

Decision 21/COP.15

Programme of work for the sixteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling articles 23 and 24 of the Convention,

Also recalling decisions 13/COP.8 and 21/COP.11 on reshaping the operations of the Committee on Science and Technology,

Further recalling decision 19/COP.12 on improving the efficiency of the Committee on Science and Technology, particularly paragraph 4 on the organization of its future sessions,

Recalling decision 19/COP.13 on improving the efficiency of the Science-Policy Interface, particularly paragraph 1, which extends the mandate of the Science-Policy Interface up to end of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, at which time another review of the Science-Policy Interface will be presented,

Bearing in mind the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, in particular the implementation framework for the Committee on Science and Technology,

Having reviewed the proposed work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the triennium 2022–2024, as contained in the annex to decision 18/COP.15,

1. *Decides* that the sixteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology should focus on, inter alia, the review of the work conducted by the Science-Policy Interface, including its overall achievements since the last review completed at the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, in order to decide on the future functioning of the Science-Policy Interface;
2. *Also decides* that the sixteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology should be organized in such a way as to facilitate a thematic dialogue between the Parties and the Science-Policy Interface regarding the policy implications of the scientific outputs and enable the formulation of concise policy-relevant recommendations;
3. *Requests* that the secretariat arrange future sessions of the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention to be organized to maximize participation of the science and technology correspondents in the regional meetings and the work of the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention within the timeframe in which the science and technology correspondents are present;
4. *Also requests* the secretariat to circulate a provisional annotated agenda and appropriate documentation, including a set of clear and concise recommendations and a separate document with draft decisions for consideration by Parties in all six official languages of the United Nations, at least six weeks prior to the sixteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology.

3rd plenary meeting

13 May 2022