

Decision 8/COP.15

Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision 8/COP.14,

Acknowledging that the implementation of the Convention benefits from strong and effective collaborations to leverage synergies with relevant organizations and international instruments including, inter alia, the Convention on Biological Diversity Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, the Group of 20 Global Initiative on Reducing Land Degradation and Enhancing Conservation of Terrestrial Habitats, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris Agreement,

Reaffirming the usefulness of the three land-based progress indicators as set out in decision 9/COP.12 for monitoring and reporting under the Rio conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals, which are coherent with the progress indicators/metrics adopted in decision 22/COP.11,

Welcoming the progress to enhance existing and establish new partnerships as well as the renewed efforts to coordinate activities with the other Rio conventions through the Joint Liaison Group to support the implementation of the Convention's objectives,

Noting that the Group on Earth Observations Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative was established in response to decision 9/COP.13, and *acknowledging with appreciation* the important contribution of the Group on Earth Observations Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative to the development of data quality standards, education programmes and practical tools for the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of land degradation neutrality,

1. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate, to engage at the national level to explore complementarities in the implementation of and reporting on the three Rio conventions;
2. *Also invites* Parties to explore complementarities between land degradation neutrality targets, Nationally Determined Contributions, and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, as well as national targets under the Sendai Framework, and related planning, programming, reporting and monitoring in order to achieve the Convention's objectives;
3. *Further invites* Parties to explore ways to integrate satellite data information into their capacity development efforts and data analytic tools for evidence-based decision-making to support land degradation neutrality implementation through integrated land use planning informed, as appropriate, by the Group on Earth Observations Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative and its partners and other relevant stakeholders;
4. *Invites* developed country Parties, other Parties in a position to do so, international financial organizations, civil society organizations and private sector institutions to contribute, financially or in-kind, to global partnerships, alliances and coalitions on Earth observations, particularly, the Group on Earth Observations Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative, and engage in regional and bilateral cooperation to address desertification/land degradation and drought;
5. *Requests* the secretariat and appropriate Convention bodies and institutions, within their respective mandates and existing resources, to:
 - (a) Continue to enhance existing and seek new partnerships that enhance the implementation of the Convention, address desertification/land degradation and drought, and help achieve voluntary national land degradation neutrality targets;
 - (b) Continue to strengthen collaboration with relevant United Nations entities and other partners to provide practical tools, technical guidance and capacity-building related to

the implementation of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification objectives and policy frameworks, and thematic priorities as defined by the Conference of the Parties;

(c) Develop, in partnership with relevant organizations and networks, stakeholder engagement plans, including awareness-raising strategies, for youth, civil society organizations, the media and the private sector;

6. *Invites* Parties to explore complementarities within relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements, within their respective mandates and goals, in the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification at the national level, including, as appropriate, in the implementation of sustainable land management, ecosystem-based approaches or nature-based solutions;

7. *Requests* the secretariat to present a report on the implementation of this decision at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties.

6th plenary meeting

20 May 2022