



Date: 1 November 2017

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY
of the Science-Policy Interface**

1. The work of the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) shall not be compromised by any conflict of interest for its members.
2. This policy applies to members and observers of the SPI, to any communications or presentations made representing the work of the SPI, to any contributions to the review of documents within the UNCCD as well as for other bodies or organizations. It also applies to the development of all products of the SPI, for instance assessment-, synthesis-, methodology- and other special reports, and/or technical papers and the like, as well as science-policy briefs and science-based communication documents and contributions to the preparation of UNCCD official documents.
3. A “conflict of interest” refers to any current professional, financial or other interest which could significantly impair an individual’s objectivity in carrying out his/her duties and responsibilities as a SPI member or observer during his/her mandate.
4. Significant and relevant interests may include, inter alia, membership in any kind of advisory committees or boards of non-profit or advocacy groups. Examples of financial interests could be, but are not limited to: financial investments, consulting relationships, employment relationships, intellectual property interests, commercial interests and sources of private-sector research support.
5. A SPI member or observer aware of a conflict of interest that might hinder or impair the performance of his/her duties in an objective, impartial and effective manner, shall communicate it to the UNCCD secretariat. Members and observers of the SPI shall inform the secretariat of any changes in the originally informed status regarding any conflict of interest.
6. When considering whether an individual has a conflict of interest, the secretariat may seek further information and together with the individual, explore options for resolving this conflict.
7. The secretariat will advise, as appropriate, and determine, in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, whether a conflict of interest of the respective member exists and whether it is one that cannot be resolved, and, if applicable, which further action is required.
8. Any information concerning the conflict of interest of a member or observer of the SPI will be considered confidential and will not be exclusively used for the consideration of conflict issues under these implementation procedures without the express consent of the individual providing the information.

I hereby declare having read the conflict of interest policy and assure to the best of my knowledge that I do not have any conflict of interest. I undertake to inform the UNCCD secretariat or the co-Chairs of the SPI of any change in my circumstances during the course of the work assigned to me.

Date: _____

Signature: _____