United Nations

ICCD/CRIC(23)/7

Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.: General
3 September 2025

Original: English

Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
Twenty-third session
Panama City, 1–5 December 2025
Item 5 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of priorities for science–policy guidance

Consideration of priorities for science–policy guidance

Note by the secretariat

Summary

By its decision 20/COP.16, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided that the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) would take the scientific lead in the production of Global Land Outlook products and similar high-profile science-based flagship reports. By the same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to include in the agenda of each intersessional session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) an item for the consideration of priorities for science–policy guidance, with the aim of enabling Parties to provide feedback on the work of the SPI, with particular attention to contributing to the content of each flagship report.

This document summarizes the work of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology on the working modalities of the SPI for the biennium 2025–2026 and the substantive progress of the SPI on its current work programme. The document provides an update on the modalities of work for the future functioning of the SPI, which are currently under development, as well as the efforts of the secretariat and SPI to enhance the communication and diffusion of scientific knowledge.

It also contains some conclusions and recommendations for consideration by the CRIC at its twenty-third session.

Contents

I. Introduction

1. By its decision 23/COP.11, the Conference of the Parties (COP) established a Science-Policy Interface (SPI) to facilitate a two-way science-policy dialogue and ensure the delivery of policy-relevant information, knowledge and advice on desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) to all interested Parties. Over the 2022–2024 triennium, recommendations resulting from a review of the SPI as well as the Intergovernmental Working Group to Oversee the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework Midterm Evaluation Process (IWG-MTE) led to decision 20/COP.16, which established the SPI as a standing body and outlined the vision of Parties for the future functioning of the SPI to ensure the delivery of policy-relevant information, knowledge and advice, in a manner that is equitable and transparent, to support the implementation of the Convention, building on the mandate outlined in decisions 23/COP.11 and 19/COP.13 and refined in decisions 19/COP.14 and 19/COP.15.

2. By decision 21/COP.16 on the SPI work progamme for the biennium 2025–2026 as well as its update by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST)[1] mandated in the same decision, the SPI was requested by Parties to provide scientific leadership for the third edition of the Global Land Outlook (GLO 3), contribute to the development of procedures for fast-track assessments, and cooperate with other intergovernmental scientific bodies and panels.

3. By its decision 20/COP.16, the COP requested the secretariat to include in the agenda of each intersessional session of the Committee on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) an item for the consideration of priorities for science–policy guidance, with the aim of enabling Parties to provide feedback on the work of the SPI, with particular attention to contributing to the content of each flagship report. This document responds to this request for the twenty-third session of the CRIC.

4. Chapter II of this document provides an intersessional update on the working modalities of the Science-Policy Interface for the current biennium 2025–2026.

5. Chapter III of this document provides an intersessional update on the progress of the SPI midway through its 2025–2026 work programme.

6. Chapter IV of this document provides an intersessional update on progress made by the Bureau of the CST, with support from the secretariat, in developing the modalities of work for the post-2026 future functioning of the SPI.

7. Chapter V of this document provides an intersessional update on efforts by the secretariat to enhance the communication and diffusion of scientific knowledge relevant to the science agenda of the UNCCD.

8. Chapter VI of this document provides conclusions and recommendations.

II. Working modalities of the Science-Policy Interface for the current biennium 2025–2026

A. Staged renewal of membership

9. Following decision 20/COP.16, the 2025–2026 work programme of the SPI is serving as a transition programme from the one covering a single intersessional period (usually two years), where, in accordance with decisions 19/COP.13 and 19/COP.14, SPI membership is renewed in stages through a rotating system, to envisioned future SPI work programmes of a fixed duration of two intersessional periods (usually four years). In accordance with decision 20/COP.16, the staged renewal was aimed at completing the membership of the SPI to comprise thirty members and five observers, consisting of (a) the serving members of the CST Bureau; (b) fifteen independent scientists, selected through an open call; (c) five

[1] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/other/unccd-spi-work-programme-2025-2026.

independent early-career scientists selected from the same open call; (d) one independent scientist nominated from the same open call by each of the five United Nations regional groups; and (e) five observers: four representing the United Nations system organizations and other international organizations selected from an open call, and one representing civil society organizations nominated by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Civil Society Organizations Panel (CSO Panel);

10. To renew the SPI for the 2025–2026 biennium, the CST Bureau, in its meeting on 20 January 2025, extended invitations to current active and contributing SPI independent scientist members from the relevant categories listed in paragraph 9 to consider extending their commitment of service through the 2025–2026 biennium to capitalize on their experience, preserve institutional memory and harness their proven capabilities to achieve what has been mandated of the SPI effectively. In addition, the outgoing SPI independent scientist Co-Chair was invited by the CST Bureau to serve as a Special Advisor to the SPI to support the transition in SPI structure and function, as outlined in decision 20/COP.16.

11. To address the remaining gaps in SPI membership, the CST Bureau, with the support of the secretariat, launched an open call for independent scientists on 27 February 2025.[2] The open call was advertised on the UNCCD website and within relevant scientific networks.

12. Noting the findings suggesting the need for a more comprehensive approach to science contained in the report of the IWG-MTE[3] and in chapter 5.1.2 of the Report of the United Nations Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification for the year ended 31 December 2023,[4] the CST Bureau and the secretariat made a special effort to recruit qualified candidates from scientific domains traditionally less represented in SPI membership in the past, including the social sciences, economics as well as Indigenous and local knowledge.

13. The open call for SPI independent scientists, which closed on 26 March 2025, yielded 106 applications from 49 countries across all regions. The applications received were balanced across gender (58 per cent male; 42 per cent female) and career stage (26 per cent early career (≤ 6 years from PhD); 25 per cent mid-career (8–13 years from PhD; 50 per cent senior scientists (≥ 13 years from PhD). The CST Bureau noted the overall high quality of the applications in terms of scientific impact and experience in interfacing science and policy, as well as the disciplinary breadth of applications, covering a number of relevant scientific domains heretofore not represented in SPI membership.

14. The applications received were systematically reviewed by the CST Bureau in its meetings on 10 and 16 April 2025, taking into consideration the need for regional, gender and disciplinary balance, for scientific expertise and demonstrated scientific impact relevant to the SPI work programme, and for experience in interfacing science and policy, the criteria for SPI membership stipulated in decision 20/COP.16.

15. Following comprehensive discussions, the CST Bureau selected nine independent scientists to complete the independent scientist membership of the renewed SPI. The selections focused on scientific impact and experience in interfacing science and policy, while addressing gaps in the current disciplinary balance of the SPI, including the social sciences, economics and Indigenous and local knowledge. The gender parity of SPI membership was maintained, as was balance in the career stage. Of the nine selected independent scientists, two each are from the African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States, and Latin American and Caribbean States regional groups, and one is from the Western European and other States regional group, contributing to regional balance in SPI membership.

16. During this same timeframe, the CST Bureau also initiated an open call for observer organizations to enhance collaboration with United Nations and intergovernmental bodies. Four observer organizations were ultimately selected by the CST Bureau to serve on the SPI

---

[2] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/other/call-independent-scientists-serve-unccd-spi-closed-26-march-2025.

[3] See para. 50 of document ICCD/COP(16)/2.

[4] See https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/inline-files/2024-07-24%20BoA%20Report%20on%20UNCCD%20FY%202023%20-%20Signed.pdf.

over the 2025–2026 biennium, namely the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization, United Nations University (UNU) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Following past practice, the CSO Panel also nominated a representative to serve as an observer to the SPI.

17. These steps completed the staged renewal of the SPI for the 2025–2026 biennium. Further information about all members and observer representatives serving on the SPI is available on a dedicated UNCCD webpage.[5]

B. Mandated update of the work programme

18. Over the first quarter of 2025, following a period of consultation within the respective regions of CST Bureau members, the CST Bureau updated the provisionally adopted work programme of the SPI for the biennium 2025–2026 contained in the annex to decision 21/COP.16 according to the priorities listed in paragraph 1 of the same decision and according to decision 20/COP.16 on the future functioning of the SPI.[6]

19. The updated SPI work programme for the biennium 2025–2026 includes two objectives: (i) taking the scientific lead in the production of GLO 3; and (ii) completing activities necessary to provide feedback on the development of procedures for fast-track assessments and information products. It also includes coordination activities with the six other intergovernmental science bodies and panels listed in paragraph 32. The SPI's progress on both objectives and the coordination activities is summarized in chapter III of this report.

C. Allocating roles and responsibilities and facilitating collaborative work

20. During its 13–15 May 2025 virtual meeting, the SPI identified key leadership roles. Dr. Emma Archer was unanimously elected by SPI independent scientists to serve as SPI Co-Chair for the 2025–2026 biennium, ensuring continuity in SPI leadership.

21. During its 18–20 June 2025 physical meeting, the SPI discussed all governance documents[7] applicable to members, including the responsibilities involved in accepting the invitation to serve. These discussions covered common responsibilities as well as more particular contributions made by different categories of SPI membership (e.g. members of the CST Bureau, globally selected independent scientists, regionally nominated independent scientists, early career independent scientists, and representatives of observer organizations).

22. These two SPI meetings also led to the identification of SPI co-leads for both SPI objectives and all six coordination activities.

23. To ensure a structured process and timely completion of deliverables on its two objectives and its coordination activities, the SPI has established modalities for collective work, including the development of a collaborative virtual working space, the establishment of timelines, and the arrangement of task team virtual meetings.

III. Substantive progress of the Science-Policy Interface on its 2025–2026 work programme

A. Third edition of the Global Land Outlook (Objective 1)

24. As requested in decisions 20/COP.16 and 21/COP.16, the SPI, under its first objective, is taking the scientific lead in the production of GLO 3. Following guidance provided by the CST Bureau in their update of the 2025–2026 work programme,[8] the SPI, with the support of the secretariat, has allocated roles and responsibilities for the production of GLO 3. These

[5] See https://www.unccd.int/science/members.
[6] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/other/unccd-spi-work-programme-2025-2026.
[7] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/manuals-and-guides/spi-governance-documents.
[8] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/other/unccd-spi-work-programme-2025-2026.

responsibilities are linked to the scientific assessment and drafting of the GLO 3, promoting the report once published, and setting the foundation for future editions of the GLO, as follows:

(a) With respect to the substance of GLO 3, the SPI is (i) contributing to the scoping; (ii) leading the scientific authorship; (iii) assuring quality assurance and review editing to ensure the scientific integrity of the GLO; and (iv) serving on the steering committee to ensure the process is carried out effectively;

(b) With respect to communication, the SPI (i) is collaborating on communication planning; and (ii) will contribute to communication and promotion of the report when published;

(c) Regarding preparations for future editions of the GLO, the SPI is assisting the CST Bureau and the secretariat by (i) contributing to the development of future GLO procedures;[9] (ii) providing inputs to a feasibility study to identify ways of ensuring adequate technical support for the SPI; and (iii) providing inputs necessary for a costing analysis of all dimensions of future flagship report development.

25. During its 13–15 May 2025 and 18–20 June 2025 meetings, the SPI approached the scoping process for the GLO 3 cognizant of the compressed schedule for its envisioned launch at the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17). With the support of the secretariat, the SPI completed the scoping of GLO 3, developed an annotated outline of the report and assigned roles of coordinating lead authors as well as lead authors and contributing authors for each chapter[10] among SPI members. The SPI also initiated the scientific assessment underpinning the GLO 3 as well as an analysis of past DLDD projects for case study identification and began drafting the first order draft of the report.

26. During the scoping process, the SPI further emphasized the need to build on the foundations laid by GLO 1 and GLO 2 by adopting a systems-based land–water–people nexus approach, placing human security at its centre. The SPI stressed the importance of an evidence-based report that would communicate well while integrating complex social, ecological and governance dimensions into a coherent framework. From these discussions, the aim of GLO 3 is to deliver science-based, actionable guidance to strengthen drought resilience while addressing land degradation and water governance challenges that threaten food, health, livelihoods, and societal stability, ultimately to build resilience to stressors, including climate risks.

27. The GLO 3 outline developed by the SPI integrates ecological, social, economic and institutional resilience and seeks to offer pathways for scaling transformative land and water management solutions, thereby building resilience to climate change risks and other stressors globally. The GLO 3 is grounded in a comprehensive analysis of land-based interventions to identify practical regional and national examples and proven case studies to enhance the relevance of the GLO to and its uptake by policymakers. Furthermore, GLO 3 will introduce actionable, evidence-based policy options and clear implementation pathways that national and local stakeholders can adopt.

B. Procedures development for fast-track assessments (Objective 2)

28. As requested by decision 20/COP.16 on the future functioning of the SPI and decision 21/COP.16 on the SPI work programme for the 2025–2026 biennium, as updated by the CST Bureau,[11] the SPI, under its second objective, is completing the activities necessary to provide feedback on the development of procedures for fast-track assessments, information products

[9] Based on established procedures that have been developed and approved under other intergovernmental panels and bodies, including the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the United Nations Environment Programme Global Environmental Outlook (UNEP-GEO).

[10] Similar to IPBES, IPCC and UNEP-GEO processes.

[11] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/other/unccd-spi-work-programme-2025-2026.

and advice in response to requests from the Bureaux of the COP, the CRIC and the CST as well as from the secretariat and the Global Mechanism.

29. During its 18–20 June 2025 meeting, the SPI discussed potential pathways forward on establishing procedures for fast-track assessments in collaboration with the Science, Technology and Innovation and the Global Policy, Advocacy and Regional Cooperation units of the secretariat as well as the Global Mechanism. The pathway selected for the SPI's work on this objective led to the establishment of an action-oriented learning process so that the procedures can be developed formatively through experiential learning and through practice and application. The process involves the secretariat, Global Mechanism and the SPI:

(a) Exploring the experiences of other organizations that have established fast-track assessment and information product development processes;

(b) Piloting the development of a fast-track assessment and information product on a topic proposed by the secretariat and Global Mechanism and documenting the process as an input to the development of procedures.

30. With respect to the experiences of other organizations, the SPI Co-Chair and the secretariat met with GRID-Arendal, a partner of the United Nations Environment Programme with 17 years of experience in the development of rapid response information products involving the transformation of environmental data into innovative, science-based information products.[12] This discussion focused on balancing the need for scientific rigour with the urgency behind requests. It underscored the importance of developing a fast-track framework that will:

(a) Standardize the process for submitting requests;

(b) Ensure characterization of the context and need behind each request;

(c) Establish approval criteria and a flexible approval process;

(d) Lead to the allocation of resources to support the response to each request;

(e) Allow for collaboration with scientific experts both within and outside of the SPI;

(f) Permit collaboration, as appropriate, with other scientific bodies and panels, and further help ensure the scientific integrity of the products; and

(g) Define a fit-for-purpose (by request) and accelerated review and clearance process commensurate with the nature and urgency of each request as well as the resources and timeline available for response.

31. With respect to the piloting of a fast-track assessment, the secretariat, the Global Mechanism and the SPI agreed upon a general topic for the pilot: sand and dust storms (SDS). To engage top scientific experts on SDS outside of the SPI, the SPI co-leads for objective 2 have initiated the development of a commentary publication which will focus on (i) how SDS warning advisory and assessment systems can be improved to help countries better mitigate the risk of and respond to SDS; (ii) where the gaps are; and (iii) how this may translate into targeted, action-oriented responses. The intention of the SPI is to build on the scientific assessment work being done for the commentary publication in the development of a fast-track information product that is responsive to the needs of the UNCCD.

C. Coordination activities

32. Following decision 20/COP.16, the SPI is coordinating with other intergovernmental science–policy bodies outlined in its 2025–2026 work programme, as updated by the CST Bureau.[13] During its 13–15 May 2025 and 18–20 June 2025 meetings, the SPI reviewed the coordination activities outlined its work programme, including with the:

[12] See https://www.grida.no/activities/358.

[13] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/other/unccd-spi-work-programme-2025-2026.

(a) Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);

(b) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);

(c) Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils;

(d) International Resource Panel of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(e) Global Land Indicators Initiative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme; and

(f) Integrated Drought Management Programme, a joint initiative of the World Meteorological Organization and the Global Water Partnership.

33. Following this review, the SPI set up a task team for all coordination activities and identified co-leads for each, noting that five of the coordination activities involved scientific review and collaboration in scientific events scheduled to begin in 2026. The SPI also noted that it planned on summarizing key messages relevant to the UNCCD from two IPBES assessments, which would be a major activity for the SPI over the entire 2025–2026 biennium. These assessments include:

(a) IPBES Thematic Assessment Report on the Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health (nexus assessment);[14] and

(b) IPBES Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity (transformative change assessment).[15]

34. The SPI assessed the scope and complexity of both IPBES assessment reports, with appreciation for their rich content and critical insights on interlinkages between land, water, and people in the context of environmental change. They noted the nexus assessment’s key messages on past and current negative outcomes due to intensified indirect drivers, future substantial negative impacts if current trends continue, and the need for considering synergies and trade-offs across the nexus for global policy goals. They also noted the strategies for achieving transformative change introduced in the transformative change assessment, such as reforming subsidies and financial systems, supporting Indigenous and local knowledge systems, promoting social innovation and participatory governance, promoting education and civic engagement, and implementing adaptive, inclusive policy frameworks.

35. Over the 2025–2026 biennium, the SPI is focused on extracting practical, policy-relevant messages from the IPBES nexus assessment and transformative change assessment that are relevant to UNCCD Parties, while acknowledging gaps in addressing key concepts like sustainable land management, land use planning, and land degradation neutrality (LDN), focusing on the role of land with respect to water, food, health, biodiversity and climate change. The SPI is emphasizing the importance of bridging science, policy, and practice, calling for more accessible communication, local relevance, and actionable guidance related to these important themes.

IV. Developing the modalities of work for the future functioning of the Science-Policy Interface

36. Following decision 20/COP.16, the CST Bureau, with the support of the secretariat, is developing the modalities of work for the future functioning of the SPI post-COP 17. At the level of governance of the membership of each individual serving on the SPI, this includes an ongoing process of reviewing and, as appropriate, updating the terms of reference for members and observers and associated governance documents.[16]

[14] See https://www.ipbes.net/nexus-assessment.
[15] See https://www.ipbes.net/transformative-change-assessment.
[16] See https://www.unccd.int/resources/manuals-and-guides/spi-governance-documents.

37. Also following decision 20/COP.16, the Bureau of the CST, with the support of the secretariat, is in the process of developing, for the consideration of CST at its seventeenth session (CST 17):

(a) The procedure for receiving and prioritizing requests put to the SPI for its work programme, including thematic assessments forming the basis of future GLO products or similar flagship reports;

(b) Procedures for the preparation of flagship reports, including scoping of report outlines, which will include provisions for considering Parties' views, thematic assessments of scientific as well as Indigenous and traditional knowledge, independent scientific reviews, and the preparation and approval by the CST of summaries for policymakers; and

(c) Procedures for the development of fast-track assessments, information products and advice in response to requests from the Bureaux of the COP, the CRIC and the CST as well as from the secretariat and the Global Mechanism.

38. Further following decision 20/COP.16, the secretariat is:

(a) Conducting a costing analysis to provide estimates of the financial implications associated with implementing the procedures listed in paragraph 37 (a)–(c) above;

(b) Preparing a feasibility study to identify ways of ensuring adequate technical support for the SPI, including the possible use of an external technical support unit(s) provided by partners, in similar manner to those supporting IPCC and IPBES assessments.

V. Enhancing the communication and diffusion of scientific knowledge

39. Following decision 20/COP.16, the secretariat is continuing to ensure that SPI products are supported by a comprehensive and innovative communication strategy. In support of this effort, the secretariat, with input from the SPI, is developing a comprehensive communication plan aimed at increasing the visibility and understanding of the SPI's work and its relevance to global efforts to combat land degradation. The communication plan outlines several key objectives, which are prioritized to align with the SPI's overarching goals of promoting clear science on DLDD and enhancing the recognition of the SPI's contributions. The primary focus is on informing and influencing policies and initiatives among Parties. The communication plan also seeks to elevate the SPI's profile within the scientific community and among the general public, fostering a greater appreciation for the critical work being done to achieve LDN and other strategic objectives of the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

40. Subject to the availability of funds, the secretariat plans to organize a media training session in the run-up to COP 17 to build the capacity of SPI members in their interaction with the media, an approach which had significant impact in the run up to COP 16.

41. The SPI is also supporting the secretariat and the Global Mechanism in ensuring that other UNCCD communication products are based on sound science, as appropriate.

42. Decision 20/COP.16 also called upon the regional groups and Regional Implementation Annexes to support and strengthen existing or newly established regional scientific networks/institutions. It requested the secretariat to support the interaction of such regional scientific networks/institutions with the SPI for the provision of scientific advice stemming from its work. By the same decision, Parties were encouraged to ensure that DLDD issues are integrated into existing or newly established national science-policy committees and promote their interaction with regional scientific networks/institutions.

43. Following decision 4/COP.16, one of the potential key elements for a post-2030 strategic framework for the UNCCD that may be considered by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Future Strategic Framework of the Convention (IWG-FSF) is the decision 7/COP.16 invitation to Parties to develop and implement measures to advance the implementation of the Convention at the national, subregional and regional levels. One approach that the IWG-FSF may wish to explore is the technical and scientific cooperation

mechanism established by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework under CBD decision 15/8.[17] Additional information on regional-level technical backstopping is provided in document ICCD/CRIC(23)/2, and document ICCD/CRIC(23)/4 provides the interim report of the IWG-FSF.

44. Decision 20/COP.16 also included a request for the CST Bureau, with the support of the secretariat and input of the SPI, to collaborate with appropriate secretariats of other scientific bodies and panels, acting within their respective mandates, to explore the creation of a Global Science-Policy Alliance on Land. The secretariat is working with the COP 16 Presidency and UNU to develop a consultative and formative approach to explore ways to enhance coordination, coherence and collective impact among appropriate international land-focused scientific bodies and panels.

VI. Conclusions and recommendations

45. Since CRIC 23 is an intersessional session and therefore not producing draft decision text, this section of the report highlights key points and proposals for Parties' consideration. Following the adoption of the final report of CRIC 23, draft decision text on this agenda item will be prepared in time for CRIC 24 and CST 17.

46. CRIC 23 offers a dynamic opportunity for Parties to provide feedback on the work by the SPI and contribute to the content and development of GLO 3, which corresponds to SPI objective 1. To this end, a panel of GLO 3 authors has been organized to facilitate thematic dialogue between Parties and the SPI regarding the policy implications of the preliminary scientific insights in the first order draft of GLO 3. This science–policy interactive dialogue at CRIC 23 will support efforts by the SPI to ensure the relevance of the report and aid in the formulation of concise and actionable policy options. The organization of work for this interactive dialogue is intended to facilitate this science–policy exchange, and the inputs received by the SPI will be considered in the development of the second order draft of the report, including key messages and policy options for consideration at CST 17.

47. Regarding SPI objective 2, in the run-up to COP 17, the SPI, with support of the secretariat, is planning to complete the pilot for fast-track assessment and develop an information product as part of its contribution to the development of procedures for future fast-track assessments for consideration by Parties at CST 17.

48. With respect to the SPI's coordination activities, the work on the analysis of the IPBES nexus assessment and transformative change assessment will lead to the development of key messages and policy options for consideration at CST 17.

[17] See: https://www.cbd.int/tsc/tscm.