Decision 30/COP.17

Programme of work for the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification,

Noting decisions 9/COP.1, 2/COP.2, 4/COP.3, 5/COP.4, 5/COP.5, 29/COP.6, 30/COP.7, 27/COP.8, 35/COP.9, 38/COP.10, 39/COP.11, 34/COP.12, 35/COP.13, 32/COP.14, 33/COP.15 and 36/COP.16 on its programme of work,

Taking into consideration the relevant decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session,

1. *Decides* to include the following items on the agenda of its eighteenth session and, if necessary, its nineteenth session:

(a) 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

(i) Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;

(ii) Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;

(b) Post-2030 strategic framework of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;

(c) Promoting and strengthening relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies;

(d) Policy frameworks and thematic issues, including the sub-items: migration, gender, sand and dust storms, land tenure, and rangelands and pastoralists;

(e) Policy framework: drought;

(f) Programme and budget for the biennium 2029–2030;

(g) Procedural matters:

(i) Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;

(ii) Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and business engagement strategy;

2. *Also decides* to include interactive dialogue sessions with relevant stakeholders, including ministers, civil society organizations, the business community, the scientific community and members of parliament, on agenda items of relevance to them;

3. *Further decides* to convene all four caucuses, while observing geographical representation;

4. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to:

(a) Invite Parties to make submissions on possible ways to increase the effectiveness and time-efficiency of processes and ways of working of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, without prejudice to the rules of procedures and their terms of reference, respectively;

(b) Consult Parties on a consolidated list of these submissions to be considered by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its twenty-fifth session, as appropriate;

(c) Prepare a report on these consultations, in consultation with the Bureaux, to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth session under agenda item 1 (g);

5. *Also requests* the secretariat to prepare an annotated provisional agenda, in agreement with the President of the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, taking into consideration provisions contained in the relevant decisions taken during that conference and all the agenda items above;

6. *Further requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to continue the implementation of all Conference of the Parties decisions related to the agenda items above, including relevant action plans, and to present for consideration at the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties the reports on progress made;

7. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate, in all official languages at least six weeks prior to the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, appropriate documentation for that session, reflecting the decisions contained in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 above;

8. *Also requests* the secretariat to circulate, in all official languages at least six weeks prior to the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, one document for each governing body (Conference of the Parties, Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, Committee on Science and Technology) with all respective draft decisions prepared for Parties' consideration and further adoption and to ensure that the draft decisions are clearly written and properly formatted.

14th plenary meeting
28 August 2026