



## Convention to Combat Desertification

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### Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

#### Twenty-second session

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 3–11 December 2024

Item 1 (a) of the provisional agenda

#### Organizational matters:

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

## Provisional agenda and annotations

### Note by the secretariat

## I. Provisional Agenda

1. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
  - (b) Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.
2. Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels:
  - (a) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its twenty-first session;
  - (b) Multi-year workplan for Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies;
  - (c) Performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies;
  - (d) Development and promotion of activities for targeted capacity-building to further the implementation of the Convention.
3. Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties.
4. Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms:
  - (a) Report by the Global Environment Facility on the financing of programmes and projects concerning desertification/land degradation and drought;
  - (b) Update on the Global Support Programme to assist reporting by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;
  - (c) Report by the Global Mechanism on progress made in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Convention and matters relating to Sustainable Development Goal 15.3.



5. Procedural matters: Programme of work for the twenty-third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.
6. Adoption of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.

## II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

### *Dates and venue of the session*

1. Pursuant to provisions contained in decision 34/COP.15 and further consultation with the host government of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16), the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC 22) will be held from 3–11 December 2024 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

### *Consultations of affected country Parties of the Convention's Regional Implementation Annexes*

2. Consultations between Parties belonging to the Convention's Regional Implementation Annexes on matters before CRIC 22 will take place from 30 November to 1 December 2024 prior to the opening of the twenty-second session of the CRIC, scheduled for Tuesday 3 December 2024.

### *Provisional agenda*

3. According to the terms of reference (TOR) of the CRIC, as set out in the annex to decision 13/COP.13, the provisional agenda for the sessions of the CRIC is to be prepared by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Bureau of the CRIC.
4. Accordingly, decision 13/COP.13 was considered when compiling the provisional agenda for this session, along with other relevant decisions of the COP, including decisions 1/COP.15, 2/COP.15, 3/COP.15, 9/COP.15, 13/COP.15 and 33/COP.15.

### *Documentation*

5. Official pre-session documents will be made available in due course on the UNCCD website.<sup>1</sup>

## 1. Organizational matters

### *Opening of the session*

6. CRIC 22 will be opened by the Chair of the CRIC, who was elected at COP 15.<sup>2</sup> In accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure (ROP) of the COP and paragraph 8 of the annex to decision 13/COP.13, the Chair of the CRIC will be elected at the final meeting of the COP and will assume their role immediately.

### *Organization of work*

7. The CRIC may wish to consider the following scenario: at the opening of the CRIC on 3 December 2024, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the Chair of the CRIC will make introductory statements ahead of CRIC 22.
8. Following the introduction of each agenda item, representatives of regional and interest groups will be invited to make statements, followed by statements from United Nations agencies and/or other stakeholders, including civil society. The aim is to facilitate a discussion among Parties and their development partners on national, sub-regional and/or regional experiences relative to topics discussed during the plenary meetings.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unccd.int/convention/official-documents>.

<sup>2</sup> ICCD/COP(15)/23, paragraph 17.

9. It should be noted that the plenary session relating to the agenda item “improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties”, will be held jointly with the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and is tentatively scheduled to take place on 4 December 2024. In line with past practice, the draft decision with the same title as the agenda item will therefore also be negotiated jointly with the CST at a time to be announced in session.

*Purpose of the session*

10. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the TOR of the CRIC, as contained in the annex to decision 13/COP.13, the CRIC will address the items on its agenda at its twenty-second session with a view to formulating draft decisions, where necessary, for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

**(a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

11. The CRIC will have before it for consideration and adoption the provisional agenda contained in this document (ICCD/CRIC(22)/1). A tentative schedule of work for the session is contained in the annex to this document and detailed in the sections below.

ICCD/CRIC(22)/1–Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
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12. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to adopt its agenda and schedule of work for the session.

**(b) Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**

13. *Background:* Pursuant to paragraphs 7 and 8 of the TOR of the CRIC, as contained in the annex to decision 13/COP.13, four Vice-Chairs will constitute the Bureau of the CRIC, together with the Chair, elected by the COP in accordance with rule 31 of the ROP of the COP. They will be elected with due regard for the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and adequate representation of affected country Parties, particularly those in Africa, without neglecting affected country Parties in other regions. They will not serve for more than two consecutive terms.

14. *Action:* Following the designation by the Group of Latin America and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC) of a new CRIC Vice-Chair from Chile on 14 May 2024, the CRIC Chair will call for their election at the opening of CRIC 22 on 3 December, in line with the above-mentioned ROP of the COP. At the CRIC 22 opening meeting, the CRIC Chair will inform the CRIC that, in line with Rule 25 of the ROP of the COP, a new representative from Uzbekistan was appointed by that Party to replace the former Vice-Chair until the end of CRIC 22. Furthermore, the CRIC Chair will call for the election of the four new Vice-Chairs for the upcoming CRIC 23 and CRIC 24 sessions at the final Plenary meeting of CRIC 22 on 11 December 2024. The Vice-Chairs elected, one of whom will act as Rapporteur, will assume their roles immediately.

**2. Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels**

**(a) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its twenty-first session**

15. *Background:* As part of the TOR of the CRIC, the CRIC is invited, at sessions held during ordinary sessions of the COP, inter alia, to review the final report of sessions held between ordinary sessions of the COP, which contains its recommendations on further steps to be taken to facilitate effective implementation of the Convention.

16. At its twenty-first session, the CRIC undertook an assessment of information submitted by Parties as part of the 2022 UNCCD reporting process, especially progress indicators relating to strategic objectives 1 to 5, including a review of financial flows for the implementation of the Convention. The CRIC 21 report contains the conclusions and

recommendations of the CRIC on (a) strategic objectives 1 to 5; (b) implementation of voluntary land degradation neutrality (LDN) targets and related implementation efforts; (c) the progress report of the Intergovernmental Working Group on effective policy and implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD; (d) improving the procedures for communication as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the COP; (e) policy frameworks and thematic topics: sand and dust storms, drought, land tenure, and gender. While the conclusions and recommendations pertaining to the work of the Intergovernmental Working Group were reflected in the final report of the CRIC 21 session, they were forwarded to the group tasked with finalizing its work and presenting its findings to COP 16.

17. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the report of its twenty-first session and to formulate draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(21)/11–Report of the twenty-first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Samarkand from 13–17 November 2023  
 ICCD/CRIC(22)/8–Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

**(b) Multi-year workplan for Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies**

18. *Background:* By its decision 1/COP.15, the COP requested the secretariat and the Global Mechanism (GM) to prepare a multi-year workplan for the Convention (2025–2028), utilizing a results-based management approach. By its decision 10/COP.15, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to prepare results-based work programmes for the biennium 2025–2026.

19. In paragraph 15 (a) of the annex to decision 13/COP.13, the COP entrusted the review of the multi-year workplans of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies to the CRIC at sessions held in conjunction with the COP.

20. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the multi-year workplan for the Convention (2025–2028) as well as the relevant draft decision as included in document ICCD/COP(16)/22 which, following introduction at the CRIC, will be referred to and finalized by the budget contact group and, upon completion, forwarded for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

ICCD/COP(16)/6-ICCD/CRIC(22)/2–The multi-year workplan for the Convention (2025–2028) and two-year costed work programme for the Convention (2025–2026). Note by the secretariat  
 ICCD/COP(16)/22–Draft decisions for consideration at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat

**(c) Performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies**

21. *Background:* By its decision 10/COP.15, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report on the budget performance, using a results-based approach.

22. In the annex to decision 13/COP.13, the COP entrusted the review of the performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies, using a results-based management approach, to the CRIC at sessions held in conjunction with the COP.

23. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to assist the COP in the review of the performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies to foster the implementation of the Convention and to make any recommendations it may wish to forward to the COP for action. The relevant draft decision for this item is contained in document ICCD/COP(16)/22 entitled ‘draft decisions for consideration at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties’.

ICCD/CRIC(22)/3–Report on the performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies (2022–2024). Note by the secretariat

ICCD/COP(16)/22–Draft decisions for consideration at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat

**(d) Development and promotion of activities for targeted capacity-building to further the implementation of the Convention**

24. *Background:* By its decision 2/COP.15, the COP requested the secretariat to continue enhancing, subject to available resources and in keeping with its mandate, all measures to support the facilitation of capacity development for the effective implementation of the Convention.

25. The same decision also requested the secretariat, the Global Mechanism and the Science-Policy-Interface, subject to available resources and in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue the pursuit of partnerships, both formal and informal, by redoubling their efforts to encourage Parties, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to participate fully in the capacity-building process. They can achieve this by being active partners, especially in the areas of training, awareness-raising, drought mitigation, the achievement of LDN, and the gender-responsive and transformative implementation of the Convention’s objectives wherever possible, contributing to a better understanding of synergies and coherence among the Rio conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements, bearing in mind their respective mandates and goals;

26. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the report prepared by the secretariat as well as a draft decision relating to this agenda item contained in document ICCD/CRIC(22)/8, and to formulate a final draft decision for consideration by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(22)/6–Promotion of capacity-building to further the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8–Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

**3. Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties**

27. *Background:* As part of the agenda of CRIC 21, Parties have begun the review and assessment of the modalities and tools prepared by the Convention institutions to assist them in the 2022 UNCCD reporting process. The final report of CRIC 21 already contains several conclusions and recommendations highlighted by Parties for action to improve the UNCCD reporting process for future reporting rounds. After CRIC 21, the Bureaux of the CRIC and the CST have discussed necessary activities to prepare for the upcoming 2026 UNCCD reporting process, as well as activities which may help to develop a monitoring framework for the next strategic framework which Parties may wish to adopt after the expiry of the current one in 2030. Document ICCD/CRIC(22)/7 details further proposals of how to improve the reporting process, also taking into consideration the work of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) on the mid-term evaluation of the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the UNCCD.

28. A joint CRIC/CST plenary meeting dealing with this agenda item is tentatively scheduled for 4 December 2024. It is foreseen that, based on the proposals contained in the report of CRIC 21 and in document ICCD/CRIC(22)/7–ICCD/COP(16)/CST/8, an interactive dialogue will assist Parties in fine-tuning and clarifying pending issues related to improving the UNCCD reporting process. In order to prepare a draft decision for this agenda item, the CRIC Chair will also propose to Parties that a joint CRIC/CST contact group be established in line with past practice.

29. *Action:* The joint CRIC/CST Plenary will be invited to review the report prepared by the secretariat, engage in an information exchange on this topic, and review the draft decision as included in document ICCD/CRIC(22)/8/Add.1 for further consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(21)/11–Report of the twenty-first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Samarkand from 13 – 17 November 2023

ICCD/CRIC(22)/7-ICCD/COP(16)/CST/8–Improving procedures for the communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat

#### 4. Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms

##### (a) Report by the Global Environment Facility on the financing of programmes and projects concerning to desertification/land degradation and drought

30. *Background:* The Convention addresses the need to promote the mobilization of adequate, timely and predictable financial resources, including new and additional funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF). By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided to include, as a standing item on its agenda, a review of available information on the financing of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the GEF concerning desertification, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention.

31. The memorandum of understanding between the UNCCD and the GEF, adopted under decision 11/COP.13, provides that the GEF will prepare a report to be submitted to each regular session of the COP, through the UNCCD secretariat, on the financing of programmes and projects concerning desertification/land degradation and drought.

32. By its decision 9/COP.15, the COP invited the GEF to report on the implementation of this decision as part of its next report to the COP at its sixteenth session.

33. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the report prepared by the GEF as well as a draft decision relating to this agenda item contained in document ICCD/CRIC(22)/8 and to formulate a final draft decision for consideration by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(22)/4–Financing of programmes and projects concerning desertification, land degradation and drought. Report by the Global Environment Facility

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8/Add.1–Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Draft decision on cooperation with the Global Environment Facility.

##### (b) Update on the Global Support Programme to assist reporting by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

34. *Background:* By its decision 11/COP.14, Parties requested the secretariat and relevant stakeholders involved in UNCCD reporting to create an enabling environment for 2022 UNCCD reporting. This enabling environment was meant to ensure that targeted capacity-building activities and financial resources, particularly at national level, provided through the enabling funding opportunities of the GEF, would be in place to assist Parties during the reporting process. During the intersessional session of the CRIC at its twenty-first session, Parties reviewed the support provided and made concrete recommendations for future reporting processes.

35. Documents ICCD/CRIC(22)/7-ICCD/COP(16)/CST/8 and ICCD/CRIC(22)/6 include information on the provision of enabling activities as well as enabling funding.

36. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the reports prepared by the secretariat as well as draft recommendations relating to this agenda item contained in document

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8, engage in an interactive panel discussion session, and work with the CST to formulate a draft decision for consideration by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(22)/7–ICCD/COP(16)/CST/8–Improving procedures for the communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/CRIC(22)/6–Promotion of capacity-building to further the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8 –Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

(c) **Report by the Global Mechanism on progress made in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Convention and matters relating to Sustainable Development Goal 15.3**

37. *Background:* By its decision 13/COP.15, the COP requested the GM to continue supporting the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Convention and continue strengthening partnerships with relevant institutions and the private sector, facilitating the development of large-scale integrated landscape investment programmes and flagship initiatives. Furthermore, the GM was also requested to support countries' efforts in setting and/or refining targets for LDN, improving the enabling environment at national level, and supporting countries' work related to drought, integrated land use planning, engagement of the private sector and innovative solutions. Decision 13/COP.15 also requested the GM to develop a methodology, conduct a financial needs assessment for the implementation of the Convention, and develop a resource mobilisation strategy.

38. By its decision 3/COP15, the COP further requested the secretariat and the GM to continue supporting several aspects of the integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 into the implementation of the Convention and LDN, which are now being incorporated into this report.

39. *Action:* The CRIC will be invited to review the report prepared by the GM as well as draft recommendations relating to this agenda item contained in document ICCD/CRIC(22)/8, engage in an interactive panel discussion session, and formulate two draft decisions for consideration by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(22)/5–Progress made in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Convention and SDG 15.3 matters. Report by the Global Mechanism

ICCD/CRIC(22)/INF.1–Financial Needs Assessment for the Implementation of the Convention and associated resource mobilization strategy

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8–Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

**5. Procedural matters: Programme of work for the twenty-third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**

40. In accordance with rule 33 of the rules of procedures of the COP, the CRIC is to submit to the COP, for adoption, a tentative programme of work for the next session of the Committee.

41. The CRIC will be invited to review the draft decision relating to this agenda item contained in document ICCD/CRIC(22)/8 and to formulate a final draft decision for consideration by the COP.

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8–Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

## 6. Adoption of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

42. Background: Paragraph 4 of the Annex to decision 13/COP.13 states that the CRIC will report regularly to the COP on all aspects of its work, particularly through draft decisions prepared at the sessions held in conjunction with ordinary sessions of the COP, where necessary, for consideration and adoption by the COP. Such decisions will contain substantive elements aimed at facilitating the effective implementation of the Convention, including targets, as well as the assigned responsibilities and expected financial implications of their implementation, as necessary.

43. Action: The report of the CRIC on its twenty-second session, including draft decisions, where necessary, will be submitted to the COP for its consideration and, as appropriate, adoption.

ICCD/CRIC(21)/11–Report of the twenty-first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Samarkand from 13–17 November 2023

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8–Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/CRIC(22)/8/Add.1–Draft decisions for consideration at the twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Draft decision on cooperation with the Global Environment Facility



## Annex

## Tentative schedule of work for the twenty second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

Tuesday, 3 December 2024	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3 p.m.–6 p.m.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizational matters               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Adoption of the agenda and organization of work</i> (ICCD/CRIC(22)/1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Multi-year workplan for Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies</i></li> <li>- <i>Performance of Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies</i> (ICCD/COP(16)/6–ICCD/CRIC(22)/2, ICCD/CRIC(22)/3 and ICCD/COP/(22))</li> <li>- <i>Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its twenty-first session</i>  (ICCD/CRIC(21)11 and ICCD/CRIC(22)/8)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

Wednesday, 4 December 2024	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3 p.m.–6 p.m.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties  <i>Interactive dialogue</i> (ICCD/CRIC(22)/7–ICCD/COP(16)/CST/8 and ICCD/CRIC(22)/8)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Report by the Global Environment Facility on the financing of programmes and projects concerning desertification/land degradation and drought</i>  (ICCD/CRIC(22)/4 and ICCD/CRIC(22)/8/Add.1)</li> <li>- Update on the Global support Programme in support of UNCCD reporting  (ICCD/CRIC(22)/7 and ICCD/CRIC(22)/8)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Monday, 9 December 2024</b>	
<b>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m.–6 p.m.</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels <i>(continued)</i></li> <li>- <i>Development and promotion of activities for targeted capacity-building to further the implementation of the Convention</i></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(ICCD/CRIC(22)/6, ICCD/CRIC(22)/7– ICCD/COP(16)/CST/8 and ICCD/CRIC(22)/8)</i></p>

<b>Tuesday, 10 December 2024</b>	
<b>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m.–6 p.m.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms <i>(continued)</i></li> <li>- <i>Report by the Global Mechanism on progress made in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Convention and matters relating to Sustainable Development Goal 15.3.</i></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(ICCD/CRIC(22)/5, ICCD/CRIC(22)/INF.1, ICCD/CRIC(22)/8)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procedural matters – Programme of work for the twenty-third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention</li> <li>• Formulation of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</li> </ul>

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<b>Wednesday, 11 December 2024</b>	
<b>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m.–6 p.m.</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adoption of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention</li><li>• Organizational matters – Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention</li></ul>

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