



Resolution of the Interim arrangement

4 July 1994

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN  
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES  
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Fifth Session

Paris 6-17 June 1994

Agenda item 2

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Resolutions on interim arrangements and on urgent action for Africa

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Note by the Secretariat

Advance texts of the resolutions on interim measures and on urgent action for Africa adopted by the INCD at its fifth session, on 17 June 1994, are attached. These resolutions will be annexed to the report of the INCD's fifth session together with the final text of the Convention.

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Resolution on urgent action for Africa

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Having adopted the text of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Considering the priority given to Africa in the Convention and the need for urgent measures to be taken during the period between the adoption of the Convention and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, consistent with the objectives of the Convention,

Considering the significant activities already being undertaken by affected African countries with the support of the international community, consistent with the objectives of the Convention,



Considering further the desirability of initiating without delay the implementation of further measures consistent with the objectives of the Convention in and with the affected African countries and of continuing to pursue or strengthen, where necessary, such measures where they are already in place,

Acknowledging with appreciation the preparatory and ongoing work carried out by affected African countries and the assistance provided by a number of countries, by multilateral organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Sahelian Office (UNDP/UNSO), the African Development Bank (ADB), and intergovernmental organizations, including the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and non-governmental organizations.

1. Encourages all countries to disseminate information and promote education and public awareness about the objectives of the Convention;
2. Invites the affected African countries to take urgent steps, in particular, to prepare national and subregional action programmes or, where action programmes exist, such as National Environmental Action Plans, to review and improve them, if necessary, and implement them, consistent with the objectives of the Convention;
3. Invites the developed countries to provide support to the affected African countries in such actions, including those in capacity-building;
4. Invites international and multilateral organizations, particularly UNDP, including UNSO, UNEP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Bank, to provide support and mobilize necessary resources for the implementation of the present resolution;
5. Invites African subregional and regional organizations, particularly the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the Preferential Trade Area (PTA), the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Arab Maghreb Union (UMA), the African Development Bank (ADB) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), to provide support for the implementation of this resolution;
6. Invites private-sector organizations, including relevant non-governmental organizations, to provide support and mobilize necessary resources for such actions by the affected African countries;



7. Recommends that the affected African countries designate coordinating bodies at the national and subregional levels, if necessary, and at the regional level for the implementation of this resolution;
8. Recommends, as priority, the establishment, at national and subregional levels, in the affected African countries, of partnership arrangements with the relevant developed countries, intergovernmental regional economic organizations, non- governmental organizations and representatives of the affected local populations to facilitate the coordination of activities, to be initiated by the individual African country concerned;
9. Recommends also that such partnership arrangement should inter alia:
  - (a) Provide support to proposals in the preparation of national, subregional and, to the extent possible, regional action programmes of the affected African countries;
  - (b) Where national action programmes exist, review them and consider action that may be needed to improve or reorientate them, as necessary;
  - (c) Improve coordination of effort at the national, subregional and regional levels, taking into account those programmes and projects to combat desertification that are in progress, including those supported by the international community;
  - (d) Provide support for the implementation of specific project proposals within the context of national, subregional and regional action programmes;
10. Invites the developed countries and the international and multilateral organizations, agencies and programmes to provide enabling funds to support the partnership arrangements referred to in paragraph 7 above;
11. Invites the affected African countries to provide information at the time of signing the Convention, on the actions that they have taken or propose to take, during the interim period, for the implementation of this resolution;
12. Invites the developed countries, subregional, regional, international multilateral organizations and United Nations agencies and programmes as well as those countries that may provide assistance on a voluntary basis, to provide information, at the time of signing the Convention, on the actions that they have taken or propose to take, including the provision of financial and other resources, during the interim period, for the implementation of the present resolution;
13. Invites also the affected African countries to propose, as appropriate, additional measures to be taken at the subregional and regional levels in support of national actions;



14. Requests the interim secretariat to the Convention to facilitate the implementation of the present resolution, consistent with the responsibilities allocated to it by the resolution of the Committee concerning interim arrangements;

15. Invites those countries that are members of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes and regional or multilateral financial institutions to bring to the attention of those institutions the content of the present resolution and promote their support for it.

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Resolution on interim arrangements

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Having adopted the text of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Considering that preparations are required for an early and effective operation of the Convention once it has entered into force,

Considering further the desirability of initiating without delay the implementation of measures pursuant to the Convention,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 47/188 of 22 December 1992 and 48/191 of 21 December 1993,

1. Calls upon States and regional economic integration organizations entitled to do so to sign the Convention in Paris, on ..... 1994, and thereafter to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Convention;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements for the continuation of the signing period in New York during and after the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for convening a session of the Committee, from 9 to 20 January 1995, in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 48/191, to prepare for the first session of the Conference of the Parties, as specified in the Convention;



4. Requests further the Secretary-General to make recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session regarding arrangements for further sessions of the Committee until the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
5. Invites the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly, as required in paragraph 15 of resolution 48/191, proposals to enable the secretariat established pursuant to resolution 47/188 to continue its activities on an interim basis until the Permanent Secretariat of the Convention is designated by the Conference of the Parties and begins operating;
6. Appeals to Governments and organizations to make voluntary contributions to the extrabudgetary funds established under General Assembly resolution 47/188 in order to support the interim arrangements and to ensure the full and effective participation of developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, in all sessions of the Committee and the adequate representation of non-governmental organizations from developing countries;
7. Invites States and regional economic integration organizations entitled to sign the Convention to communicate as soon as practicable to the interim secretariat information regarding measures taken consistent with the provisions of the Convention, either individually, bilaterally or multilaterally, pending its entry into force.