

## Decision 11/COP.11

### Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* articles 5, 6, 20 and 21 of the Convention,

*Also recalling* decisions 2/COP.10, 9/COP.10, 11/COP.10, 14/COP.10 and 31/COP.10,

*Further recalling* decisions 9/COP.4, 9/COP.5, 6/COP.6, 6/COP.7, 6/COP.8 and 10/COP.9,

*Recalling* the Instrument of the Global Environment Facility as amended by the fourth Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, stating that it shall be available to serve as a financial mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

*Acknowledging* the reforms during the current fifth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-5) to support the implementation of the Convention by affected country Parties, including for enabling activities,

*Mindful* of the upcoming sixth replenishment of resources of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund,

*Noting* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) relating to desertification, land degradation and drought and the need for the Global Environment Facility to take additional steps within its mandate for the implementation of the UNCCD,

*Taking note* of document ICCD/COP(11)/21,

*Having considered* the report of the Global Environment Facility, contained in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/6,

*Noting* the need to update the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and the Global Environment Facility,

1. *Invites* the donors to the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility to strive for a robust replenishment of resources, including for the Land Degradation Focal Area;
2. *Calls on* Parties to align their programming of Global Environment Facility resources at the national level, taking into account the priorities of subregional and regional action programmes to justify additional support for collaborative actions at the regional level;
3. *Invites* Parties to utilize Global Environment Facility financial resources in their implementation of activities geared towards the objectives of the Convention, taking into account the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) relating to desertification, land degradation and drought, including the potential for harnessing synergies through the use of relevant Global Environment Facility incentive mechanisms across the various focal areas;
4. *Also invites* the Global Environment Facility, during its sixth replenishment period, to support national-level capacity development for affected country Parties, as appropriate,

to take coordinated action at the national, regional and international level to monitor globally land degradation and restore degraded lands in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, if requested and among other activities;

5. *Encourages* eligible country Parties to make use of the Global Environment Facility programme on capacity development to support the capacity needs in relation to the Rio conventions;

6. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to consider promoting the involvement of the private sector to generate multiple global environmental benefits and improve livelihoods, through country-driven sustainable land management initiatives and programmes;

7. *Also invites* eligible Parties that have yet to request Global Environment Facility resources for UNCCD enabling activities to do so, bearing in mind that GEF-5 phase ends in June 2014, after which these resources will no longer be available;

8. *Further invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue to simplify and clarify the procedures for accessing the funding for the implementation of the Convention, including for the alignment of national action programmes with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) and for timely reporting;

9. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue its efforts to inform and build the capacity of eligible country Parties on the procedures mentioned in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Requests* the secretariats of the Global Environment Facility and the UNCCD to engage in consultations on harmonizing the disbursement of funding for enabling activities with the deadlines for the alignment and the reporting and review process;

11. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue raising awareness of UNCCD issues, including through its communication strategy;

12. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility, to prepare draft amendments to the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and the Global Environment Facility and to report on the proposed draft amendments to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on this matter.

*10<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting  
27 September 2013*