

REPORT OF THE CST BUREAU MEETING 13 MARCH 2015 IN CANCÚN, MEXICO

Date: Friday, 13 March 2015

Venue: Conventions and Exhibitions Center
Cancún, Mexico

Working language: English

Working hours: 09:30 – 18:00

– DRAFT REPORT –

I. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

1. The Chair of the CST opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He thanked the CST Bureau members for their work during the CST S-4 and the 3rd Scientific Conference. After presentation of the provisional agenda by the Chair, the agenda was adopted as outlined in Annex II.

II. Adoption of the report of the last CST Bureau meeting

2. The Chair of the CST Bureau presented the draft report of the CST Bureau meeting held on 23 and 24 June 2014 in Bonn and proposed it for adoption. No comments were provided and the report was adopted by the CST Bureau.

III. Organization of work of CST 12

a) Outputs of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference

3. Pursuant to the provisions of decision 21/COP.11, the Bureau of the CST, in conjunction with the Science-Policy Interface and in consultation with Parties and regional groups, will review the outcomes of the conference prior to CST 12. A report on the outcomes, including policy-oriented recommendations, of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference will be submitted to

the CST at its twelfth session for consideration and appropriate decisions by the Conference of the Parties. The report will have to be finalized by end of May 2015.

4. It has been agreed that the report section on policy-oriented recommendations should be a concise text of not more than four pages which contain concrete policy recommendations presented in the form of negotiable policy options. The Chair of the CST pointed out that there should be clear and concise links between the policy recommendations and the scientific findings as they emerged from the 3rd Scientific Conference. Thus, the key scientific findings from the 3rd Scientific Conference will be annexed to report.

5. Furthermore, it has been agreed that the summary of the impulse report, in combination with the preliminary policy-oriented implications and scientific findings from the 3rd Scientific Conference as contained in document ICCD/CST(S-4)/L.3, provide a good basis for the elaboration of the report. In addition, key findings from the wrap-up sessions and keynote speeches might be taken into account when drafting the policy recommendations.

6. The translation of the outcomes of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference into recommendations for the consideration of the CST is part of the SPI work programme (deliverable 2A). It has been suggested that one of the authors of the impulse report might be contracted to support the SPI in drafting the policy recommendations. The Secretariat will explore the availability of funds in this respect.

7. In accordance with decision 21/COP.11, the CST Bureau agreed that the report will be submitted to all country Parties to enable early consultation in preparation of the COP.

b) Preparation of the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology

8. The draft agenda for CST 12 as prepared by the Secretariat and given in Annex III was reviewed and agreed upon by the CST Bureau. Responsibilities for the preparation of agenda items and related documents have been agreed as follows.

9. The SPI will be responsible for preparing and presenting the following agenda items with the support of the Secretariat:

- a) Agenda item 2 on “Outcomes of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference”. Under this agenda item, which corresponds to deliverable 2A of the current SPI work programme, the SPI will present the report on the outcomes, including policy-oriented recommendations, of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference.
- b) Agenda item 3a) ii on “Monitoring the contribution of sustainable land use and management to climate change adaptation/mitigation and to safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystems services”. This agenda item corresponds to objective 1 of the current SPI work programme.
- c) Agenda item 3b) on “Options for improving the CST inputs to decision making including through synergies with other relevant scientific conferences”. This agenda item corresponds to deliverables 2B and 2C of the current SPI work programme.

- d) Agenda item 4a) on the “Work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the biennium 2016-2017”. Under this agenda item the SPI will not only present a proposal for its future work programme 2016-2017, but also present progress made in the implementation of its current work programme 2014-2015, in particular in relation to the objectives 3 and 4 which are not covered under any specific agenda item.

10. The Secretariat will be responsible for preparing and presenting the remaining agenda items.

11. Regarding agenda item 3a)i on “Monitoring progress towards a sustainable development goal on land degradation and associated target”, it was clarified that the discussion on this agenda item will be prepared taking into consideration the final decision on the Sustainable Development Goals by the General Assembly in September 2015.

12. Regarding agenda item 3c) on the “fellowship programme”, the CST Bureau recommended that a document which will be prepared by the secretariat: i) highlight the capacity building character of this programme; and ii) includes a proposal to drop this agenda item from future session of the CST in case no or very limited progress have been made during the last biennium in the implementation of the programme.

13. Regarding agenda item 4b) on the “Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and promoting the analysis and dissemination of best practices”, the Secretariat gave an update on the current status of the SKBP pilot tool and the corresponding side event at the 3rd Scientific Conference. The Secretariat will prepare a document on the planned activities for further development of the SKBP and will report orally to CST 12. The cost estimations for further development of the SKBP will be either included in this document or in the budget.

14. The Secretariat will prepare an annotated agenda for CST 12.

c) UNCCD Science and Policy Interface: Work programme for the biennium 2016-2017

15. The CST Chair presented the first draft of the SPI work programme 2016-2017 as it was discussed and amended during the 2nd SPI meeting on 7 and 8 March 2015 and during another meeting of the SPI co-Chairs. The CST Bureau agreed to request the SPI to finalize the work programme. SPI members will be asked to comment and further amend the draft work programme. If deemed appropriate more objectives might be proposed by the SPI members. According to paragraph 19 of the SPI Terms of Reference, the SPI will present its work programme to the CST for submission to the COP for its approval/endorsement.

VI. Other matters

16. No other matter was raised during the meeting.

VI. Next meeting

17. The next meeting of the CST Bureau will tentatively be held back-to-back with COP 12 in October 2015.

List of Annexes:

Annex I – List of participants

Annex II – Agenda

Annex III – CST 12 Draft Agenda

ANNEX I - List of Participants to the CST Bureau Meeting, 13 March 2015 in Cancun, Mexico

	REGION	CONTACT DETAILS
CST Bureau		
Prof. Uriel Safriel (CST Chair)	Western Europe and Other Groups	Centre for Environmental Conventions Ben-Gurion University of the Negev The Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research Sede Boqer Campus 84990 Midreshet Ben-Gurion Israel Home: +972 77 3006905 Mob : +972 54 725 3646 Fax: +972 80 604 6986 E-mail: uriel36@gmail.com
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Dr. Nicole Edel Laure Bernex (CST-Vice Chair)	Group of Latin America and the Caribbean	Centro de Investigación en Geografía Aplicada Instituto de Investigación en Ciencias de la Naturaleza, el Territorio y Energías Renovables (INTE) Av. Universitaria 1801, San Miguel Lima Peru Tel: +511 6262408 Telefax: +511 626-2804 Email: nbernex@pucp.edu.pe
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UNCCD		
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ANNEX II – Agenda

Meeting of the CST11 Bureau, Cancun, Mexico

Date: Friday, 13 March 2015

Venue: Room Xcaret (MET-03) 2nd Floor
Cancun Center Conventions and Exhibitions

Working language: English

Working hours: Friday: 09:30 – 18:00

- AGENDA -

- II. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
- III. Adoption of the report of the last CST Bureau meeting
- IV. Organization of work of CST 12:
 - a) Outputs of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference
 - b) Preparation of the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology
 - c) UNCCD Science and Policy Interface: Work programme for the biennium 2016-2017
- V. Other matters

ANNEX III – CST 12 DRAFT AGENDA

Committee on Science and Technology

Twelfth session

Ankara, Turkey, 13-16 October 2015

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the secretariat

I. Provisional Agenda

1. **Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**
2. **Outcomes of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference**
3. **Work programme of the CST for the next biennium**
 - (a) Follow up of the post 2015 Agenda
 - i. Monitoring progress towards a sustainable development goal on land degradation and associated target
 - ii. Monitoring the contribution of sustainable land use and management to climate change adaptation/mitigation and to safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystems services
 - (b) Options for improving the CST inputs to decision making including through synergies with other relevant scientific conferences
 - (c) UNCCD fellowship programme
4. **Linking scientific knowledge with decision-making**
 - (a) Work programme of the Science-Policy Interface for the biennium 2016-2017
 - (b) Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and promoting the analysis and dissemination of best practices
5. **Procedural Matters**
 - (a) Roster of independent experts.

- (b) Programme of work for the thirteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology

6. Adoption of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology

7. Election of officers other than the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology