

Decision 8/COP.11

Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

1. *Decides* to establish an intergovernmental working group to: (1) establish a science-based definition of land degradation neutrality in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas; (2) develop options relating to arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas that Parties might consider should they strive to achieve land degradation neutrality; and (3) advise the Convention on the implications for its current and future strategy, programmes and the resource requirements;
2. *Also decides* that this intergovernmental working group will consist of a maximum of five representatives from each region, nominated by the respective regional groups on the basis of nominations by national Governments;
3. *Further decides* that, in undertaking this work, the intergovernmental working group should also take note of the following, inter alia:
 - (a) The ongoing process of elaborating the post-2015 development agenda, including, inter alia, the discussions in the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals called for at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Relevant economic studies and work undertaken by the Science-Policy Interface, as appropriate;
 - (c) The importance of identifying synergies to avoid duplication among the Rio conventions, other international bodies, and agencies addressing environment and development issues;
4. *Resolves* that the intergovernmental working group should report periodically on its progress to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties;
5. *Also resolves* that the intergovernmental working group should prepare a report to be submitted to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties no later than 60 days before the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties and that this report should be sent for consideration by the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention prior to the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties;
6. *Decides* that the intergovernmental working group and its activities should be funded through voluntary contributions earmarked for this purpose;
7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision.