Decision 3/COP.17

Progress made in the mobilization of resources and financial flows for the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Framework

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Invites* Parties, in line with articles 5, 6 and 20, and annex I, article 4 of the Convention, taking into account the recommendations from the Resource Mobilization Toolbox, (i) to mobilize resources for the implementation of the Convention, (ii) to consider a comprehensive approach, including through traditional and innovative financial instruments and strengthening the operational capacity of the Global Mechanism to allow it to respond to growing demand from country Parties, and (iii) to invest in Global Mechanism-developed initiatives;

2. *Encourages* Parties' efforts to translate the recommendations contained in their national drought plans and other drought-related policy instruments into concrete investment and support plans, programmes and projects, and to integrate these into national development plans;

3. *Invites* Parties that are members of the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership to further develop the Partnership to support its establishment and operationalization, including its Readiness Fund, Investment Facility and Knowledge Bank, and to engage with the Partnership in the development of investable projects for drought resilience;

4. *Also invites* Parties to consider the adoption of the Global Implementation Initiative on Sand and Dust Storms, focused on the Convention's mandate of land and source management;

Action by the Global Mechanism

5. *Requests* the Global Mechanism, subject to the availability of financial resources, to support the roll-out of the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme 2.0 to additional country Parties, giving priority to those currently on the waiting list;

6. *Invites* the Global Mechanism, subject to the availability of resources, to intensify its collaboration with bilateral partners, regional organizations, multilateral development banks and international financial institutions, with a view to developing multi-country, large-scale projects and programmes for the implementation of the Convention;

7. *Requests* the Global Mechanism, subject to the availability of financial resources, and in collaboration with relevant financial and technical partners, to:

(a) Finalize the development of a time-bound strategy to increase fund mobilization based on the financial needs assessment of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in order to support Parties in the implementation of the Convention in accordance with decision 13/COP 15;

(b) Also finalize the development and deployment of the financing toolbox for resource mobilization, including guidelines on national needs assessments and on financing strategies, sources and mechanisms;

(c) Taking into consideration the outcomes of the 2026 national reporting process of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, revise and update the financial needs assessment of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, as required, based on the submission of additional and refined targets and plans, and using tools to overcome data gaps to further inform the Global Mechanism's resource mobilization strategy;

(d) Further collaborate with other institutions with relevant expertise in this field to assist the Parties to elaborate resource mobilization strategies;

(e) Incorporate the results of the 2026 reporting cycle and related case studies into the financing toolbox;

(f) Support country Parties in forging targeted partnerships to mobilize technical and financial support for projects and programmes on drought resilience, and to leverage finance through relevant mechanisms and initiatives, including the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership and the International Drought Resilience Alliance;

(g) Advance innovative financing mechanisms for land restoration and drought resilience, including the Drought Resilience Investment Facility, resilience credits, parametric and index-based insurance products, and performance-based financing instruments, and explore additional opportunities for emerging thematic priorities;

(h) Contribute to building country Parties' capacities to strengthen, in their national context, intersectoral coordination with relevant sectors, policies and plans;

(i) Promote increased coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of enabling activities of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification through a more programmatic approach, in collaboration with country Parties, the Global Environment Facility Secretariat and the Global Environment Facility agencies;

(j) Continue to strengthen existing and seek new partnerships that enhance the implementation of the Convention;

(k) Demonstrate integrated decision-support tools that link voluntary land degradation neutrality target-setting and drought resilience with investment decision-making;

(l) Accelerate efforts to support private sector engagement and promote innovation, including through the implementation of the Private Sector Engagement Strategy 2021–2030 and the further development of the Business4Land Initiative;

(m) Continue the development and operationalization of the Global Implementation Initiative on Sand and Dust Storms, working with the secretariat and interested Parties and partners through support for land-focused monitoring, source stabilization, science–policy integration, and coordination and capacity-building, including transboundary cooperation, in support of the United Nations Decade on Combating Sand and Dust Storms (2025–2034);

8. Invites the Global Mechanism, subject to the availability of resources, to collaborate with the Evaluation Office of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to commission a comprehensive independent evaluation of the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund to inform and guide the operationalization of the Drought Resilience Investment Facility;

9. *Also requests* the Global Mechanism to report to future sessions 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