany for its biennial voluntary contribution to the core budget of EUR 1,022,584 and its special contribution of EUR 1,022,584 (Bonn Fund) as host Government to the secretariat;
3. *Approves* the staffing table for the programme budget, as contained in table 2 below;
4. *Decides* to maintain the level of the working capital reserve at 8.3 per cent of the estimated annual expenditure in the Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the UNCCD;
5. *Adopts* the indicative scale of contributions for 2014 and 2015 contained in the annex to this decision;
6. *Invites* all Parties to the Convention to note that contributions to the core budget are expected on or before 1 January of each year, in accordance with paragraph 14 (a) of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;
7. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary to make transfers between each of the main appropriation lines as set out in table 1 below, up to an aggregate limit of 20 per cent of the total estimated expenditure for those appropriation lines, provided that a further limitation of up to minus 25 per cent of each such appropriation line shall apply, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties on any such transfers;

² Decision 2/COP.1, annex.

³ Decision 3/COP.8.

⁴ ICCD/COP(11)/21.

⁵ ICCD/COP(11)/6 and Corr.1, ICCD/COP(11)/7 and Corr.1, ICCD/COP(11)/8, ICCD/COP(11)/9, ICCD/COP(11)/10, ICCD/COP(11)/11, ICCD/COP(11)/12 and ICCD/COP(11)/13.

8. *Invites* the United Nations General Assembly to include, in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2014–2015, the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium;
9. *Approves* a contingency budget as set out in table 3 below, amounting to EUR 2,073,550, for conference servicing, to be added to the programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015 in the event that the General Assembly decides not to provide resources for these activities in the United Nations regular budget;
10. *Takes note* of the estimated additional costs of up to EUR 1,496,000, as set out in table 4 below, in the event that the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties is held in Bonn, Germany;
11. *Also takes note* of the estimated additional costs of up to EUR 731,000, as set out in table 5 below, in the event that the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology and the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention are held in Bonn, Germany;
12. *Approves* a budget for the transfer of the Global Mechanism to Bonn, on an exceptional one-time basis, as set out in table 6 below, amounting to EUR 350,894, and *authorizes* the Executive Secretary to use the reserves of the Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the UNCCD for this purpose;
13. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, organizations and institutions, in a position of doing so, to provide voluntary contributions for costs related to the implementation of decision 6/COP.11 on the governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism;
14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in close consultation with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session, and under the advice of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, to work with the International Fund for Agricultural Development Governing Council to release donor funds frozen by the International Fund for Agricultural Development and to resolve all outstanding issues regarding disputes on staff-related court cases;
15. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the status of the legal cases between the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Global Mechanism and its existing and potential impacts on the financial issues of the Global Mechanism;
16. *Decides that*, to the extent that offsetting voluntary contributions for the purpose expressed in paragraph 9 do not reach this amount, the balance will be included in the contingency budget for conference servicing;
17. *Takes note* of the funding estimates for the Special Trust Fund specified by the Executive Secretary in table 7 below, and *invites* Parties to make contributions to this Fund;
18. *Also takes note* of the funding estimates for extrabudgetary needs specified by the Executive Secretary (EUR 7,281,000) and the Global Mechanism (EUR 11,578,150) for the biennium 2014–2015, and *requests* Parties in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to these activities;
19. *Invites* Parties, as well as Governments of States not Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, to make contributions to the Supplementary Fund, the Special Fund and the extrabudgetary funds of the Global Mechanism;

20. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, in implementing their programme budget, to prioritize the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation that are found within the decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on their performance in this regard;
21. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the status of income and expenditure and on budget performance, using a results-based approach;
22. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a results-based budget and work programmes for the biennium 2016–2017, in line with decision 1/COP.11 on workplans, presenting budget scenarios and work programmes based on the projected needs for the biennium in (1) a zero nominal growth scenario; and (2) a scenario based on further recommended adjustments to the first scenario and their associated costs, on the basis of the template laid out in annex III of decision 9/COP.9;
23. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure that the documents specified in paragraph 22 above are made available in all official languages and in accordance with decision 2/COP.1 on the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;
24. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to increase efforts to continuously seek out and implement efficiencies and creative innovations, including with regard to reducing staffing and consultancy costs across all units and divisions of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, and to report on progress made to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session;

Financial performance of the Convention trust funds

25. *Takes note* of the financial statements for the bienniums 2010–2011 and 2012–2013, the report on financial performance and the reports on the implementation of the work programmes for the biennium 2012–2013 of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, and the status of contributions as at 1 September 2013;
26. *Expresses appreciation* to Parties that have paid their contributions to the core budget in a timely manner;
27. *Calls upon* Parties that have not paid their contributions to the core budget to do so without delay, bearing in mind that contributions are expected on or before 1 January of each year;
28. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to report on the implementation of any arrangements regarding outstanding contributions, pursuant to decision 9/COP.9.
29. *Expresses appreciation* for the contributions received from Parties to the Supplementary Fund, the Special Fund and the extrabudgetary funds of the Global Mechanism.

Table 1
Resource requirements by subprogramme
 (Euros)

	2014	2015	Total core budget
A. Programmes			
1. Advocacy, awareness raising and education	965 150	990 250	1 955 400
2. Policy framework	764 800	775 400	1 540 200
3. Science, technology and knowledge	1 146 800	1 163 100	2 309 900
4. Capacity-building	317 175	361 000	678 175
5. Financing and technology transfer	787 250	800 800	1 588 050
B. Management support			
6.1 Executive Direction and Management	1 532 843	1 606 193	3 139 035
6.2 Conference Services	336 250	339 850	676 100
6.3 Administration and Finance Services	1 219 438	1 219 439	2 438 876
Subtotal (A + B)	7 069 705	7 256 031	14 325 736
C. Programme support costs	919 062	943 284	1 862 346
D. Working capital reserve	(65 651)		(65 651)
TOTAL (A–D)	7 923 116	8 199 315	16 122 431
Income			
Contribution from the host Government	511 292	511 292	1 022 584
Unspent balances or contributions from prior financial periods	202 053	202 053	404 106
Indicative contributions	7 209 771	7 485 970	14 695 741
TOTAL income	7 923 116	8 199 315	16 122 431

Table 2
Staffing requirements

	Actual		Required	
	2013	2014	2015	
<u>Secretariat</u>				
A. Professional category and above				
ASG	1.00	1.00	1.00	
D-2	0.00	0.00	0.00	
D-1	1.00	1.00	1.00	
P-5	7.00	7.00	7.00	
P-4	7.00	7.00	7.00	
P-3	4.00	4.00	4.00	
P-2	1.00	1.00	1.00	
P-1	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Subtotal A. Professional category and above	21.00	21.00	21.00	
B. General Service category	10.00	10.00	10.00	
Total (A + B)	31.00	31.00	31.00	
<hr/>				
	Actual		Required	
	2013	2014	2015	
<u>Global Mechanism</u>				
A. Professional category and above				
D-2	1.00	1.00	1.00	
D-1	1.00	1.00	1.00	
P-5	2.00	2.00	2.00	
P-4	3.00	3.00	3.00	
P-3	0.00	0.00	0.00	
P-2	2.00	2.00	2.00	
Subtotal A. Professional category and above	9.00	9.00	9.00	
B. General Service category	5.00	4.00	4.00	
Total (A + B)	14.00	13.00	13.00	
Grand total	45.00	44.00	44.00	

Table 3
Contingency budget for conference servicing
 (Euros)

<i>Object of expenditure</i>	<i>2012–2013</i>	<i>2014–2015</i>
United Nations meetings services	1 799 000	1 835 000
Programme support costs	234 000	238 550
TOTAL	2 033 000	2 073 550

Table 4
Resource requirements for hosting the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties in Bonn
 (Euros)

<i>Object of expenditure</i>	<i>2012–2013</i>	<i>2014–2015</i>
Incremental costs	1 204 000	1 204 000
Contingencies	120 000	120 000
Subtotal	1 324 000	1 324 000
Programme support costs	172 000	172 000
TOTAL	1 496 000	1 496 000

Table 5
Resource requirements for hosting the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology and thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
 (Euros)

<i>Object of expenditure</i>	<i>2014–2015</i>
Incremental costs	588 000
Contingencies	59 000
Subtotal	647 000
Programme support costs	84 000
TOTAL	731 000

Table 6
Resources requirements for transferring the Global Mechanism to Bonn
 (Euros)

<i>Object of expenditure</i>	<i>Budget</i>
Office furniture and computer equipment	73 830
Office moving costs	8 400
Relocation of Professional staff (core)	228 296
Subtotal	310 526
Programme support costs	40 368
TOTAL	350 894
Income	
Reserves against the Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the UNCCD	350 894

Table 7
Estimated resource requirements for participation in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification process for the biennium 2014–2015
 (Euros)

<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Estimated cost</i>
Thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention	915 000
Twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties	1 300 000
	2 215 000

10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013

Annex I

Work programmes of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism

<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Secretariat</i>			<i>Global Mechanism</i>			<i>Total</i>
	Core	XB	Total	Core	XB	Total	
1(a) Increased awareness of the importance of addressing desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) as a solution to many global challenges	970,240	845,320	1,815,560	0	0	0	1,815,560
1(b) Increased awareness of financing opportunities, methods and tools for addressing DLDD	0	0	0	203,220	898,850	1,102,070	1,102,070
1(c) The Convention process is increasingly recognized as a normative reference for addressing DLDD issues in decisions concerning land	124,240	147,520	271,760	175,890	0	175,890	447,650
1(d) Civil society contributions to meetings and processes of the Convention are effectively facilitated	305,920	88,760	394,680	175,890	0	175,890	570,570
2(a) Increased effectiveness in servicing countries in aligning and mainstreaming national action programmes (NAPs)	187,800	842,100	1,029,900	31,000	728,100	759,100	1,789,000
2(b) Effective regional cooperation and coordination in implementing the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	237,800	388,100	625,900	84,100	898,600	982,700	1,608,600
2(c) Affected country Parties have increased support from major multilateral cooperation organizations and programmes in addressing DLDD	221,822	197,622	419,444	84,100	79,200	163,300	582,744
2(d) Improved understanding of interlinkages between implementing the Convention and addressing food security, water scarcity and drought, forestry and gender issues	345,252	495,552	840,804	84,100	299,300	383,400	1,224,204
2(e) Improved synergies between addressing DLDD and climate change and/or biodiversity	180,126	105,526	285,652	84,100	112,800	196,900	482,552
3(a) Parties conduct impact assessments under the UNCCD, focusing on progress made in meeting strategic objectives (SOs) 1–4	68,900	80,000	148,900	0	0	0	148,900
3(b) National and global baselines for assessing progress in meeting SOs 1–3 are established	130,950	328,000	458,950	0	0	0	458,950
3(c) Parties base their decisions for action towards meeting operational objectives (OOs) 1–4 on updated information of related successes and challenges experienced by affected countries and other UNCCD stakeholders	560,850	567,100	1,127,950	0	0	0	1,127,950

<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Secretariat</i>			<i>Global Mechanism</i>			<i>Total</i>
	Core	XB	Total	Core	XB	Total	
3(d) Parties are satisfied with the methods and tools for communicating information through reporting under the UNCCD	140,525	0	140,525	0	0	0	140,525
3(e) The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) advances knowledge on combating DLDD for poverty reduction and sustainable development, with an emphasis on the contribution of science, technology, and traditional knowledge and practices.	115,800	792,600	908,400	0	0	0	908,400
3(f) The CST benefits from the work of scientific organizations and cooperation bodies that deal with issues relevant to DLDD, including by the establishment of the Science-Policy Interface as created by decision 23/COP.11	170,700	60,000	230,700	0	0	0	230,700
3(g) Parties use scientific knowledge to support decision-making concerning the UNCCD	514,100	554,100	1,068,200	0	0	0	1,068,200
3(h) Parties use best practices to support the implementation of the UNCCD	148,525	80,000	228,525	0	0	0	228,525
3(i) Provisions for the engagement of science and institutions are improved	459,550	262,500	722,050	0	0	0	722,050
4(a) Opportunities for targeted capacity-building under the Convention are improved	678,175	400,000	1,078,175	0	0	0	1,078,175
5(a) Parties base their decisions for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of financial resources on updated information on related successes and challenges experienced by affected countries and other UNCCD stakeholders	0	0	0	272,773	414,000	686,773	686,773
5(b) Affected country Parties increasingly use an integrated approach to mobilize resources for UNCCD implementation at the national level	0	0	0	278,773	1,186,200	1,464,973	1,464,973
5(c) Multi-stakeholder and South–South cooperation platforms/coalitions effectively contribute to financing UNCCD implementation	0	0	0	176,481	1,590,700	1,767,181	1,767,181
5(d) Improved evidence to support decisions to invest in activities contributing to UNCCD implementation	134,100	0	134,100	176,481	769,400	945,881	1,079,981
5(e) Increased support from developed countries and multilateral donors in addressing DLDD issues/UNCCD implementation	0	0	0	166,481	686,000	852,481	852,481
5(f) Private sector and innovative sources/mechanisms of financing are increasingly involved in financing sustainable land management (SLM)	0	0	0	216,481	2,808,900	3,025,381	3,025,381
5(g) Improved access by affected countries to SLM technology	0	0	0	166,481	170,200	336,681	336,681
6.1(a) Improved integrity and coherence of the Convention process	2,010,085	0	2,010,085	0	71,400	71,400	2,081,485
6.1(b) The Global Mechanism (GM) is an effective and trusted partner in financing the implementation of the UNCCD	0	0	0	1,128,950	314,500	1,443,450	1,443,450
6.1(c) Effective and transparent management of the GM work programme	0	0	0	0	550,000	550,000	550,000

<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Secretariat</i>			<i>Global Mechanism</i>			<i>Total</i>
	Core	XB	Total	Core	XB	Total	
6.2(a) Parties are satisfied with improved conditions and changes in conference patterns for taking informed decisions at the level of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies	548,305	505,720	1,054,025	0	0	0	1,054,025
6.2(b) Exchanges among Parties' representatives, scientific experts and/or other key stakeholders are efficiently facilitated	127,795	140,480	268,275	0	0	0	268,275
6.3(a) The financial and human resources are administered effectively and efficiently, and in accordance with the financial rules of the Convention and the regulations and rules of the United Nations	2,061,876	0	2,061,876	135,000	0	135,000	2,196,876
6.3(b) Improved information and communication technology services of the secretariat	242,000	400,000	642,000	0	0	0	642,000
Total	10,685,436	7,281,000	17,966,436	3,640,300	11,578,150	15,218,450	33,184,886

^a Excluding traditional knowledge on genetic resources.

Abbreviations: XB = extrabudgetary.

^aIn addition to the above, the convention budget includes programme support costs, less the Work Capital Reserve, in the amount of EUR 4.3 million.

Annex II

Indicative scale of contributions for the core budget of the Convention for 2014–2015

Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ^a		(^b /)	United Nations scale	Indicative scale of assessment for 2014	2014 indicative contributions (Euros)	Indicative scale of assessment for 2015	2015 indicative contributions (Euros)	Total amount payable (Euros)
1	Afghanistan	LDC	0.005	0.005	360	0.005	377	737
2	Albania		0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
3	Algeria		0.137	0.137	9,854	0.138	10,322	20,176
4	Andorra		0.008	0.008	575	0.008	603	1,178
5	Angola	LDC	0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
6	Antigua and Barbuda		0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
7	Argentina		0.432	0.431	31,073	0.435	32,547	63,620
8	Armenia		0.007	0.007	504	0.007	527	1,031
9	Australia		2.074	2.069	149,180	2.087	156,257	305,437
10	Austria		0.798	0.796	57,399	0.803	60,122	117,521
11	Azerbaijan		0.040	0.040	2,877	0.040	3,014	5,891
12	Bahamas		0.017	0.017	1,223	0.017	1,281	2,504
13	Bahrain		0.039	0.039	2,805	0.039	2,938	5,743
14	Bangladesh	LDC	0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
15	Barbados		0.008	0.008	575	0.008	603	1,178
16	Belarus		0.056	0.056	4,028	0.056	4,219	8,247
17	Belgium		0.998	0.996	71,785	1.004	75,190	146,975
18	Belize		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
19	Benin	LDC	0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
20	Bhutan	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
21	Bolivia		0.009	0.009	647	0.009	678	1,325
22	Bosnia and Herzegovina		0.017	0.017	1,223	0.017	1,281	2,504
23	Botswana		0.017	0.017	1,223	0.017	1,281	2,504
24	Brazil		2.934	2.927	211,039	2.953	221,050	432,089
25	Brunei Darussalam		0.026	0.026	1,870	0.026	1,959	3,829
26	Bulgaria		0.047	0.047	3,381	0.047	3,541	6,922
27	Burkina Faso	LDC	0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
28	Burundi	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
29	Cambodia	LDC	0.004	0.004	288	0.004	301	589
30	Cameroon		0.012	0.012	863	0.012	904	1,767
31	Canada ^c		0.711	0.709	51,141	0.000	-	51,141
32	Cape Verde		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
33	Central African Republic	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
34	Chad	LDC	0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
35	Chile		0.334	0.333	24,024	0.336	25,164	49,188
36	China		5.148	5.136	370,289	5.181	387,855	758,144
37	Colombia		0.259	0.258	18,630	0.261	19,513	38,143
38	Comoros	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
39	Congo		0.005	0.005	360	0.005	377	737
40	Cook Islands		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147

<i>Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification^a</i>		<i>(^{b/})</i>	<i>United Nations scale</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2014</i>	<i>2014 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2015</i>	<i>2015 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Total amount payable (Euros)</i>
41	Costa Rica		0.038	0.038	2,733	0.038	2,863	5,596
42	Côte d'Ivoire		0.011	0.011	791	0.011	829	1,620
43	Croatia		0.126	0.126	9,063	0.127	9,493	18,556
44	Cuba		0.069	0.069	4,963	0.069	5,199	10,162
45	Cyprus		0.047	0.047	3,381	0.047	3,541	6,922
46	Czech Republic		0.386	0.385	27,764	0.388	29,082	56,846
47	Democratic People's Republic of Korea		0.006	0.006	432	0.006	452	884
48	Democratic Republic of the Congo	LDC	0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
49	Denmark		0.675	0.673	48,552	0.679	50,855	99,407
50	Djibouti	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
51	Dominica		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
52	Dominican Republic		0.045	0.045	3,237	0.045	3,390	6,627
53	Ecuador		0.044	0.044	3,165	0.044	3,315	6,480
54	Egypt		0.134	0.134	9,638	0.135	10,096	19,734
55	El Salvador		0.016	0.016	1,151	0.016	1,205	2,356
56	Equatorial Guinea	LDC	0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
57	Eritrea	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
58	Estonia		0.040	0.040	2,877	0.040	3,014	5,891
59	Ethiopia	LDC	0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
60	European Union		2.500	2.500	180,244	2.500	187,149	367,393
61	Fiji		0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
62	Finland		0.519	0.518	37,331	0.522	39,102	76,433
63	France		5.593	5.580	402,297	5.629	421,382	823,679
64	Gabon		0.020	0.020	1,439	0.020	1,507	2,946
65	Gambia	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
66	Georgia		0.007	0.007	504	0.007	527	1,031
67	Germany		7.141	7.124	513,643	7.187	538,009	1,051,652
68	Ghana		0.014	0.014	1,007	0.014	1,055	2,062
69	Greece		0.638	0.637	45,891	0.642	48,067	93,958
70	Grenada		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
71	Guatemala		0.027	0.027	1,942	0.027	2,034	3,976
72	Guinea	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
73	Guinea-Bissau	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
74	Guyana		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
75	Haiti	LDC	0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
76	Honduras		0.008	0.008	575	0.008	603	1,178
77	Hungary		0.266	0.265	19,133	0.268	20,041	39,174
78	Iceland		0.027	0.027	1,942	0.027	2,034	3,976
79	India		0.666	0.664	47,905	0.670	50,177	98,082
80	Indonesia		0.346	0.345	24,887	0.348	26,068	50,955
81	Iran, (Islamic Republic of)		0.356	0.355	25,607	0.358	26,821	52,428
82	Iraq		0.068	0.068	4,891	0.068	5,123	10,014
83	Ireland		0.418	0.417	30,066	0.421	31,492	61,558
84	Israel		0.396	0.395	28,484	0.399	29,835	58,319
85	Italy		4.448	4.438	319,939	4.477	335,116	655,055

	<i>Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification^a</i>	<i>(^{b/})</i>	<i>United Nations scale</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2014</i>	<i>2014 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2015</i>	<i>2015 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Total amount payable (Euros)</i>
86	Jamaica		0.011	0.011	791	0.011	829	1,620
87	Japan		10.833	10.808	779,204	10.903	816,168	1,595,372
88	Jordan		0.022	0.022	1,582	0.022	1,657	3,239
89	Kazakhstan		0.121	0.121	8,703	0.122	9,116	17,819
90	Kenya		0.013	0.013	935	0.013	979	1,914
91	Kiribati	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
92	Kuwait		0.273	0.272	19,637	0.275	20,568	40,205
93	Kyrgyzstan		0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
94	Lao People's Democratic Republic	LDC	0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
95	Latvia		0.047	0.047	3,381	0.047	3,541	6,922
96	Lebanon		0.042	0.042	3,021	0.042	3,164	6,185
97	Lesotho	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
98	Liberia	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
99	Libya		0.142	0.142	10,214	0.143	10,698	20,912
100	Liechtenstein		0.009	0.009	647	0.009	678	1,325
101	Lithuania		0.073	0.073	5,251	0.073	5,500	10,751
102	Luxembourg		0.081	0.081	5,826	0.082	6,103	11,929
103	Madagascar	LDC	0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
104	Malawi	LDC	0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
105	Malaysia		0.281	0.280	20,212	0.283	21,171	41,383
106	Maldives		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
107	Mali	LDC	0.004	0.004	288	0.004	301	589
108	Malta		0.016	0.016	1,151	0.016	1,205	2,356
109	Marshall Islands		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
110	Mauritania	LDC	0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
111	Mauritius		0.013	0.013	935	0.013	979	1,914
112	Mexico		1.842	1.838	132,493	1.854	138,778	271,271
113	Micronesia (Federated States of)		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
114	Monaco		0.012	0.012	863	0.012	904	1,767
115	Mongolia		0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
116	Montenegro		0.005	0.005	360	0.005	377	737
117	Morocco		0.062	0.062	4,460	0.062	4,671	9,131
118	Mozambique	LDC	0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
119	Myanmar	LDC	0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
120	Namibia		0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
121	Nauru		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
122	Nepal	LDC	0.006	0.006	432	0.006	452	884
123	Netherlands		1.654	1.650	118,970	1.665	124,614	243,584
124	New Zealand		0.253	0.252	18,198	0.255	19,061	37,259
125	Nicaragua		0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
126	Niger	LDC	0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
127	Nigeria		0.090	0.090	6,474	0.091	6,781	13,255
128	Niue		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
129	Norway		0.851	0.849	61,211	0.856	64,115	125,326
130	Oman		0.102	0.102	7,337	0.103	7,685	15,022
131	Pakistan		0.085	0.085	6,114	0.086	6,404	12,518

	<i>Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification^a</i>	<i>(^{b/})</i>	<i>United Nations scale</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2014</i>	<i>2014 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2015</i>	<i>2015 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Total amount payable (Euros)</i>
132	Palau		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
133	Panama		0.026	0.026	1,870	0.026	1,959	3,829
134	Papua New Guinea		0.004	0.004	288	0.004	301	589
135	Paraguay		0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
136	Peru		0.117	0.117	8,416	0.118	8,815	17,231
137	Philippines		0.154	0.154	11,077	0.155	11,602	22,679
138	Poland		0.921	0.919	66,246	0.927	69,389	135,635
139	Portugal		0.474	0.473	34,094	0.477	35,712	69,806
140	Qatar		0.209	0.209	15,033	0.210	15,746	30,779
141	Republic of Korea		1.994	1.989	143,426	2.007	150,230	293,656
142	Republic of Moldova		0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
143	Romania		0.226	0.225	16,256	0.227	17,027	33,283
144	Russian Federation		2.438	2.432	175,362	2.454	183,681	359,043
145	Rwanda	LDC	0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
146	Saint Kitts and Nevis		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
147	Saint Lucia		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
148	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
149	Samoa	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
150	San Marino		0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
151	Sao Tome and Principe	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
152	Saudi Arabia		0.864	0.862	62,146	0.870	65,095	127,241
153	Senegal	LDC	0.006	0.006	432	0.006	452	884
154	Serbia		0.040	0.040	2,877	0.040	3,014	5,891
155	Seychelles		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
156	Sierra Leone	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
157	Singapore		0.384	0.383	27,621	0.386	28,931	56,552
158	Slovakia		0.171	0.171	12,300	0.172	12,883	25,183
159	Slovenia		0.100	0.100	7,193	0.101	7,534	14,727
160	Solomon Islands	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
161	Somalia	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
162	South Africa		0.372	0.371	26,757	0.374	28,027	54,784
163	South Sudan	LDC	0.004	0.004	288	0.004	301	589
164	Spain		2.973	2.966	213,844	2.992	223,989	437,833
165	Sri Lanka		0.025	0.025	1,798	0.025	1,884	3,682
166	Sudan	LDC	0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
167	Suriname		0.004	0.004	288	0.004	301	589
168	Swaziland		0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
169	Sweden		0.960	0.958	69,052	0.966	72,327	141,379
170	Switzerland		1.047	1.045	75,309	1.054	78,882	154,191
171	Syrian Arab Republic		0.036	0.036	2,589	0.036	2,712	5,301
172	Tajikistan		0.003	0.003	216	0.003	226	442
173	Thailand		0.239	0.238	17,191	0.241	18,006	35,197
174	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		0.008	0.008	575	0.008	603	1,178
175	Timor-Leste	LDC	0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
176	Togo	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
177	Tonga		0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147

	<i>Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification^a</i>	<i>(^{b/})</i>	<i>United Nations scale</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2014</i>	<i>2014 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Indicative scale of assessment for 2015</i>	<i>2015 indicative contributions (Euros)</i>	<i>Total amount payable (Euros)</i>
178	Trinidad and Tobago		0.044	0.044	3,165	0.044	3,315	6,480
179	Tunisia		0.036	0.036	2,589	0.036	2,712	5,301
180	Turkey		1.328	1.325	95,521	1.337	100,053	195,574
181	Turkmenistan		0.019	0.019	1,367	0.019	1,431	2,798
182	Tuvalu	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
183	Uganda	LDC	0.006	0.006	432	0.006	452	884
184	Ukraine		0.099	0.099	7,121	0.100	7,459	14,580
185	United Arab Emirates		0.595	0.594	42,798	0.599	44,828	87,626
186	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		5.179	5.167	372,519	5.212	390,191	762,710
187	United Republic of Tanzania	LDC	0.009	0.009	647	0.009	678	1,325
188	United States of America ^d		22.000	21.948	1,582,431	22.000	1,646,913	3,229,344
189	Uruguay		0.052	0.052	3,740	0.052	3,918	7,658
190	Uzbekistan		0.015	0.015	1,079	0.015	1,130	2,209
191	Vanuatu	LDC	0.001	0.001	72	0.001	75	147
192	Venezuela		0.627	0.626	45,099	0.631	47,239	92,338
193	Viet Nam		0.042	0.042	3,021	0.042	3,164	6,185
194	Yemen	LDC	0.010	0.010	719	0.010	753	1,472
195	Zambia	LDC	0.006	0.006	432	0.006	452	884
196	Zimbabwe		0.002	0.002	144	0.002	151	295
	Total from Parties		100.229	100.000	7,209,771	100.000	7,485,970	14,695,741

^a Parties include States and regional economic integration organizations that are Parties as of 30 June 2013.

^b Least developed country.

^c Canada is a Party to the Convention until 28 March 2014.

^d The United States of America views its funding to the core budget of the Convention as a voluntary contribution.

Decision 11/COP.11

Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling articles 5, 6, 20 and 21 of the Convention,

Also recalling decisions 2/COP.10, 9/COP.10, 11/COP.10, 14/COP.10 and 31/COP.10,

Further recalling decisions 9/COP.4, 9/COP.5, 6/COP.6, 6/COP.7, 6/COP.8 and 10/COP.9,

Recalling the Instrument of the Global Environment Facility as amended by the fourth Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, stating that it shall be available to serve as a financial mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

Acknowledging the reforms during the current fifth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-5) to support the implementation of the Convention by affected country Parties, including for enabling activities,

Mindful of the upcoming sixth replenishment of resources of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund,

Noting the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) relating to desertification, land degradation and drought and the need for the Global Environment Facility to take additional steps within its mandate for the implementation of the UNCCD,

Taking note of document ICCD/COP(11)/21,

Having considered the report of the Global Environment Facility, contained in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/6,

Noting the need to update the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and the Global Environment Facility,

1. *Invites* the donors to the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility to strive for a robust replenishment of resources, including for the Land Degradation Focal Area;
2. *Calls on* Parties to align their programming of Global Environment Facility resources at the national level, taking into account the priorities of subregional and regional action programmes to justify additional support for collaborative actions at the regional level;
3. *Invites* Parties to utilize Global Environment Facility financial resources in their implementation of activities geared towards the objectives of the Convention, taking into account the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) relating to desertification, land degradation and drought, including the potential for harnessing synergies through the use of relevant Global Environment Facility incentive mechanisms across the various focal areas;
4. *Also invites* the Global Environment Facility, during its sixth replenishment period, to support national-level capacity development for affected country Parties, as appropriate,

to take coordinated action at the national, regional and international level to monitor globally land degradation and restore degraded lands in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, if requested and among other activities;

5. *Encourages* eligible country Parties to make use of the Global Environment Facility programme on capacity development to support the capacity needs in relation to the Rio conventions;

6. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to consider promoting the involvement of the private sector to generate multiple global environmental benefits and improve livelihoods, through country-driven sustainable land management initiatives and programmes;

7. *Also invites* eligible Parties that have yet to request Global Environment Facility resources for UNCCD enabling activities to do so, bearing in mind that GEF-5 phase ends in June 2014, after which these resources will no longer be available;

8. *Further invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue to simplify and clarify the procedures for accessing the funding for the implementation of the Convention, including for the alignment of national action programmes with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) and for timely reporting;

9. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue its efforts to inform and build the capacity of eligible country Parties on the procedures mentioned in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Requests* the secretariats of the Global Environment Facility and the UNCCD to engage in consultations on harmonizing the disbursement of funding for enabling activities with the deadlines for the alignment and the reporting and review process;

11. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue raising awareness of UNCCD issues, including through its communication strategy;

12. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility, to prepare draft amendments to the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and the Global Environment Facility and to report on the proposed draft amendments to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on this matter.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 12/COP.11

Review of the independent mid-term evaluation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) and the establishment of a process to develop a new strategy and plans to further improve the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision 3/COP.8 and decision 12/COP.10,

Expressing its appreciation to the Intersessional Working Group established by decision 12/COP.10 for having prepared the independent mid-term evaluation of The Strategy,

Noting that The Strategy will expire in 2018,

Welcoming the report of the Intersessional Working Group on the mid-term evaluation of The Strategy as contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/21, particularly its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, and *recalling* recommendation 17 of the Intersessional Working Group contained in the same document,

Recognizing that some recommendations contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/21 may be relevant in the formulation of a future strategy to further improve the implementation of the Convention,

Welcomes the collaborative work of Parties at the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties in reviewing and incorporating, as appropriate, these recommendations in the deliberations of the subsidiary bodies, as reflected in the decisions listed in the annex,

Requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, to propose, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session, a process and potential terms of reference for developing a new strategy and plans to further improve the implementation of the Convention.

10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013

Annex

List of decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session, where the recommendations of the Intersessional Working Group on the Mid-term Evaluation of The Strategy have been incorporated

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Title</i>
1/COP.11	Multi-year workplans of the Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies
2/COP.11	Strengthening and enhancing the process of alignment and implementation of action programmes with The Strategy
3/COP.11	Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention
4/COP.11	Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy
8/COP.11	Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)
10/COP.11	Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015
11/COP.11	Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility
13/COP.11	Assessment of the implementation of the Convention against the operational objectives of The Strategy
16/COP.11	The iterative process relating to the assessment of implementation, including performance and progress indicators, methodology and reporting procedures
18/COP.11	Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention
21/COP.11	Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008-2018)
22/COP.11	Advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy
23/COP.11	Measures to enable the Convention to become a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought

Decision 13/COP.11

Assessment of the implementation of the Convention against the operational objectives of The Strategy

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision 13/COP.9, decision 4/COP.10, decision 13/COP.10 and decision 15/COP.10,

Taking into account decision 2/COP.11 on strengthening and enhancing the process of alignment and implementation of action programmes with The Strategy and decision 14/COP.11 on assessment of financial flows for the implementation of the Convention,

Having reviewed document ICCD/CRIC(11)/19 and Add.1,

Cognizant of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) comprehensive communication strategy,

Expressing concerns about the reliability and representativeness of information reported on operational objective 1, particularly the total percentage of population informed,

Acknowledging the effort made by countries and other stakeholders in raising awareness on the challenges of communicating the term “desertification” to the general public,

Stressing the need to strengthen messages on the objectives of the Convention and The Strategy for more effective awareness-raising activities,

Also stressing the importance of targeting policymakers, so that awareness-raising leads to concrete actions that benefit affected populations and ecosystems,

Underlining the importance of sustained technical and financial investments required for desertification, land degradation and drought monitoring systems, and *recognizing* the support already provided by country Parties and technical and financial organizations to several countries and subregions for the establishment of national desertification, land degradation and drought monitoring systems and for improving national capacity,

Also underlining the need to look into the socioeconomic dynamics that drive land-use patterns and land degradation processes at local level as part of desertification, land degradation and drought monitoring systems,

Recognizing that institutional coordination at national level and the use of different reporting formats and timelines represent challenges for the development of a common reporting system under the Rio conventions, as demonstrated by the Piloting Integrated Processes and Approaches to Facilitate National Reporting to Rio Conventions project,

Stressing the need for capacity-building among civil society organizations to be able to mobilize resources and access funds, and further engage in the reporting process,

Acknowledging the linkage between building national capacities and obtaining future financial resources following national action programme alignment as well as the importance of increasing focus and research into resource needs for capacity-building,

Also acknowledging the work of the Intersessional Working Group on the Mid-term Evaluation of The Strategy (IWG) and the recommendations contained in its report (ICCD/COP(11)/21),

Operational objective 1: advocacy, awareness-raising and education

1. *Invites* Parties which reported a low percentage of national awareness on desertification, land degradation and drought and its synergies to strengthen their efforts in order to meet the global target set by decision 13/COP.9⁶ for the consolidated performance indicator 1 (CONS-O-1), taking into account their national circumstances and in accordance with the mandate of the UNCCD;
2. *Also invites* Parties to assess and increase the effectiveness of their means of communication on desertification, land degradation and drought-related issues with a view to reaching larger audiences and raising not only the profile of desertification, land degradation and drought, but also the profile of the Convention;
3. *Encourages* Parties to:
 - (a) Strengthen linkages among national stakeholders, including civil society organizations, the media, private sector, and local and national governments in order to complement the awareness-raising activities undertaken by them;
 - (b) Streamline their awareness-raising efforts into national communication strategies in order to set priorities and key messages;
 - (c) Use mass media and information and communication technologies for further outreach, taking into account the effectiveness of local and alternative media in reaching rural and urban populations;
 - (d) Explore ways to easily communicate the term “desertification” to the general public, while sending a positive message on sustainable land management;
 - (e) Promote integration of desertification, land degradation and drought within the school curriculum on environment and natural resources, and to facilitate, where relevant, capacity-building for teachers to implement the curriculum;
 - (f) Support capacity-building for communities in order to mainstream environmental and land degradation issues into local activities and plans;
 - (g) Increase awareness-raising events at subregional and regional levels;
4. *Encourages* the secretariat to enhance the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal to increase access to databases on lessons learned and best practices in advocacy, awareness-raising and education, consistent with decision 17/COP.11 on the consideration of best practices in the implementation of the Convention;
5. *Invites* developed country Parties, other Governments and institutions in a position to do so to increase the support provided for awareness-raising and the participation of civil society representatives in UNCCD meetings, including through contributions to the Supplementary Fund;

⁶ By 2018, 30 per cent of the global population is informed about desertification, land degradation and drought and desertification, land degradation and drought synergies with climate change and biodiversity.

Operational objective 3: science, technology and knowledge

6. *Encourages* affected country Parties to increase their efforts to establish and/or strengthen desertification, land degradation and drought monitoring and evaluation and to strive, as appropriate, to include these issues in existing national monitoring systems, taking into account their national circumstances;
7. *Also encourages* affected country Parties to strengthen national support for desertification, land degradation and drought monitoring and evaluation systems by investing in capacity-building and bridging the gap between monitoring needs at local and national levels in order to increase their sustainability;
8. *Invites* developed country Parties, other Governments, developing countries in position to do so, and relevant technical and financial organizations to provide additional support to affected country Parties for the establishment and/or strengthening of desertification, land degradation and drought monitoring and evaluation, and, as appropriate, the inclusion of these issues into existing national monitoring systems, and to harmonize their interventions at national and local levels in order to avoid duplication and maximize the effective use of available resources;
9. *Also invites* developed country Parties, other Governments, developing countries in position to do so, and relevant technical and financial organizations to share the lessons learned with regard to the obstacles and challenges encountered in supporting national environmental and desertification, land degradation and drought monitoring initiatives;
10. *Urges* Parties to strengthen coordination and communication among the focal points of the Rio conventions in order to increase national support and efficiency in implementation at the ground level;

Operational objective 4: capacity-building

11. *Encourages* affected country Parties to further mainstream desertification, land degradation and drought issues in national capacity-building initiatives carried out by science, technology and research institutions;
12. *Also encourages* Parties to support the involvement of civil society organizations in the national reporting process and to assist them in developing the relevant capacities when required, particularly with regard to resource mobilization and access to funding;
13. *Invites* developed country Parties and technical and financial international organizations, including the Global Environment Facility, to provide further support to those affected country Parties with desertification, land degradation and drought-related capacity-building initiatives in order to effectively implement the Convention;
14. *Requests* the Global Mechanism to assist affected country Parties in assessing their financial needs for capacity-building, including through the integrated financial strategy exercise, integrating them into an investment framework and sourcing the required financial resources;
15. *Decides* to include a review and assessment of progress made in response to this decision in the programme of work of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its thirteenth and fourteenth sessions.

*9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013*

Decision 14/COP.11

Assessment of financial flows for the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 3/COP. 8 adopting the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (The Strategy), which contains a strategic objective entitled “to mobilize resources to support implementation of the Convention through building effective partnerships between national and international actors”, and an operational objective on finance and technology transfer entitled “to mobilize and improve the targeting and coordination of national, bilateral and multilateral financial and technological resources in order to increase their impact and effectiveness”,

Noting with concern that financial resources remain a major constraint in the implementation of the Convention and that access to predictable, timely and adequate funding and capacity is a major constraint for optimum participation in national reporting on strategic objective 4, operational objective 5 and financial flows for the implementation of the Convention,

Recalling annex III of decision 1/COP.10,

Recognizing the experiences which demonstrate the potential for scaling up investment in combating desertification through public-private partnerships,

1. *Invites* affected country Parties to step up their efforts in submitting project proposals, including those that promote synergistic implementation of the Rio conventions at the national, subregional and regional levels, to multilateral financial institutions, facilities and funds, and to take advantage of support provided for this purpose, particularly (but not limited to) the resources allocated under the Global Environment Facility;
2. *Urges* affected country Parties, with the assistance of the Global Mechanism, to increase their efforts in establishing integrated investment frameworks with the aim of achieving the target of 50 per cent by 2014, pursuant to decision 13/COP.9;
3. *Invites* affected country Parties to step up their efforts to commit resources from their public budgets and also encourage private investment for the implementation of national action programmes;
4. *Also invites* affected country Parties to adopt a integrated financial strategy as a tool to increase financing of sustainable land management through: a participatory approach to operational planning; identification of resource mobilization opportunities; outlining of challenges, such as gaps in technical and human capacity; and a systematic approach to the realization of synergies between the Rio conventions at national, subregional and regional levels;
5. *Further invites* developed country Parties and multilateral institutions to increase the adequacy, timeliness and predictability of the resources provided to affected country Parties and relevant subregional organizations responsible for implementation of subregional action programmes;
6. *Invites* developed country Parties to increase their efforts in providing support to

affected country Parties for Convention-related objectives, including as reported under the consolidated performance indicator CONS-O-15;

7. *Also invites* developed country Parties and multilateral financial institutions to increase their efforts in supporting the establishment of integrated investment frameworks at national, subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

8. *Further invites* developed country Parties to further prioritize investments on activities that target desertification/land degradation in affected country Parties as a principal objective and/or that directly support the implementation of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) objectives, including through additional support for the implementation of action programmes, alignment and/or operationalization through the development of integrated investment frameworks for sustainable land management, as appropriate;

9. *Encourages* all country Parties to support the efforts of the Global Mechanism and Convention bodies in engaging the business sector in relevant inter-agency committees, platforms, and public-private partnerships for UNCCD-related activities, as appropriate;

10. *Invites* all country Parties, within the framework of integrated investment frameworks for UNCCD implementation, to explore and develop opportunities to forge public-private partnerships for UNCCD-related activities and mobilize resources from innovative sources of financing, in particular foundations, businesses, the financial industry and civil society organizations;

11. *Also invites* all country Parties, in the context of public-private partnerships, to support private sector investment in sustainable land management in drylands, taking into account national policies;

12. *Encourages* all country Parties to further allocate financial resources within their national and/or public budgets towards Convention-related activities;

13. *Also encourages* country Parties to integrate their national action programmes into national and local development plans in order to increase domestic public and private financial flows and investments;

14. *Further encourages* country Parties to improve the all potential cooperation, in particular South-South and triangular cooperation, in order to explore opportunities to increase financial flows and in creating investment opportunities, exchanging experiences on resource mobilisation, transferring technologies and know-how for UNCCD-related activities, and *requests* that this type of cooperation is reflected in future national reporting on strategic objective 4, operational objective 5 and financial flows;

15. *Requests* the Global Mechanism to provide support to affected countries in assessing their financial needs for capacity building and integrating them into an integrated investment frameworks, and *requests* the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the Convention to increase focus on these need assessments;

16. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and all country Parties to:

(a) Reduce the number of indicators for strategic objective 4 and operational objective 5, consistent with decision 16/COP.11 on the iterative process relating to the assessment of implementation, including performance and progress indicators, methodology and reporting procedures;

(b) Explore the possibility of capturing the financial flows and investments made by innovative funding sources, such as foundations, businesses, the financial industry and civil society organizations, given the difficulties encountered by reporting entities, and present the proposal at the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session;

17. *Further requests* the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism to:

(a) Increase efforts at attracting private sector investments for sustainable land management in drylands and mobilizing resources from innovative sources, such as foundations, businesses, the financial industry and civil society organizations, including through the identification of compelling economic arguments, incentives, new financial instruments, market-based mechanisms, public-private partnerships and triangular cooperation partnerships;

(b) Report to the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the Convention at its thirteenth session on the progress in relation to subparagraph (a);

18. *Also requests* the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism to continue assisting affected country Parties and subregions in developing their integrated investment frameworks and to identify domestic, foreign and innovative sources of funding, as appropriate, for their implementation;

19. *Decides* to include a review and assessment of progress of the implementation of this decision in the programme of work of the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session;

20. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to include an agenda item on this matter on the programme of work of the Conference of the Parties for its consideration during its twelfth session;

21. *Also requests* the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism to prepare a report on the progress of the implementation of this decision for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 15/COP.11

Assessment of the implementation of the Convention against strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3

The Conference of the Parties,

Bearing in mind the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Recalling decision 3/COP.8, paragraph 10; decision 13/COP.9, annex I; and decision 19/COP.10, paragraph 3,

Recalling also document ICCD/CRIC(11)/8-ICCD/CST(S-3)/6,

Having considered documents ICCD/CRIC(11)/19, ICCD/CRIC(11)/19/Add.1 and ICCD/CST(S-3)/7,

Recognizing that quantitative biophysical and socioeconomic information are required to support policymaking and monitoring of desertification/land degradation and drought at all scales,

Being aware that the 2012–2013 reporting and review process was the first reporting cycle under the Convention since the adoption of The Strategy in which affected country Parties were requested to provide quantitative information on impact indicators,

Recognizing that, despite the complexity of the performance review and assessment of the implementation system, as well as the limited coverage and comparability of reported national data, significant steps have been taken to monitor and assess the implementation of The Strategy and that important lessons can be learned from these endeavours,

Highlighting the importance of directing financial resources towards the implementation of the Convention on the ground,

Acknowledging the work done by the Committee on Science and Technology to refine the set of impact indicators and related methodologies for monitoring and reporting,

Aware of decision 22/COP.11 on advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy,

1. *Invites* affected country Parties to make further efforts towards increasing the coverage of spatially explicit data on affected areas;
2. *Also invites* affected country Parties to strengthen their institutional coordination at the national level with a view to improving data accessibility;
3. *Further invites* affected country Parties to make broader use of readily available and internationally recognized datasets which could be verified and enhanced, or replaced, using data sourced/computed at the national and/or local levels;
4. *Encourages* affected country Parties to build synergies with the other Rio conventions at the national level in order to reduce the cost of data collection;
5. *Also encourages* affected country Parties to submit their report and/or amend their responses on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 at any time after the official deadline for

reporting with a view to broadening baseline datasets, enabling future trend analysis and improving the robustness of analyses over time;

6. *Invites* affected country Parties to consider the establishment of targets using the progress indicators attached to decision 22/COP.11, as well as nationally and locally relevant indicators for monitoring progress made in the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy at the national level;

7. *Also invites* the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention to continue collaborating closely with the Committee on Science and Technology in the harmonization of data and methodologies in order to establish a baseline for the assessment of the implementation;

8. *Further invites* global and regional organizations with expertise on monitoring and assessing desertification/land degradation and drought to support Parties by providing further guidance for compiling information and accessing data sources;

9. *Requests* the secretariat to build partnerships with global, regional and subregional organizations with expertise on monitoring and assessing desertification, land degradation and drought in order to improve guidance for reporting and access to/ harmonization of data;

10. *Also requests* the secretariat, with advice from the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and Committee on Science and Technology, welcoming additional input, as appropriate, to simplify and improve the reporting template, and further develop the reporting manual on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 by providing more detailed and indicator-specific guidance on methodologies for data collection, available sources of data and frequency of monitoring and reporting;

11. *Encourages* the technical and financial institutions, recognizing the mandate of the Global Environment Facility with regard to its focal area on land degradation, to support the implementation of the Convention to attain the strategic objectives of The Strategy;

12. *Invites* developed country Parties, other Governments, developing country Parties in a position to do so, as well as financial and technical institutions, to provide technical and financial support to affected country Parties to gather, analyse and archive quantitative biophysical and socioeconomic information.

*9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013*

Decision 16/COP.11

The iterative process relating to the assessment of implementation, including performance and progress indicators, methodology and reporting procedures

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 26 of the Convention,

Also recalling article 22, paragraph 2 (a) and (b) of the Convention,

Further recalling decision 14/COP.10,

Recognizing that reporting helps countries to engage in national-level assessments on progress made in the implementation of the Convention and that it benefits national processes and, in particular, national planning,

Also recognizing that information submitted by countries and compiled through the performance review and assessment of implementation system is the only quantitative source that the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) can rely on, and which was used to inform the global review undertaken by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its ninth and eleventh sessions, as well as the mid-term evaluation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Further recognizing that national reporting under the UNCCD and, in particular, indicator-based reporting, is a long-term effort and needs capacity-building, technical and financial support,

Taking note of documents ICCD/CRIC(11)/15 and ICCD/CRIC(11)/INF.4,

Also taking note of document ICCD/COP(11)/21,

Having reviewed documents ICCD/CRIC(11)/19 and ICCD/CRIC(11)/19/Add.1 and in particular the recommendations made by Parties with regard to the procedures for communication of information, as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties,

Having also reviewed document ICCD/CRIC(12)/7,

Mindful of the limited number of national reports received in the 2012–2013 reporting process and *recognizing* the need to improve the quantity and the quality of information provided to the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the Convention in order to make the review process more effective,

Aware of the need to ensure consistency of the reporting process and to implement adjustments in the methodological structure of the system in order to obtain coherent information by the end of 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018), while improving performance and user-friendliness of the performance review and assessment of implementation system,

Aware of decision 22/COP.11 on advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy, and in particular its annex containing the refinements to the provisionally adopted progress indicators for strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy,

Further aware of decision 20/COP.11 on the date and venue of the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention,

1. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to prepare revised guidelines and templates for reporting on the basis of an analysis, including cost-efficiency analysis, of the information currently requested, the level of response by Parties and other reporting entities, including the completeness of sections of the report, its actual use according to the analytical framework, and its utility in the review process – both at national and global levels;
2. *Also requests* the secretariat to simplify the performance review and assessment of implementation system, including the requirements for financial reporting, and reduce the overall number of performance indicators, while not adding any new indicators, in order to reduce the overall reporting burden on Parties and other reporting entities;
3. *Invites* the secretariat to pay particular attention to the e-SMART (economic – Specific – Measurable – Achievable – Relevant –Time-bound) criteria and results of the previous reporting process when reducing the number of indicators;
4. *Requests* the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its fourteenth session to consider the possibility of requesting some entities to investigate possible new indicators;
5. *Also requests* the secretariat to improve the reporting format and enhance the usability of online reporting, so it can also be used as an effective tool for communication, awareness-raising and advocacy at national and international levels;
6. *Further requests* the secretariat to develop special narrative sections to report on additional voluntary indicators and/or specific actions taken by countries to combat desertification, land degradation and drought;
7. *Urges* the secretariat to improve the functioning of the performance review and assessment of the implementation system database, as well as the way data is extracted and classified for the preliminary analysis, and implement plans to establish a public interface that allows for dynamic and analytical online functions;
8. *Requests* the secretariat to continue improving the performance review and assessment of the implementation system portal in order to address some technical issues that occurred during the current reporting exercise, inter alia, increasing its user-friendliness and language accessibility, as well as implementing low-cost improvements with regard to data quality within the system;
9. *Also requests* the secretariat to ensure that data and information from the reporting process are available and accessible to all, especially at the national and local levels;
10. *Further requests* the secretariat to make available indicator values derived from global datasets through pre-populated performance review and assessment of implementation system forms for those indicators for which global datasets are available, including the development of guidelines and standardized methodologies for the Parties;
11. *Further requests* the secretariat to explore mechanisms and a data quality framework, including validation checks of data received and the use of quality standards and procedures in the analysis of information, prior to the review by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, in order to increase the reliability of information and the trust of end-users;
12. *Urges* country Parties and subregional and regional reporting entities, as well as relevant United Nations organizations and intergovernmental organizations, to compile and submit the required information for the next reporting and review process in a timely manner, and in compliance with the decisions of the Conference of the Parties on communication of information and review of implementation;

13. *Requests* the Global Mechanism to improve its templates, guidelines and analysis of information received through the standard financial annex and project and programme sheet in order to match the information compiled through the performance indicators on operational objective 5 and – to the extent possible – the progress indicators on strategic objective 4, and to simplify reporting, including by reducing the overall number of required fields;
14. *Also requests* the Global Mechanism to simplify reporting on financial flows and seek to the extent possible synergies with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's reporting framework;
15. *Invites* affected country Parties, even if the national action programme alignment process has not yet been completed, to establish voluntary national targets – consistent with the global targets identified by the Conference of the Parties – to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme;
16. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, in revising reporting templates and guidelines for developed country Parties on strategic objective 4 and operational objective 5, to include the possibility of using existing data systems;
17. *Invites* reporting entities to plan the required data acquisition on performance and progress indicators over the upcoming reporting cycles, and to maintain databases, or a record of existing databases containing the data collected and reported on, as well as information on technical, economic, social and environmental aspects related to desertification, as appropriate;
18. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to refer Parties to sources of technical support and information relative to relevant database management;
19. *Also requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources and in cooperation with Parties, regional coordination mechanisms, relevant organizations and other stakeholders, to undertake capacity-building activities on the alignment of national action programmes, performance and progress reporting in each region or subregion, including, inter alia, regional workshops, online consultations and distance learning, and to report on these activities during the 2014–2015 reporting cycle;
20. *Further requests* the secretariat and interested stakeholders to facilitate coordination of training and technical assistance for national action programme alignment and reporting at the national and subregional levels in order to promote cost-effectiveness;
21. *Invites* development partners and financial institutions, particularly the Global Environment Facility, to complement the enabling activities funding with targeted capacity building in order to ensure a satisfactory level of reporting under the Convention;
22. *Requests* the Bureau of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology as required, to provide guidance to the secretariat and the Global Mechanism in the implementation of the present decision;
23. *Also requests* the secretariat to report to the next session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on the implementation of the present decision.

*9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013*

Decision 17/COP.11

Consideration of best practices in the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling articles 6, 17, 18, 19, 23 and 26 of the Convention,

Also recalling decision 3/COP.8 as well as decisions 1/COP.9, 11/COP.9 and 12/COP.9 and the specific provisions contained therein on the compilation and dissemination of best practices in the implementation of the Convention,

Recalling further its decisions 15/COP.10 and 21/COP.10,

Having considered document ICCD/CRIC(11)/19 and Add.1, as well as documents ICCD/CRIC(12)/5 and ICCD/CRIC(12)/4-ICCD/COP(11)/CST/7 and Corr.1,

Underlining the importance of ensuring that the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies function in an efficient and coordinated manner in supporting Parties in their implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy), and *welcoming* the efforts of the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology to ensure coordination with respect to the issue of knowledge management and best practices,

Recognizing the need for information on best practices in sustainable land management to be consolidated and made available in a centralized best practice repository or through a data sharing initiative to prevent duplication and enable comparisons between countries, particularly with regard to the database of best practices on sustainable land management technologies, including adaptation, with a view to facilitating comparisons between data at global level through standard data collection and dissemination,

Being aware that making data reported through the performance review and assessment of implementation system portal publically available and easily accessible would bring many benefits, including being able to connect with other environmental processes and forums, raising awareness and advocating for sustainable land management approaches and practices,

Welcoming the identification of elements of a data access policy as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(11)/13 and Add.1,

Compilation and dissemination of best practices on sustainable land management technologies, including adaptation and compilation and dissemination of best practices, including those relating to other thematic topics as referred to in annex V of decision 13/COP.9

1. *Invites* the institutions which have expressed interest in supporting the work of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on best practices

relating to thematic topic (a)⁷ (sustainable land management technologies, including adaptation) to continue their joint efforts in making such information available to decision makers and end-users, including through the continued development of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal;

2. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to facilitate consultations among relevant organizations with a view to defining a framework for replicating the model developed for thematic topic (a) for all other thematic topics, including by providing access to best practice databases through the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and through an open-ended informal working group that would meet virtually;

3. *Also requests* the secretariat to complete the selection of the primary recommended database for thematic topic (a) and *further requests* the Executive Secretary to make arrangements immediately after the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties on modalities on its operation provided that the arrangements are cost-effective and sustainable;

4. *Requests* the secretariat to apply this framework, including by selecting a primary recommended database for each of the remaining thematic topics where possible, using criteria provided by the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology;

5. *Invites* the institutions participating in the continued development of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal, including its components on best practices in sustainable land management to document the effectiveness of best practices and to contribute this information to the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal by contributing to one of the databases connected to it;

6. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to identify the services that primary recommended institutions and databases should deliver in order to assist the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention in compiling and disseminating best practices on thematic topic (a), and the tentative period for which such services should be rendered;

7. *Invites* developed country Parties and technical and financial institutions to contribute to the continued development of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and the recommended databases;

8. *Requests* the secretariat to conclude the required administrative and legal arrangements in order to transfer data and information on best practices in sustainable land management, including adaptation, that are stored in the database of the performance review and assessment of implementation system;

9. *Invites* Parties and other reporting entities, including civil society organizations, to continue submitting cases of relevant best practices in order to increase the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) knowledge base on sustainable land management;

10. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to review the schedule contained in the annex to decision 15/COP.10, and to propose to the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its thirteenth session a revised timeframe and the resource requirements for the compilation of best practices in accordance with the present decision;

⁷ The thematic topics mentioned throughout this decision were introduced to the process in annex V of decision 13/COP.9.

11. *Also requests* the secretariat to continue consultations with relevant institutions and organizations, including United Nations system organizations, with a view to identifying recommended databases for the remaining thematic topics of best practices;

12. *Further requests* the secretariat, when further developing the knowledge management infrastructure within the secretariat, including the performance review and assessment of implementation system portal and the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal, to ensure the interoperability of the systems for the transferability of information, and to implement appropriate multilingual communication tools according to the resources available for these matters;

13. *Requests* the secretariat to facilitate cooperation between partners of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and the institution(s)/database(s) that will be tasked with the compilation and dissemination of relevant best practices pursuant to decision 15/COP.10;

Data accessibility

14. *Requests* the secretariat to develop a UNCCD policy to access data and information provided by Parties and other reporting entities, including through the performance review and assessment of implementation system, building on the practices and policies of other conventions and multilateral bodies, and to utilize intellectual property provisions to protect innovations submitted as best practices while implementing this data access policy;

Validation and ensuring the effective use of best practices

15. *Decides* that information and data on best practices should be reviewed for quality, relevance and accuracy at the appropriate level in order to make validated and highly-reliable data available;

Cooperation between the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology

16. *Decides* to review, taking into account decision 12/COP.9 and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties, the mechanisms by which the two subsidiary bodies cooperate in the review of the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy according to their respective mandates, and *invites* the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology to provide advice to Parties at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties in this regard;

17. *Invites* the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology to continue interacting on ways to promote coordinated knowledge management efforts and the analysis and dissemination of best practices, including through joint meetings of the two Bureaux, with a view to contributing to the development of an overall knowledge management infrastructure for the UNCCD, and *requests* the two Bureaux to facilitate these interactions;

18. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology to focus its work on best practices relating to decision 13/COP.9 on the following three thematic topics (other topics may be included, if needed): (a) sustainable land management technologies, including adaptation; (c) desertification, land degradation and drought and sustainable land

management monitoring and assessment/research; and (d) knowledge management and decision support;

19. *Also requests* the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and, as appropriate, the Global Mechanism, to focus their work on best practices relating to decision 13/COP.9, including increasing access through the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal to information on the following thematic topics: (b) capacity building and awareness-raising; (e) policy, legislative and institutional framework; (f) funding and resource mobilization; and (g) participation, collaboration and networking;

20. *Further requests* the Bureau of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, to provide guidance to the secretariat and the Global Mechanism in the implementation of the present decision;

21. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to report to the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at subsequent sessions on the implementation of the present decision;

22. *Also requests* the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology to report jointly to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the implementation of the present decision with regard to the specific provisions relating to the tasks of the subsidiary bodies and their Bureaux.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 18/COP.11

Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 2 (a), (c), (d) and (h) of the Convention,

Also recalling article 23, paragraph 2 (a), (b), and (c), and article 26 of the Convention,

Having considered the terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention contained in decision 11/COP.9,

Also having considered decisions 12/COP.9 and 13/COP.9,

Taking note of document ICCD/COP(11)/21, and in particular the recommendations relating to planning, monitoring and evaluation, the improved implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention,

Highlighting the importance of allocating sufficient time for discussions among Parties on the review of implementation of The Strategy at intersessional sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, and the need to consider time constraints resulting from the assignment of additional tasks to the Committee,

1. *Decides* that the intersessional session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, based on its review of performance indicators, shall give recommendations to entities of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on priorities to be included in their programme of work and budget for the following programming biennium;
2. *Requests* the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, to use the outcomes of intersessional deliberations of the Committee to inform the drafting of decisions and recommendations for consideration by country Parties at the Conference of the Parties;
3. *Also requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, as appropriate and relevant, to synthesize the outcomes of intersessional sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including on best practices, into information and capacity-building material to guide Parties in their efforts to enhance the implementation of the Convention;
4. *Further requests* the Bureau of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, with the support of the secretariat, to promote the improvement of interlinkages between the work of the Bureau of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and that of the regional coordination mechanisms, subject to the availability of resources, with the aim to encourage the effective

implementation of national, subregional and regional action programmes and to build capacity for the national and local implementation of The Strategy;

5. *Requests* the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology, with the support of the secretariat, to jointly propose how scientific considerations based on the outcomes of the Committee on Science and Technology could be better integrated into the exchanges taking place during intersessional sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, in order to improve the incorporation of science into policy considerations under the UNCCD;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of the present decision at the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session.

*9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013*

Decision 19/COP.11

Programme of work for the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (c), of the Convention,

Also recalling article 23, paragraph 2 (a), (b) and (c), and article 26 of the Convention,

Further recalling its decision 11/COP.9 and its annex containing the terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention,

Highlighting the importance of allocating sufficient time for discussions among Parties on the review of implementation at intersessional sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, and the need to consider time constraints resulting from the assignment of additional tasks to the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention,

Recognizing that regional meetings play an important role in reviewing progress and make a useful contribution to the implementation of the Convention and the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

1. *Decides* to include the following items in the agenda of the thirteenth session of the Committee:

(a) Review of input from regional meetings in preparation for the thirteenth session of the Committee;

(b) Assessment of implementation against the provisionally adopted performance indicators contained in:

(i) Reports from affected and developed country Parties;

(ii) Reports from entities reporting on the implementation of subregional and regional action programmes;

(iii) Reports from United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations;

(iv) Report of the Global Mechanism;

(v) Report of the secretariat;

(vi) Report of the Global Environment Facility;

(vii) Information from civil society organizations, including the private sector;

(c) Assessment of the alignment of action programmes and their implementation in accordance with The Strategy;

(d) Review of financial flows for the implementation of the Convention;

(e) Consideration of best practices;

(f) Improving the procedures for communication of information, as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate in all United Nations languages, at least six weeks prior to the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, a provisional annotated agenda and appropriate documentation for that session, reflecting the decisions contained in paragraph 1 above.

9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013

Decision 20/COP.11

Date and venue of the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (c), of the Convention,

Also recalling its decision 11/COP.9 and its annex containing the terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention,

Recognizing that regional meetings play an important role in reviewing progress and make a useful contribution to the implementation of the Convention and the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Underlining the importance of a coordinated reporting process that leaves sufficient time for reporting entities to collect, process and submit information on the implementation of The Strategy, as well as sufficient time for data quality checks to be undertaken by the Convention's institutions,

1. *Decides* that the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention shall be held for five working days in the period from 18–27 November 2014, in Bonn, Germany, the site of the Convention secretariat, or in any other venue with United Nations conference facilities, in the event that no Party makes an offer to host that session and meet the additional financial cost;
2. *Requests* the secretariat to review the provisions for regional meetings in preparation for the meetings of the Committee, as contained in its biennial costed work programme, and to seek financial contributions to enable those meetings to take place in the five affected regions;
3. *Invites* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, to accommodate any offer from a Party to host the thirteenth session of the Committee;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take the necessary measures to prepare that session, including the conclusion of a legally binding agreement on the international level with a host country/government.

9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013

Decision 21/COP.11

Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018)

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 24 of the Convention,

Recalling also the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) adopted by decision 3/COP.8 and, in particular, the implementation framework of the Committee on Science and Technology,

Recalling further the provisions of decision 13/COP.8 that each future ordinary session of the Committee on Science and Technology shall be organized in a predominantly scientific and technical conference-style format by the Bureau of the Committee in consultation with the lead institution/consortium,

Recalling decision 12/COP.9, decision 13/COP.9, decision 16/COP.9 and decision 18/COP.10,

Highlighting the importance of using Conferences of the Parties as forums for translating the outcomes of each Committee on Science and Technology session and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) scientific conference into guidance to advise policymakers on how policies could address the issues identified as priority,

Having reviewed documents ICCD/CST(S-3)/4, ICCD/CST(S-3)/7, ICCD/COP(11)/CST/4, ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.3 and ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.5,

Taking note of document ICCD/COP(11)/21 containing the report by the Intersessional Working Group on the Mid-term Evaluation of The Strategy,

Recalling decision 23/COP.11 on creating a Science-Policy Interface,

UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference on the “Economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas”

1. *Calls upon* the Global Risk Forum Davos to share valuable information on the mobilization of partnerships with other organizations and institutions through the secretariat, as well as lessons learned in preparing the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference with the consortium on Scientific and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference;

2. *Calls upon* the scientific community to further build on the substantial research work done on the thematic topic of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference, “Economic

assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas”;

3. *Invites* scientists to publish their research findings on the thematic topic in peer-reviewed journals;
4. *Requests* the secretariat, under the guidance of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology and in consultation with the Scientific Advisory Committee and the working groups for the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference, to facilitate the publication of (1) fact sheets; (2) policy briefs; and (3) targeted outcomes, such as special issues of scientific peer-reviewed journals, for all stakeholders, including scientists, decision makers, and the private sector;
5. *Requests also* the secretariat to make available, with the support of Global Risk Forum Davos, all outputs of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference through the websites of the UNCCD and the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference;
6. *Invites* partners, including the Economics of Land Degradation initiative, to promote further activities on the thematic topic of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference;
7. *Invites* Parties to give due attention to the economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and the resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas within their research programmes and to reflect the recommendations from the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference in their policy frameworks;

UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference on “Combating DLDD for poverty reduction and sustainable development: the contribution of science, technology, traditional knowledge and practices”

8. *Notes* that the consortium on Scientific and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development has been selected by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology to organize, under the Bureau’s guidance, the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference;
9. *Takes note* of the establishment of a Conference Steering Committee and a Scientific Advisory Committee for the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference to guide the organizational process and the scientific activities for the conference, respectively;
10. *Requests* the Conference Steering Committee of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference to prepare and organize the conference, taking into account the assessment of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference;
11. *Calls upon* the consortium on Scientific and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development to mobilize partnerships with other organizations and institutions in organizing the conference;
12. *Also calls upon* the scientific community to contribute to the substantive work on the thematic topic of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference during the preparation of that conference;
13. *Invites* scientists to publish their research findings on the thematic topic mentioned in paragraph 12 above in peer-reviewed journals after the conference;
14. *Requests* the consortium on Scientific and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development to make available on the conference website relevant information and outcomes of the conference at least four months before the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties;

15. *Requests also* the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology – with the support of the consortium on Scientific and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development and the secretariat, and in consultation with the Scientific Advisory Committee – to present a report at the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology on the organization and outcomes, including policy-oriented recommendations, of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference;
16. *Requests further* the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, in conjunction with the Science-Policy Interface, to consult with Parties and regional groups to review the outcomes of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference prior to the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology;
17. *Requests* the secretariat to organize an independent in-depth assessment of the organization of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference, including of the approaches to scientific partnership-building employed, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session and to the Committee on Science and Technology at its twelfth session;

Organization of future UNCCD scientific conferences

18. *Decides* that future UNCCD scientific conferences will be held intersessionally in conjunction with a session of the Committee on Science and Technology;
19. *Decides also* to replace paragraph 1 of decision 13/COP.8 “...each future ordinary session of the CST” with the following: “...each future intersessional session of the CST”;
20. *Decides further* that the intersessional sessions of the Committee on Science and Technology shall focus its agenda only on the specific thematic topics selected for the UNCCD Scientific Conference and on the review of its preliminary outcome;
21. *Decides* that, every four years, when the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention undertakes the review of the implementation of the Convention against strategic objectives, the duration of the intersessional session of the Committee on Science and Technology shall be extended to one more day in order to allow the Committee on Science and Technology to contribute to the work of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention by reviewing and assessing scientific information from Parties on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3;
22. *Decides also* that, for future UNCCD scientific conferences, the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology shall establish a Conference Steering Committee to guide the organizational process;
23. *Decides further* that the Conference Steering Committee shall establish a Scientific Advisory Committee to guide the scientific activities for the conference and that the members of Scientific Advisory Committee shall be selected based on applications submitted in response to a public call for experts, taking into account regional balance, gender balance and interdisciplinarity;
24. *Requests* the Science-Policy Interface, pursuant to decision 23/COP.11, to translate the outcomes of the UNCCD scientific conferences into recommendations for the consideration of the Committee on Science and Technology;
25. *Also requests* the Science-Policy Interface to make an assessment of the effectiveness of the outcomes of the UNCCD 1st, 2nd and 3rd Scientific Conferences in supporting the UNCCD decision-making process and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth session;

26. *Decides* that the topic to be considered by the UNCCD 4th Scientific Conference shall be “Explore the options to achieve land degradation neutrality in the context of sustainable development”;
27. *Requests* the Science-Policy Interface to make proposals to the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology for the subsequent consideration of the Conference of the Parties topics for future UNCCD scientific conferences;
28. *Decides* that future sessions of the Committee on Science and Technology, the scientific conferences and other processes and events concerning the Science-Policy Interface shall be organized sequentially and in a manner that optimizes the use of scientific knowledge in UNCCD decision-making;
29. *Decides* that sessions of the Committee on Science and Technology held between ordinary sessions of the Conference of the Parties shall be held in Bonn, Germany or in one of the United Nations headquarters in the event that no Party makes an offer to host it and meet the additional financial cost;
30. *Recognizes* that the effective delivery of the scientific conferences will require additional financial resources; and *invites* (1) Parties, international organizations and relevant stakeholders with the interest and capacity to do so to make voluntary and in-kind contributions for the organization of the UNCCD scientific conferences; and (2) each lead institution/consortium to assist in the mobilization of resources;
31. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the Committee on Science and Technology at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision.

*3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013*

Decision 22/COP.11

Advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy

The Conference of the Parties,

Bearing in mind the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Recalling the objectives of The Strategy and, in particular, strategic objective 1 on improving the living conditions of affected populations, strategic objective 2 on improving the condition of affected ecosystems, and strategic objective 3 on generating global benefits through effective implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

Recalling decision 3/COP.8, paragraph 10; decision 17/COP.9, paragraph 5; and decision 19/COP.10, paragraphs 3 and 8,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development relevant to the UNCCD and particularly paragraph 207 of the document “The Future We Want”,

Having reviewed document ICCD/COP(11)/CST/2 and Corr.1 which contains the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group of Technical Experts on Impact Indicator Refinement on strategic objectives 1,2 and 3 (AGTE), and document ICCD/CST(S-3)/7, containing the final report of the Committee on Science and Technology at its third special session,

Commending with appreciation the AGTE for fulfilling its mandate and delivering the recommendations and the associated implementation guidelines contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/CST/2 and Corr.1,

Taking note of document ICCD/COP(11)/21 containing the report by the Intersessional Working Group on the mid-term evaluation of The Strategy,

Aware of decision 23/COP.11 on measures to enable the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to become a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought,

1. *Decides* to maintain the strategic objectives of The Strategy as they are;
2. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology to continue revising the impact indicators based on, inter alia, the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group of Technical Experts on Impact Indicator Refinement, the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention to reflect a plausible causal relationship between what is observed and what the implementation of the Convention is expected to influence. The revision should also take into account the need to: (1) link the indicators with any updated operational objectives; and (2) ensure that they are more easily measurable by Parties, provide reliable information and reflect changes taking place on the ground, taking into consideration national and regional specificities as well as the existing data collection systems and databases;

3. *Decides* to establish a consistent monitoring and evaluation approach consisting of: (i) indicators; (ii) a conceptual framework that allows the integration of indicators; and (iii) indicators sourcing and management mechanisms at the national/local level, needed for enhancing the assessment of progress made towards the strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy;
4. For the purpose of reporting on progress indicators affected Parties are required to delineate affected areas according to the text of the Convention;
5. *Also decides* that the term “progress indicator” be used, rather than “impact indicator”, when referring to the indicators used to track progress in the implementation of the Convention against the strategic objectives of the Strategy;
6. *Further decides* that the set of impact indicators provisionally adopted by decision 17/COP.9, refined through a scientific peer-review process, be further refined to the minimum set of progress indicators annexed to the present decision;
7. *Decides* that reporting is required for those indicators for which standardized global datasets that can be disaggregated to the subnational level exist; reporting is optional for the remaining indicators;
8. *Requests* the secretariat to provide affected country Parties with national estimates of each respective metric(s)/prox(y)(ies) of the progress indicators based on available data sources through the performance review and assessment of implementation system portal and urges affected country Parties to subsequently verify or replace these national estimates using data sourced/computed nationally/locally (aggregated where needed);
9. *Encourages* affected country Parties to complement the set of common progress indicators with formal and narrative indicators at national/local scale based on existent data collection systems and databases and from local storylines;
10. *Invites* affected country Parties to develop and implement a new indicator integration framework as part of the monitoring and evaluation approach to track progress and report at multiple scales on meeting policy objectives addressing desertification/land degradation and drought. The new integration framework, DPSheIR (Driving Force – Pressure – State – human and environmental Impact –Response), should allow the impacts on human well-being to be recorded along with impacts on ecosystem services;
11. *Recognizes* that national/local indicator selection and reporting should be fully and formally linked to national action programme alignment efforts and reiterates outcome 2.2 of The Strategy by which affected Parties were requested to revise their national action programmes into strategic documents supported by biophysical and socio-economic baseline information (as reference for monitoring), and to include them in integrated investment frameworks;
12. *Encourages* affected country Parties to establish targets using the progress indicators annexed to the present decision taking into account regional and national specificities;
13. *Also encourages* affected country Parties, based on their technical capacities and resources, to establish technical teams that manage local databases and the continually updated versions (by local input) of DPSheIR;
14. *Requests* the secretariat to improve access to and use of tools/methods and data needed by Parties to report by providing links to these resources through the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and, only when these resources are not already online, making them available on a website. Sharing of best methodologies for monitoring and evaluation across scales of sustainable land management practices should be encouraged;

15. *Encourages* developed country Parties and international organizations to support a broader down-to-earth capacity-building programme that touches on the capacity issues related to the implementation of monitoring and evaluation, including on the delineation and identification of areas prone to desertification and land degradation. Capacity-building should be envisaged as a medium-term participatory process shared by all actors;
16. *Requests* the secretariat to adapt the current reporting protocol of performance review and assessment of implementation system in line with this decision while taking every opportunity to streamline and simplify both the number and complexity of required and optional fields included in performance review and assessment of implementation system (PRAIS) for the reporting of the indicators and to prepare revised reporting tools;
17. *Also requests* the secretariat to assess the feasibility of the changes included in this decision through testing and to report on the outcomes of the testing exercises to the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology;
18. *Further requests* the Committee on Science and Technology to regularly re-evaluate as part of the iterative process both the DPSheIR integration framework and the progress indicators set out in the annex;
19. *Requests* the secretariat, when developing the revised reporting tools, to take into account the implementation guidelines contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/CST/2 and Corr.1 which provide further advice on how the decisions included in this document can be put into practice by affected country Parties;
20. *Also requests* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on progress made in implementing this decision.

*3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013*

Annex

Progress indicators for strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Metrics/Proxies</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Potential data source/Reference methodology</i>
Strategic objective 1: To improve the living conditions of affected populations			
Trends in population living below the relative poverty line and/or income inequality in affected areas	Poverty severity (or squared poverty gap)	Takes account of both the distance separating the poor from the poverty line and the inequality among the poor	World Bank methodology ^{a, b}
	<i>or</i> Income inequality	Alternative to the poverty severity metric for those countries where poverty is no longer an issue; strategic objective 1 has in this sense already been reached	OECD* methodology ^c
Trends in access to safe drinking water in affected areas	Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source	An improved drinking water source is defined as one that is protected from outside contamination through household connection, public standpipe, borehole, protected dug well, protected spring, rainwater, etc.	WHO/UNICEF* Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation methodology ^d
Strategic objective 2: To improve the condition of ecosystems			
Trends in land cover	Vegetative land cover	Intended as the distribution of land cover types of greatest concern for land degradation (excluding artificial surfaces) by characterizing vegetative land cover; it should include and specify natural habitat classes	Sourced from products like GlobCover ^{e, f} or finer-resolution products under development (Gong et al., 2013); and following established land cover classifications (e.g. FAO/UNEP LCCS* ^g)
Trends in land productivity or functioning of the land	Land productivity dynamics	Based on long-term fluctuations and current efficiency levels of phenology and productivity factors affecting standing biomass conditions	New World Atlas of Desertification methodology; ^h update foreseen every five years
Strategic objective 3: To generate global benefits through effective implementation of the UNCCD			
Trends in carbon stocks above and below ground	Soil organic carbon stock <i>to be replaced by</i>	Intended as the status of topsoil and subsoil organic carbon	Sourced from e.g. the GTOS* portal ⁱ

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Metrics/Proxies</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Potential data source/Reference methodology</i>
	Total terrestrial system carbon stock <i>once operational</i>	Including above- and below-ground carbon	To be streamlined with the GEF* -financed UNEP* Carbon Benefits Project ^{j,k}
Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species <i>(potentially to be replaced by an indicator measuring trends in ecosystem functional diversity once system understanding and data production allows)</i>	Global Wild Bird Index	Measures average population trends of a suite of representative wild birds, as an indicator of the general health of the wider environment	Following the indicator guidance provided for and to be streamlined with the CBD* process ^{l,m}

* Abbreviations:

- CBD - Convention on Biological Diversity
- FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- GEF - Global Environment Facility
- GTOS - Global Terrestrial Observing System
- LCCS - Land Cover Classification System
- OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme
- UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund
- WHO - World Health Organization

^a <<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTPOVERTY/EXTPA/0,,contentMDK:20242881~isCURL:Y~menuPK:492130~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:430367,00.html>>.

^b <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPA/Resources/tn_measuring_poverty_over_time.pdf>.

^c <<http://www.oecd.org/els/soc/43540354.pdf>>.

^d <<http://www.wssinfo.org/>>.

^e <<http://due.esrin.esa.int/globcover/>>.

^f <http://www.gofcgold.wur.nl/sites/gofcgold_refdataportal.php>.

^g <<http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/X0596E/X0596e00.htm>>.

^h <<http://wad.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>>.

ⁱ <<http://www.fao.org/gtos/tcoDAT.html>>.

^j <<http://carbonbenefitsproject-compa.colostate.edu/>>.

^k <<http://www.unep.org/climatechange/carbon-benefits/Home/tabid/3502/Default.aspx>>.

^l <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/wild-bird-index_568.html>.

^m <<http://www.bipindicators.net/WBI>>.

Decision 23/COP.11

Measures to enable the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to become a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought

The Conference of the Parties,

Bearing in mind the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) contained in the annex to decision 3/COP.8 and, in particular, the implementation framework of the Committee on Science and Technology,

Recalling that Parties at the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties did not finalize the choice of one of four options for scientific advice as contained in ICCD/COP(10)/CST/6,

Recalling further decision 20/COP.10 to set up an ad hoc working group, taking into consideration regional balance, to further discuss the options for the provision of scientific advice focusing on desertification/land degradation and drought issues, taking into account the regional approach of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

Emphasizing the need to mobilize scientific and technical expertise both at the global and regional levels to address the problems of desertification and land degradation, and mitigate the effects of drought,

Acknowledging the work done by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology with the collaboration of the UNCCD secretariat in the finalization of the assessment of how to organize regional, international and interdisciplinary scientific advice as well as in the overall arrangement to support the activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group to Further Discuss the Options for the Provision of Scientific Advice Focusing on Desertification/Land Degradation And Drought Issues (AGSA),

Commending with appreciation the work undertaken by the AGSA for improving scientific advice to UNCCD,

Having considered the recommendations made by the AGSA on the most suitable components that would shape an integrated scenario for providing scientific advice to the UNCCD focusing on desertification/land degradation and drought issues, taking into account the regional approach of the UNCCD,

Having reviewed documents ICCD/COP(11)/CST/3 (which contains the conclusions and recommendations of the AGSA), ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.1 and ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.2,

Having also reviewed document ICCD/COP(11)/CST/CRP.1 and *acknowledging* the contribution of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, with the support of the secretariat, provided to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services work programme development process,

Taking note of document ICCD/COP(11)/21 containing the report by the Intersessional Working Group on the Mid-term Evaluation of The Strategy,

Considering the recommendations made by the AGSA toward an integrated scenario for the provision of scientific advice to the UNCCD,

1. *Decides* to establish a Science-Policy Interface to facilitate a two-way science-policy dialogue and ensure delivery of policy-relevant information, knowledge and advice on desertification/land degradation and drought;
2. *Also decides* that the Science-Policy Interface will function up to the end of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, at which time it will be reviewed;
3. *Further decides* that the mandate of the Science-Policy Interface is to: (i) establish the approach to deliver each task assigned to it by the Committee on Science and Technology; (ii) analyse, synthesize and translate relevant scientific findings and recommendations from desertification/land degradation and drought-related scientific conferences, including upcoming UNCCD scientific conferences, the roster of independent experts, as well as from relevant stakeholders and networks into proposals to be considered by the Committee on Science and Technology for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties; (iii) interact with existing multiple scientific mechanisms, in particular the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soil and other new and existing scientific networks and platforms; and (iv) assist the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology in organizing the UNCCD scientific conferences and assessing their results;
4. *Decides* that the membership of the Science-Policy Interface should comprise: (1) members of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology; (2) five scientists, one nominated by each Regional Implementation Annex regions; (3) ten scientists selected by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology through an open call taking into account regional and disciplinary balance; and (4) three observers: one from a civil society organization, one from an international organization and one from a relevant United Nations organization;
5. *Also decides* that the Science-Policy Interface will be co-chaired by the Chair of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology and a scientist chosen by the members of the Science-Policy Interface;
6. *Further decides* that the UNCCD secretariat will provide administrative and secretariat support to the Science-Policy Interface and that allocation of resources to support its basic functions be included in the core budget of the Convention;
7. *Encourages* the formation of (1) an independent consortium of scientific networks on desertification/land degradation and drought; and (2) regional science and technology platforms that can interact with the Science-Policy Interface for the provision of scientific advice in stepwise manner;
8. *Urges* scientific organizations and networks to volunteer to coordinate the independent consortium of scientific networks on desertification/land degradation and drought mentioned in paragraph 7 above;
9. *Invites* this consortium to analyse, synthesize and communicate to the Science-Policy Interface scientific inputs on desertification/land degradation and drought issues;
10. *Requests* the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology to develop and adopt the terms of reference of the Science-Policy Interface to be consistent with the mandate described in paragraph 3 above and the text of the Convention and its Regional Implementation Annexes;

11. *Calls upon* the regional scientific networks/institutions, regional groups and Regional Implementation Annexes to support and strengthen existing or newly established regional networks/institutions that can coordinate the regional science and technology platforms and inform the Science-Policy Interface accordingly;
12. *Invites* Parties to promote targeted scientific research on desertification/land degradation and drought, including scientific cooperation at national, subregional, regional and international levels, harness traditional knowledge, and use the results of targeted research in policies and decision-making to benefit public, private and civil society efforts to address desertification/land degradation and drought;
13. *Requests* the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, as requested by the Committee on Science and Technology, to provide input to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soil with support from the Science-Policy Interface;
14. *Calls upon* international science-advisory bodies, scientific institutions and networks, the scientific community, and other relevant stakeholders to support the work done in the provision of scientific advice in order to make the UNCCD a global authority on scientific and traditional knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and drought;
15. *Invites* Parties, organizations and the private sector, with the interest and capacity to do so, to make voluntary and in-kind contributions to support the activities of the Science-Policy Interface, independent consortia of scientific networks and regional science and technology platforms for the provision of scientific advice to UNCCD processes;
16. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the Committee on Science and Technology at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision.

*3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013*

Decision 24/COP.11

Improvement of knowledge management, including traditional knowledge, best practices and success stories

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling articles 6, 17, 18 and 19 of the Convention,

Also recalling decisions 15/COP.1, 4/COP.9, paragraph 9 and 21/COP.10, paragraph 1,

Underlining the importance of scientific knowledge-brokering functions in the process of the Convention,

Reaffirming the role of the Committee on Science and Technology in creating and steering knowledge management systems in order to improve the brokering of scientific and technical information from and to institutions, Parties and end-users,

Recalling decision 3/COP.8, annex, paragraph 20 (b) (ii) b, which requested the secretariat to develop its capacity to service the Committee on Science and Technology effectively by supporting the knowledge management systems established by the Committee on Science and Technology and performing information and knowledge brokering functions,

Having reviewed documents ICCD/COP(11)/CST/6 and ICCD/CRIC(12)/4-ICCD/COP(11)/CST/7,

Being aware of decision 17/COP.11 on consideration of best practices in the implementation of the Convention,

Noting the progress made on the improvement of knowledge management in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

1. *Requests* the secretariat to continue its activities, subject to availability of financial resources, to improve knowledge management by, among others:

(a) Continuing active partnership-building activities with organizations and institutions that maintain content repositories and that have knowledge management activities and expertise relevant to the UNCCD;

(b) Making further improvements to the website by updating information regularly, improving access to information in languages other than English and enhancing site navigation and search functionalities;

(c) Making further internal knowledge management improvements and initiating training courses to adjust to the new technical environment and applications;

(d) Maintaining and updating the classification scheme to ensure that it remains relevant to the content produced;

(e) Exploring and piloting cost-effective knowledge management practices;

(f) Continuing the development of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal in order to expand the information shared through the portal, in cooperation with partners, and to implement future enhancements;

(g) Promoting UNCCD knowledge brokering and information exchange initiatives at national, regional and international level in order to increase their use and attract new partners for their further development;

(h) Drafting an integrated knowledge management strategy for the UNCCD and presenting it for consideration at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Invites* Parties, international organizations and agencies, scientific institutions and networks, and other relevant stakeholders to support and cooperate with the secretariat in improving knowledge management in support of the Convention;

3. *Also invites* interested organizations and institutions that maintain regional-level content repositories relevant to the UNCCD to cooperate in the development of pilot implementations of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal;

4. *Further invites* the Executive Secretary to regularly inform the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology on progress made on knowledge management, and the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology to provide guidance, as appropriate, on the further development of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on progress made in implementing this decision at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties.

*3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013*

Decision 25/COP.11

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification fellowship programme

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 19 of the Convention,

Also recalling decisions 3/COP.8 and 22/COP.10,

Recalling the consensus on the need to establish a UNCCD fellowship programme expressed by the Committee on Science and Technology and previous initiatives taken towards the creation of a fellowship programme,

Having considered the conclusions and recommendations contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/CST/8,

Welcoming initial pledges and commitments of support by potential partners of the fellowship programme,

1. *Welcomes* the proposed Partnership Agreement and Governance Manual for establishing the fellowship programme, as provided in Annex I of document ICCD/COP(11)/CST/8;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to support the fellowship programme steering group to establish and launch the fellowship programme based on the agreed governance model;
3. *Invites* the fellowship programme steering group in cooperation with the secretariat and the Regional Committees, and in collaboration with the Regional Coordination Mechanisms, to broaden the fellowship programme partnership, thereby ensuring the regional geographical balance;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue efforts to link the fellowship programme with other activities of the secretariat aimed at supporting capacity-building in accordance with operational objective 4 of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy), and to take further actions in this regard through, inter alia, promoting direct complementarity between these activities;
5. *Invites* the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats of the Rio conventions to consider collaboration in support of the UNCCD fellowship programme and other related capacity-building activities;
6. *Further invites* country Parties to actively encourage national and regional institutions to become partners of the fellowship programme to support the realization of its objectives in accordance with its scope and strategy;
7. *Recognizes* that effective delivery of the fellowship programme will require additional resources and *invites* Parties, organizations and the private sector, with the interest and capacity to do so, to make voluntary and in-kind contributions to support the fellowship programme in its multi-stakeholder partnership model;

8. *Requests* the secretariat, as a member of the fellowship programme steering group, to report on the implementation of fellowship programme and the evolution of the multi-stakeholder partnership governance model at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties.

3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013

Decision 26/COP.11

Roster of independent experts

The Conference of the Parties

Recalling article 24, paragraph 2, of the Convention,

Recalling also decision 23/COP.10,

Having reviewed the reports contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/15 and document ICCD/CRIC(12)/4-ICCD/COP(11)/CST/7 and Corr.1,

Recognizing the need to improve the quality of services provided to Parties in order to enhance the implementation of the Convention in line with the provisions of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy),

Noting the increasing need to involve the scientific community in the implementation of The Strategy and of activities in the work programme of the Committee on Science and Technology,

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts made by the secretariat to update and validate the roster of independent experts based on nominations submitted by Parties,

1. *Invites* Parties to propose new candidates for the roster in order to achieve better representation of all relevant disciplines, including traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices, and of women, and a more balanced geographical distribution of non-governmental organizations;
2. *Urges* Parties to confirm which of their experts currently on the roster are to remain and to nominate new experts, as they deem necessary. National focal points will be responsible for confirming existing experts and proposing new experts to the secretariat providing their full postal and e-mail addresses;
3. *Adopts* the updated lists of disciplines and thematic areas, as agreed by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology and provided in annex I and annex II of document ICCD/COP(11)/15;
4. *Requests* the Committee on Science and Technology to update and review the list of disciplines every four years on the basis of the evolution of research on desertification/land degradation and drought, also including traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices, and to ensure that it is aligned with United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) priority activities;
5. *Decides* that individual experts can submit a direct electronic application to the roster, subject to electronic approval by the relevant national focal point;
6. *Decides*, taking into account the needs of national focal points or experts with limited access to the internet, to maintain the current procedures for nominating and updating information on the experts in written form;
7. *Requests* the secretariat to:

- (a) Set up web-based facilities that allow for the direct electronic application and update of information by individual experts to the roster;
 - (b) Perform a validation process of all experts in the roster every four years;
 - (c) Remove from the roster those experts who have not been confirmed by the relevant national focal points by 31 March 2014 and those who have not been confirmed during the validation process;
 - (d) Communicate directly with experts, through e-mail or by post, in order to provide information on access to the roster, the editing of personal data, opportunities offered by the roster, as well as scientific and technical information;
 - (e) Make available updated statistics related to the roster, its gender balance, and representation by discipline on the UNCCD website;
8. *Requests* the secretariat to involve the experts on the roster in the various activities of the UNCCD, including participation in working groups, surveys and peer reviews as appropriate;
9. *Invites* Parties to involve the experts on the roster in local, national, regional and global activities related to the implementation of the Convention, including in the validation of best practices;
10. *Invites* Parties, and in particular science and technology correspondents, to involve experts in the promotion of relationships and networks with the scientific community at local, national, regional and global level, with the support of national focal points;
11. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on progress made in implementing this decision.

*3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013*

Decision 27/COP.11

Programme of work of the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 23 of the Convention,

Bearing in mind decision 3/COP.8 and decision 18/COP.10,

Having reviewed the costed draft two-year work programmes for the Committee on Science and Technology and the secretariat contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/7,

Bearing in mind decision 21/COP.11 on reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018),

1. *Decides* to include the following items on the agenda of the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology:

Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018):

- (a) Preparation of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference;
- (b) Preliminary outcome the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference on “Combating desertification/land degradation and drought for poverty reduction and sustainable development: the contribution of science, technology, traditional knowledge and best practices”;
- (c) Preparation of the UNCCD 4th Scientific Conference;

2. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate, in all six official languages of the United Nations, at least six weeks prior to the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology, a provisional annotated agenda and documentation for the session, reflecting the decision contained in paragraph 1 above.

3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013

Decision 28/COP.11

Date and venue of the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 23 of the Convention,

Bearing in mind decision 3/COP.8 and decision 13/COP.8,

Recalling decision 18/COP.10 paragraph 12, outlining that the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference shall take place in 2014 at a special session of the Committee on Science and Technology,

Taking into account the decision on this topic taken by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its meeting held from 28 to 29 June 2013 in Seoul, Republic of Korea,

Bearing in mind decision 21/COP.11 on reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018),

1. *Decides* that the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology shall be held at the latest by the end of April 2015, in Bonn, Germany, or in any of the other venues with United Nations conference facilities, in the event that no Party makes an offer to host that session and meet the additional financial cost. In the event that finance is not available for the third scientific conference the fourth special session of the CST will be postponed to a later date;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, to accommodate any offer from a Party to host the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology with its UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to take the necessary measures to prepare for the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology, including the conclusion of a legally binding agreement at the international level with a host country/government;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate the participation of the eligible science and technology correspondents in the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology;
5. *Invites* developed country Parties, international, national and regional organizations and relevant stakeholders to make voluntary contributions for the organization of the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology;

6. *Requests* the secretariat to review the provisions for regional meetings in preparation for the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology, as contained in its biennial costed work programme, and to seek financial contributions to enable those regional meetings to take place.

*3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013*

Decision 29/COP.11

Programme of work of the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 23 of the Convention,

Recalling decisions 16/COP.3, 16/COP.4, 16/COP.5, 20/COP.6, 20/COP.7, 18/COP.8, 26/COP.9 and 27/COP.10 on the programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology,

Bearing in mind the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy), adopted by decision 3/COP.8, in particular operational objective 3 on science, technology and knowledge and its related outcomes,

Recalling decisions 13/COP.8, 16/COP.9 and 18/COP.10 on reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with The Strategy,

Also recalling decision 21/COP.11 on reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with The Strategy,

Having reviewed the draft multi-year (2015–2017) workplan for the Committee on Science and Technology contained in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/2-ICCD/COP(11)/CST/9 and the costed draft two-year work programme for the Committee on Science and Technology and the secretariat contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/7,

Recalling decision 23/COP.11 on the establishment of a Science-Policy Interface,

1. *Decides* to include the following items on the agenda of the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology:

(a) Progress made in the implementation of measures to enable the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to become a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought, in particular in the establishment and operation of the Science-Policy Interface;

(b) Progress made in the implementation of the recommendations on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy;

(c) Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with The Strategy:

(i) Report of the Committee on Science and Technology on its fourth special session;

(ii) Review of the outcomes of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference;

(iii) Assessment of the organization of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference;

(iv) Progress report on the preparation of the UNCCD 4th Scientific Conference;

(v) Progress made in the organization of future scientific conferences;

- (d) Progress made in improving knowledge management, including traditional knowledge, best practices and success stories;
 - (e) Progress made related to the roster of independent experts;
 - (f) Developments related to the UNCCD fellowship programme;
 - (g) Draft multi-year (four-year) workplan of the Committee on Science and Technology (2016–2019);
2. *Also decides* that the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology shall be held for a minimum of four working days;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate the participation of the science and technology correspondents in the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology;
4. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate, in all six official languages of the United Nations, at least six weeks prior to the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties, a provisional annotated agenda and appropriate documentation for that session, reflecting the decisions contained in paragraph 1 above.

*3rd plenary meeting
20 September 2013*

Decision 30/COP.11

Rule 47 of the rules of procedure

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 21/COP.2 on consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure,

Taking note of the draft text of rule 47, as amended by decision 21/COP.2,

Taking note also of the report by the secretariat contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/16,

Requests the secretariat to include consideration of this pending rule of procedure in the agenda of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties and to report on the status of similar rules of procedure under other multilateral environmental agreements.

9th plenary meeting

26 September 2013

Decision 31/COP.11

Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 27 of the Convention, which states that the Conference of the Parties shall consider and adopt procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to the implementation of the Convention,

Also recalling decisions 20/COP.3, 20/COP.4, part A, 21/COP.5, part A, 22/COP.6, part A, 22/COP.7, part A, 20/COP.8, 28/COP.9 and 29/COP.10,

Further recalling the Chairperson's summary of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts at the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth sessions of the Conference of the Parties,

Noting that the question of linkages between article 27 and article 22, paragraph 2, article 26 and article 28 of the Convention may merit further consideration,

1. *Decides*, for the purposes of fulfilling the provisions of article 27 of the Convention, to reconvene, during its twelfth session, the open-ended Ad Hoc Group of Experts to examine further, and make recommendations on, procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation;
2. *Invites* any Parties and interested institutions and organizations wishing to communicate their views on article 27 of the Convention to do so, in writing, to the secretariat by 31 January 2015;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a new working document to include a compilation of submissions by Parties contained in previous documents of the Conference of the Parties on this matter, including a draft to provide options for, and the terms of reference of, a multilateral consultative process, as contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/13, as well as a compilation of those views submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 above;
4. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Group of Experts shall take as the basis of its work the new working document to be prepared by the secretariat.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 32/COP.11

Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 28, paragraph 2 (a), of the Convention, which refers to arbitration procedures to be adopted as soon as practicable by the Conference of the Parties in an annex to the Convention,

Also recalling article 28, paragraph 6, of the Convention, which refers to conciliation procedures to be adopted as soon as practicable by the Conference of the Parties in an annex to the Convention,

Further recalling the Chairperson' summaries of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts at the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth sessions of the Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions 20/COP.3, 20/COP.4, part B, 21/COP.5, part B, 22/COP.6, part B, 22/COP.7, part B, 21/COP.8, 29/COP.9 and 30/COP.10,

1. *Decides*, for the purposes of fulfilling the provisions of article 28 of the Convention, to reconvene, at its twelfth session, the open-ended Ad Hoc Group of Experts to examine further, and make recommendations on, the following:

- (a) The annex on arbitration procedures;
- (b) The annex on conciliation procedures;

2. *Invites* any Parties and interested institutions and organizations wishing to communicate their views on the matter referred to in paragraph 1 above to do so, in writing, to the secretariat by 31 January 2015;

3. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a new working document to include: (i) a compilation of submissions contained in previous documents of the Conference of the Parties on this matter and those submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 above; and (ii) an updated version of the annexes contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/14 to reflect these views;

4. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Group of Experts shall take as the basis of its work the new working document to be prepared by the secretariat.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 33/COP.11

Credentials of delegations

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered document ICCD/COP(11)/22 on the credentials of delegations and the recommendation contained therein,

Decides to approve the report.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 34/COP.11

Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions

The Conference of the Parties,

Having heard the Chairperson's summary report on the Ministerial session, submitted by H.E. Mr. Uahekua Herunga, Minister of Environment and Tourism of the Republic of Namibia and President of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session,

1. *Takes note* of the Chairperson's summary with appreciation and gratitude;
2. *Decides* to include the Chair's summary as an annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session.

10th plenary meeting

27 September 2013

Decision 35/COP.11

Report on the Tenth Round Table of Members of Parliament

The Conference of the Parties,

Having heard the presentation of the Declaration on “The role of Members of Parliament in the efforts to combat desertification, land degradation and drought: Parliamentary contributions to achieving a land-degradation neutral world in the context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda”, reflecting the outcomes of the Tenth Round Table of Members of Parliament, which took place in Windhoek, Republic of Namibia, on 20 and 21 September 2013,

1. *Takes note* of the Declaration with appreciation;
2. *Decides* to include the Declaration as an annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session.

10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013

Decision 36/COP.11

Namib Declaration on a stronger United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification for a land degradation neutral world

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) related to desertification/land degradation and drought,

1. *Takes note* of the Namib Declaration with appreciation;
2. *Decides* to include the Namib Declaration as an annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 37/COP.11

Declaration of civil society organizations attending the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Having heard the presentation of the Declaration made by Ms. Viviane Kinyaga, of the Desert Research Foundation of Namibia, on behalf of civil society organizations attending the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties,

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the Declaration;
2. *Decides* to include the Declaration as an annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 38/COP.11

Declaration by the Sustainable Land Management Business Forum

The Conference of the Parties,

Having heard the declaration made at the high-level segment by Mr. David Nuyoma, Chair of the Sustainable Land Management Business Forum, on behalf of the participants in the second Sustainable Land Management Business Forum organized on the sidelines of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties,

1. *Takes note* of the declaration referred to in this decision;
2. *Decides* to include the declaration as an annex to the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 39/COP.11

Programme of work for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification,

Recalling also its decisions 9/COP.1, 2/COP.2, 4/COP.3, 5/COP.4, 5/COP.5, 29/COP.6, 30/COP.7, 27/COP.8, 35/COP.9 and 38/COP.10 on its programme of work, decision 3/COP.8 containing the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) and decision 7/COP.8,

Taking into consideration the relevant decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session,

1. *Decides* to include the following items on the agenda of its twelfth session and, if necessary, its thirteenth session:

- (a) The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018):
 - (i) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;
 - (ii) Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy;
 - (iii) Follow-up on the independent mid-term evaluation of The Strategy;
 - (iv) Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its advice to the Conference of the Parties;
- (b) Maintenance of the roster of experts and the creation, as necessary, of ad hoc panels of experts;
- (c) Follow-up on the governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism;
- (d) Programme and budget for the biennium 2016–2017;
- (e) Follow-up on the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), as they relate to desertification/ land degradation and drought;
- (f) Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies;
- (g) Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility: amendment of the memorandum of understanding between the UNCCD and the Global Environment Facility on enhanced collaboration;
- (h) Revised procedures for the accreditation of civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector to the Conference of the Parties;
- (i) The United Nations Decade of Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020);

- (j) Outstanding items:
 - (i) Rule 47 of the rules of procedure;
 - (ii) Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation;
 - (iii) Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures;
- 2. *Also decides* to include interactive dialogue sessions with relevant stakeholders, including ministers, civil society organizations, the business community, the scientific community and members of parliament, on agenda items of relevance to them;
- 3. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare an annotated provisional agenda, in agreement with the President of the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session, taking into consideration provisions contained in the relevant decisions taken during that conference;
- 4. *Also requests* the secretariat to circulate in all official languages at least six weeks prior to the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties appropriate documentation for that session, reflecting the decisions contained in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Decision 40/COP.11

Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 4, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification,

Also recalling rule 3 of the rules of procedure,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985,

1. *Accepts with gratitude* the generous offer of the Government of Turkey to host the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties and to meet the additional costs;
2. *Decides* that the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties shall be held in Turkey in 2015;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult with the Government of Turkey to prepare for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties, including the conclusion of a legally binding agreement at the international level with the Government of Turkey.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*

Resolution 1/COP.11

Expression of gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Namibia

The Conference of the Parties,

Having met in Windhoek, from 16 to 27 September 2013 at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Namibia,

1. Expresses its profound gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Namibia for having made it possible for the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to be held in the city of Windhoek and for the excellent facilities placed at its disposal;
2. Requests the Government to convey to the people of the Republic of Namibia the profound gratitude of the Parties to the Convention for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to the participants.

*10th plenary meeting
27 September 2013*