



Decision 2

**Activities of the Regional Action Programme
for the five-year period 2003-2007**

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties at its first session in Rome in October 1997 adopted Decision 12/CP.1, to support the Regional Action Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean

Noting that the Latin America and the Caribbean Parties approved the Regional Action Programme in 1997, in order to promote the implementation of the Convention at the regional level;

Cognisant of the dynamic nature of the implementation process in the region,

Bearing in mind the need for including ecosystem and crosscutting approaches as well as the need to strengthen training and capacity building activities,

Aware of the achievements made in the implementation of the RAP to date and relying on the participation of civil society organisations,

Considering the discussions on RAP conducted during this meeting,

Parties attending this meeting

DECIDE

1. **To approve** the activities of the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Action Programme (LAC-RAP) for the five-year period 2003-2007 included as an Annex I to these decisions,
2. **To adopt** the creation of six thematic programmes which shall be known henceforth as Thematic Programme Network, as follow:
 - TPN-1: Identification and use of benchmarks and indicators of desertification and drought,
 - TPN-2: Information Network on Desertification and Drought (DESELAC),
 - TPN-3: Integrated water resource management and water efficiency programs in LAC,
 - TPN-4: Promotion of agroforestry and combating poverty,
 - TPN-5: Best practices, traditional knowledge and technologies,
 - TPN - 6: Promotion of sustainable renewable energy.
3. **To approve** the Programme of Work for the biennium 2003-2004 which is enclosed with Annex II



ANNEX II.a

The LAC Regional Action Programme 2003-2007

PROGRAMMATIC AXES	ACTIVITIES	GOALS	RESOURCES
Programmatic axe 1: UNCCD implementation at the national level (⇒ National Action Programmes and related activities)	1.1. Support to the organization of awareness raising seminars.	To start NAP process in Bahamas, Belize, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.	
	1.2. Support to NAP preparation.	To prepare NAP in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Honduras, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Surinam and Uruguay. (Also the countries mentioned in 1.1.)	
	1.3. Supplementary support to NAP validation.	To complete and/or validate NAP in Brazil, Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Dominican Republic and Venezuela. (Also the countries mentioned in 1.1. and 1.2.)	
	1.4. Support to NAP implementation	To advance in NAP implementation in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru.	partial
	1.5. Support to the preparation of national reports	To ensure LAC national reports submission before the CRIC-4 and the further ones.	
Programmatic axe 2: UNCCD implementation at the transnational ecosystems level (⇒ sub-regional programmes and activities)	2.1. Support to the design and implementation of the Gran Chaco Americano Sub-Regional Programme	To consolidate the formulation and implementation process of the SRAP Chaco (Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay)	
	2.2. Support to the design and implementation of the Puna Americana Sub-regional Programme	To consolidate the formulation and implementation process of the SRAP Puna (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru)	
	2.3. Support to the design and implementation of the Hispaniola Sub-regional Action Programme	To consolidate the formulation and implementation process of the SRAP Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic)	
	2.4. Support to the design of the Caribbean Sub-regional Action Programme	To formulate the Caribbean SRAP	
	2.5. Support to the design of the Central America Sub-Regional Action Programme	To formulate the Mesoamerican SRAP	
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Programmatic axe 3: Programmes and crosscutting activities implementation	3.1. Benchmarks and indicators (TPN-1) Launch of a regional programme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region 	To have a system of indicators at the regional level that enables the assessment of the desertification processes and their evolution in the region.	
	3.2. DESELAC information electronic network (TPN-2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website design and launch. • Support to the national focal points equipment. • Training in the use of the Website and its tools. 	To have a communication and information tool linking all relevant stakeholders and actors in the CCD implementation process in Latin America and the Caribbean.	
	3.3. Integrated water resource management (TPN-3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of a regional programme • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region. • Organization of exchange seminars and/or workshops. • Execution of pilot projects 	To promote sustainable policies on the use of the water resource in the countries of the region.	
	3.4. Promotion of agroforestry to combat desertification and eradicate poverty (TPN-4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of a regional programme • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region. • Organization of exchange seminars and/or workshops. • Execution of pilot projects 	To promote sustainable policies related to the use of natural resources, focusing on poor small producers in rural areas.	
	3.5. Best practices, traditional knowledge and technologies (TPN-5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of a regional programme • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region. • Execution of pilot projects. 	To have an inventory of best practices, traditional knowledge and technologies, that can be replicated in each country of the region.	
	3.6. Renewable energies (TPN-6) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of a regional programme • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region. • Organization of exchange seminars and/or workshops • Execution of pilot projects 	To promote the use of alternative and sustainable energy sources in the countries of the region	



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	<p>3.7. Promotion of synergies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a regional programme • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region. • Organization of exchange seminars and/or workshops (at the national and sub-regional level) • Execution of pilots projects. 	<p>To promote activities linking the different environmental conventions in the countries of the region.</p>	<p align="center">partial</p>
	<p>3.8. Studies on drought</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launching of a regional programme • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region. • Organization of exchange seminars and/or workshops • Execution of pilots projects 	<p>To promote the exchange of information on drought, particularly on early warning systems.</p>	
	<p>3.9. Professional training and strengthening of national focal points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of a NFP support programme, together with UNV. • Design of a training programme on negotiation skills, addressed to decision-makers, governmental and non-governmental technicians. • Training courses on GEF projects design, addressed to governmental and non-governmental technicians. • Design of a proposal concerning the training and the empowerment of civil society entities. 	<p>To strengthen organisational and technical abilities of the participants in combating desertification and implementing the Convention.</p>	
	<p>3.10. Education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional comparative study on education and desertification • Draft proposal for the integration of desertification and sustainable development issues in primary school curricula. • Proposal for the organization of a post-graduate regional course on desertification. 	<p>To incorporate didactic content relating to dry lands sustainable development in primary educational programmes. To improve technical training of the professionals engaged in the combat against desertification.</p>	
	<p>3.11 Public policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative study on policies related to sustainable development. 	<p>To have information on national public policies relating to sustainable development, which can be replicated in the countries of the region.</p>	



	<p>3.12. Financial aspects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round tables with donor organizations and cooperation partners • Training courses on GEF projects design addressed to governmental and non-governmental technicians. • Elaboration of a study on the payment for environmental services as a strategy to combat desertification. 	To promote the information on available financing sources for the implementation of programmes and initiatives within the UNCCD framework implementation in the countries of the region.	partial
	<p>3.13. Gender and desertification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launching of a regional programme • Coordination with past and existent initiatives in the region. • Organization of exchange seminars and/or workshops • Execution of pilots projects 	To promote activities promoting the incorporation of gender issues in the implementation of the CCD in the countries of the region	
Programmatic axe 4: Horizontal cooperation within the UNCCD framework	<p>4.1. Cooperation platform Africa – Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot projects implementation on soil salinization in Cuba, Venezuela and Mali. 	To promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge among affected countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.	
	<p>4.2. Horizontal cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of exchange projects between the countries of the region and/or with other regions. 	To promote the exchange of experiences and knowledge among affected countries	