Decision 2/COP.17

Promotion of capacity-building to further the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 19 of the Convention,

Noting decisions 3/COP.8, 1/COP.9, 1/COP.10, 22/COP.10, 1/COP.11, 3/COP.12, 13/COP.12, 7/COP.13, 8/COP.13, 2/COP.14, 2/COP.15 and 2/COP.16,

Restating the importance of capacity-building for the effective implementation of the Convention,

Recognizing the contribution of appropriate, community-based, replicable and locally adapted innovations and practices that contribute to sustainable land management, land restoration, drought resilience, and combating sand and dust storms,

Having considered document ICCD/CRIC(24)/3 and its conclusions and recommendations,

Acknowledging the work done by the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, in collaboration with relevant partners, to facilitate and implement targeted capacity-building to further the implementation of the Convention,

Welcoming the efforts of Parties, international organizations and institutions, civil society organizations, academia, the private sector and other Convention stakeholders in support of capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention,

Taking note of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors concerning the role of the Convention as a bridge between science and policy, including the importance of capacity-building, knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, partnerships and innovation,

Acknowledging the potential interlinkages between capacity-building and other means of implementation and the importance of addressing them in a coherent and integrated manner,

1. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, within their respective mandates and subject to the availability of financial resources, and in collaboration with the Group of 20 Global Land Initiative, other related initiatives, relevant multilateral environmental agreements, international organizations and other external partners, maximizing efficiency and avoiding duplications, to continue to provide demand-driven capacity-building, taking into account the discussions among Parties at the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Also requests* the secretariat to consult Parties on an outline for the capacity-building strategy, as requested in decision 2/COP.16, paragraph 4 (a), and prepare a draft for discussion at the twenty-fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and further consideration at the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to mainstreaming capacity-building across Convention institutions and associated initiatives, updating relevant action plans, strengthening coordination, monitoring and impact-oriented delivery, and supporting alignment, as appropriate, with the post-2030 strategic framework of the Convention;

3. *Further requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, within their respective mandates and subject to the availability of financial resources, and in collaboration with initiatives such as the Group of 20 Global Land Initiative and the International Drought Resilience Alliance, relevant international entities, regional institutions, scientific and technical partners and other relevant stakeholders, to continue strengthening partnership-based capacity-building and technical cooperation;

4. *Invites* Parties and technical and scientific cooperation and capacity-building mechanisms under relevant multilateral environmental agreements, within their respective mandates, to promote coordination and collaboration in capacity-building activities for implementing this Convention, leveraging existing expertise and resources and avoiding duplication;

5. *Requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, within their respective mandates, subject to the availability of financial resources and in collaboration with relevant regional and technical partners, to assess lessons learned from the regional support architecture established for the 2026 reporting process, consult with Parties and stakeholders on the most useful components from the support provided by the support hubs and technical advisory institutions during the 2026 reporting process and on future options for context-specific and decentralized capacity-building, while ensuring complementarity with Convention institutions and partners and avoiding the creation of parallel structures, without limiting Parties' access to direct technical support from the secretariat, and prepare consolidated options for consideration by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its twenty-fifth session;

6. *Also requests* the secretariat, within its mandate and subject to the availability of financial resources, to support Parties in capacity-building for knowledge management and dissemination;

7. *Encourages* Parties to make full use of tools, guidance and capacity-building opportunities developed under the Convention and associated initiatives and relevant organizations, including those related to national reporting, land degradation neutrality, drought resilience, sand and dust storms, sustainable land management and land restoration, and to identify remaining capacity gaps and priority areas for further support according to national circumstances with the understanding that the use of digital tools is not always mandatory;

8. *Invites* Parties, in line with articles 5, 6 and 20 of the Convention, and taking into account the recommendations from the Resource Mobilization Toolbox as appropriate, to mobilize resources for capacity-building activities that assist Parties in the implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional levels;

9. *Requests* the secretariat to report on progress in the implementation of this decision at the next session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention held in conjunction with the Conference of the Parties.

14th plenary meeting
28 August 2026