



## PRESS INVITATION

**Eighth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 8)  
UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION  
3-14 September 2007  
Palacio de Congresos, Madrid, España**

The eighth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 8) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) will be hosted by the Government of Spain.

### **Venue of the session**

COP 8 will be held at the following conference centre:

Palacio de Congresos de Madrid  
Paseo de la Castellana 99  
28046 Madrid, Spain  
Tel: +34 913 37 8100 / 01  
Fax: +34 915 97 1094

For further information on the conference venue, please visit the following website:  
[www.pcm.tourspain.es/zIngles/index.htm](http://www.pcm.tourspain.es/zIngles/index.htm).

The session will open on Monday, 3 September 2007. Meeting rooms will be made available for informal meetings without interpretation, subject to arrangements being made with the secretariat. Working hours will normally be from 1000 to 1300 and from 1500 to 1800.

### **Information for the media**

Representatives from the media can register at the entrance to the right of the main entrance of the *Palacio de Congresos* during pre-registration and registration hours upon presentation of a valid press card.

Applicants for media accreditation need to provide the following documentation:

- A letter of introduction from their bureau chief;
- A passport or identification card for identification purposes;
- One passport size colour photograph;
- A valid press card.
- Request for accreditation of media representatives

The application form can be downloaded from the website <[www.unccd.int](http://www.unccd.int)>

Applicants should send the above-mentioned documentation to the UNCCD Secretariat at the following address:

**E-Mail: [press@unccd.int](mailto:press@unccd.int)**

**Fax: +49 228 815 2898/99**

All the above conditions apply to both local and foreign journalists. Local journalists are, however, advised to start the process of accreditation as soon as possible, at least one month before the conference. Foreign journalists may do so as soon as they arrive in the country.

A fully dedicated and equipped press and media centre will be available at the Conference venue.

Additional information for media representatives on the Convention and the conference can be obtained from the Convention secretariat at the above-mentioned address.

### **Registration**

It is of the utmost importance to accompany credentials with a passport-size photograph of each member of delegations attending COP 8. This will ensure a speedy pre-registration procedure, which will greatly reduce waiting time for delegates at the session venue.

Pre-registration for national delegations, United Nations specialized agencies and programmes, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as for the media, will take place at entrance immediately right of the main entrance of the *Palacio de Congresos* on:

- Friday 31 August from 0800 to 1230 and from 1400 to 1700
- Saturday 1 September from 0800 to 1230 and from 1400 to 1700
- Sunday 2 September from 0830 to 1230 and from 1500 to 1800

Registration will start on Monday, 3 September at 0800 and continue throughout the session from 0800 to 1330 and from 1430 to 1700 on working days. Any eventual change on the opening hours of the registration desk will be communicated in the Journal. Identity badges will be issued at the time of registration, and participants are requested to wear them at all times, as they will be allowed access to the session venue only upon presentation of their badges.