

## Decision 21/COP.10

### **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,

*Underlining* the importance of effective knowledge-sharing systems to support policymakers and end-users, including through the identification and sharing of best practices and success stories,

*Recognizing* the need to further involve the scientific community in the implementation of the Convention at all levels, and the potential in this regard of scientific knowledge brokering, including online networks such as communities of practice,

*Recalling* the terms of reference of the Committee on Science and Technology, as contained in decision 15/COP.1, which task the Committee with making recommendations for promoting participative research on relevant traditional and local technology, knowledge, know-how and practices to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought through, inter alia, the utilization of information and services provided by local populations and other competent bodies, including intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Reaffirming* the role of the Committee on Science and Technology in providing an opportunity for effective knowledge sharing at the global, regional, subregional and national levels in order to support policymakers and stakeholders, including through the identification and sharing of best practices, as stated in decision 13/COP.8,

*Recalling* the terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, as contained in the annex to decision 11/COP.9, which task the Committee with compiling best practices on the implementation of the Convention and with forwarding this information for consideration by the Conference of the Parties,

*Recalling* decision 4/COP.9, which requests the secretariat to continue building up efficient knowledge-management and knowledge-brokering systems to serve as tools for successful implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy,

*Having reviewed* the report contained in document ICCD/COP(10)/CST/9,

*Noting* the key role of scientific knowledge-brokering functions within the process of the Convention becoming a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought,

*Noting with appreciation* the progress made by the secretariat in establishing the comprehensive knowledge-management system of the Convention,

*Commending* the secretariat on carrying out the knowledge needs assessment,

*Welcoming* the improvement of the knowledge-management process under the Convention,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to continue, subject to Parties providing the necessary additional financial resources, to improve knowledge management, including, but not limited to:
  - (a) Elaborating an information platform related to desertification/land degradation and drought, building on existing similar information and categorizations where appropriate and useful;
  - (b) Carrying out the taxonomy for internal content categorization with respect to the UNCCD;
  - (c) Defining criteria and priorities applicable to knowledge management under the Convention, taking into account the results of the knowledge needs assessment;
  - (d) Preparing the necessary policies, procedures and guidelines for improving the quality and coherence of information products prepared internally and externally;
  - (e) Establishing synergetic partnerships with existing initiatives/networks;
  - (f) Encouraging the establishment of links with regional knowledge management systems via existing networks;
  - (g) Identifying flexible strategies for the transfer, development, deployment and use of proven technologies;
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 for the Convention in support of the implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy), adopted by decision 3/COP.8;
3. *Requests* the Bureau of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology to work together in defining ways to promote the analysis and dissemination of best practices, according to the respective mandates of the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, for consideration at the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties;
4. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session on progress made in implementing this decision.

*3<sup>rd</sup> plenary meeting  
14 October 2011*