



UNCCD MANDATE ON GENDER

The Convention: obliges parties to promote awareness and participation of local populations, particularly women and youth, in efforts to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought (Art.5); calls for the effective participation at local, national and regional levels, of both women and men, in policy planning, decision-making and implementation and review of national action programmes (Art 10); calls for capacity-building for women and girls to meet their needs (Art 19); and for coordination of activities with UNFCCC and CBD (Art.8).

Decision 3/COP.8: Parties are requested to include women in advocacy, awareness raising and education in the implementation of the 10-Year Strategy.

Decision 8/COP.9: In the context of promoting and strengthening relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies, the Executive Secretary is requested to generate a gender-sensitive thematic advocacy policy framework to support an enabling environment for NAP implementation.

Decision 9/COP.10: requests the Executive Secretary to take gender-sensitive approaches into account on the thematic issue of drought (including water scarcity) and include a review and assessment of the decision at COP11 and COP 12.

Decision 9/COP.11: takes note of the advocacy policy framework on gender and requests the Executive Secretary to facilitate mainstreaming of gender issues at various levels involving multiple stakeholders and to use the framework to ensure harmonization, alignment and mutual reinforcement of UNCCD objectives and principles.

The **Namib Declaration** takes note of the outcomes of the first Gender Day, underlines that women are critical in achieving the Convention's Strategic Objectives and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for their empowerment in decision-making and access to knowledge and material resources for the women



affected by DLDD. Parliamentarians call for targeted capacity-building, including women's empowerment.

Decision 3/COP.12: In the context of integrating SDGs in UNCCD work and with regard to the IWG report on land degradation neutrality, underscores the importance of addressing the wider elements of the 2030 Agenda, including empowering women, as well as ending poverty and hunger which are particularly relevant to women.

Decision 7/COP.12 decides that IWG-FSF will take the text of the Convention and developments under and synergies with the Rio Conventions into consideration in its work on the future strategic framework of the Convention, and to present its findings to CRIC15. Parties at CRIC 15 stressed the need to clearly articulate the issues of women in the strategic objectives on the living conditions of affected populations.

Also at COP 12, the **Ministers** declared their dedication to promote gender equality and the role of women as actors of change in addressing desertification, land degradation and drought, and to support policy measures and reforms to enhance these efforts, including strengthening of tenure security, equal access and user rights for women and men. **Parliamentarians** called for partnerships with women's organizations for the achievement of LDN and for sensitization of the public about SDGs, including through best practices of women's empowerment.

The **Ankara Initiative** commits to support willing countries to strengthen secure tenure and resource rights for women in LDN implementation. **Civil society**, drew attention to the outcomes of Gender Day and underlined: the need to address inequality of men and women, particularly in the drylands; called for action to collective land rights, including those of women as a first step in addressing community-based management systems and land degradation, and to restore land; and called for equitable access and rights to land by men and women, especially for vulnerable and indigenous peoples in order to eradicate poverty.

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