

REPORT OF THE CST10 BUREAU MEETING

13 APRIL 2013 IN BONN, GERMANY

Date: Saturday, 13 April 2013

Venue: World Conference Center Bonn (WCCB)
Meeting Room 6 (P2.7)
53113 Bonn, Germany

Working language: English

Working hours: Saturday: 15:00 – 20:00

- REPORT -

1. The chair of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. The meeting was attended by the CST Bureau members and by a representative of the Global Mechanism (GM) as listed in Annex I to this report. Mrs. Annette Cowie, STAP advisor on land degradation joined the CST Bureau meeting as the respective agenda item was discussed.

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. After the presentation of the provisional agenda by the CST chair, the agenda was adopted by the chair (Annex II).

2. The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF): Possible future areas of engagement (presentation by Annette Cowie, STAP advisor on land degradation)

3. The Chair of the CST Bureau gave the floor to Mrs. Annette Cowie, Land Degradation Panel Member in the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), who introduced role, mandate and focal area of STAP and GEF. In addition, Mrs. Cowie presented activities and projects which could be of mutual interest to GEF/STAP and the UNCCD secretariat.

4. The CST Bureau members discussed and exchanged some ideas with Mrs. Annette Cowie and showed interest in receiving more information on pilot-exercises and the various programmes conducted by the GEF.

3. Preparation of the eleventh session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST11)

3.1. Draft agenda and draft list of documents for CST 11

5. The chair gave the floor to the secretariat who introduced, on the basis of decision 27/COP.10, the tentative agenda items of the provisional agenda of CST 11. The secretariat briefly outlined the respective mandates given by COP 10 for each of them. In addition, a tentative list of official pre-session documents for the session was presented to the CST Bureau for its preliminary information.

3.2. Progress report on the assessment of how to organize international, interdisciplinary scientific advice (presentation from the Chair of the AGSA, Dr. Mariam Akhtar-Schuster)

6. This agenda item was discussed in detail during the CST S-3 in-session Bureau meeting held on 11 April 2013.

3.3. Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with The Strategy:

a) Review of the outcomes of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference

7. The floor was given to the secretariat who recalled the discussion of the CST Bureau on this matter during the CST Bureau meeting on 8 April 2013 and outlined that decision 18/COP.10 invites Parties to review the outcomes of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference before CST 11 in order to make recommendations, as they deem appropriate, to COP 11. Due to the postponement of CST S-3 and the limited time left until CST 11 and as agreed by the Parties during CST S-3, the secretariat will send out letters to Parties containing the preliminary outcome of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference and a set of key questions inviting Parties to provide their views and feedback.

8. The CST Bureau recommended sending out this letter to National Focal Points with copy to Scientific Technology Correspondents and also including colleagues of RCU.

9. Following the receipt of the responses from the Parties, the secretariat will prepare a pre-session document compiling the recommendations from Parties for the consideration of the Committee at its eleventh session. The final outcome document of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference will be issued as an information document for CST 11, as agreed during CST S-3.

b) Assessment of the organization of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference

10. The secretariat introduced decision 18/COP.10 (paragraph 17), requesting the secretariat to organize an in-depth assessment of the organization of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference, including of the approaches to scientific partnership-building employed, in consultation with regional groups. The assessment of the organization of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference will be undertaken by the independent expert who was officially introduced by the secretariat to the CST Bureau members during this meeting. The independent expert presented the approach taken in order to conduct the assessment (content of the assessment and report, methodology, timeline, etc.) and the secretariat outlined that the results will be presented to the CST 11 through a pre-session document.

c) Assessment of UNCCD scientific conferences

11. Based on decision 18/COP.10 (paragraph 18), the CST Bureau is invited, bearing in mind decision 16/COP.9, in consultation with region groups, to conduct, after the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference, an assessment of whether to hold the UNCCD scientific conference during inter-sessional or ordinary sessions of the CST, and to report at the eleventh session of the Committee. It was agreed by the CST Bureau that the secretariat will consult with Parties (contacting NFPs with copy to STCs by email) on this particular issue in order to seek Parties' views and recommendations. The feedback of parties will be compiled and assessed by the secretariat and outline in a pre-session document for consideration at CST 11.

3.4. Improvement of knowledge management, including traditional knowledge, best practices and success stories and the Roster of Expert

- *Knowledge management, including traditional knowledge, best practices and success stories*

12. The Chair gave the floor to the secretariat who introduced the secretariat's progress made in developing the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal (SKBP) which is aimed at being a modular "portal of portals", with the purpose of gathering information (including scientific papers and grey literature), classifying it using advanced auto-categorization tools and displaying search results with presentation of metadata. The secretariat outlined that a call for expression of interest was launched, with the aim of identifying organizations willing to provide access to their set of documents, which in turn allows the secretariat to develop the prototype of SKBP. Following the replies to the call, a group of core partners has been set up, taking into account the need of diversification by information provided, typology of institution, and geographic area. Those partners have been invited to participate to a technical meeting which will be held on 15 April 2013.

13. The secretariat outlined that developments and progress made on the secretariat's knowledge management and specifically the SKBP since COP.10 will be presented to CST 11 through a pre-session document, as well as it's tentatively planned to prepare an information document outlining in detail the progress made related to the SKBP.

14. The CST Bureau welcomed the progress made and the approach taken for the development of the SKBP and it was suggested to develop a strategy which would allow to actively acquiring new partners for the SKBP.

15. Regarding the topic of best practices, the secretariat recalled paragraph 3 of decision 21/COP.10, as well as in paragraph 10 of decision 15/COP.10, stating that the COP requested the Bureau of the CRIC and the Bureau of the CST to work together in defining ways to promote the analysis and dissemination of best practices, according to the respective mandates of the CST and the CRIC, for consideration at COP 11. The CST 11 will consider the topic of “best practices” under the agenda item dealing with the improvement of knowledge management and will be presented through a joint CRIC-CST document for the consideration of CST 11.

16. Additionally, the secretariat informed the CST Bureau that it is planned to organize a joint CRIC-CST Bureau meeting to provide the possibility of discussing the issue and future actions to be taken in order to prepare substantive input to the CST 11. The secretariat will forward the already established criteria of best practices and the report of the last joint CRIC-CST Bureau meeting to the CST Bureau members for their information.

- *Roster of Independent Experts*

17. The secretariat recalled decision 23/COP.10 requesting the secretariat to continue to maintain the Roster of Independent Experts (RoE) and to set up web-based facilities to ease the process of updating the RoE. The CST has also been requested to review and update the current list of disciplines, including traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices.

18. The secretariat presented the progress made and introduced a proposal regarding the improvement of the application form, the facilitation of the process of submitting applications by NFPs, the management of the RoE through an advanced web interface, that will allow experts to update their relevant personal information, as well as to submit updated CVs, the displaying and querying data on the UNCCD website, and the improvement of the list of disciplines. Progress made on the RoE will be contained in a pre-session document for consideration at COP 11.

19. The CST Bureau agreed on the interim results as presented by the secretariat, as well as on the steps which are planned to be taken. Since the list of disciplines has not been discussed during the meeting due to the lack of time, it was requested that the secretariat will forward the list of proposed disciplines to the CST Bureau members in order to provide the secretariat with comments and further guidance on it.

3.5. Draft multi-year (four-year) workplan for the Committee on Science and Technology (2014–2017)

20. It was agreed that a draft of the multi-year (four-year) workplan for the CST (2014-2017) will be presented to the CST Bureau members as soon as possible.

4. Other matters

21. The secretariat informed the CST Bureau on status of incurred expenditures by GRF Davos for phases A and B of the estimated budget for the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference. The secretariat also informed on current consultations with GRF given that financial resources made available by Parties through the UNCCD voluntary contributions did not match the estimated budget. The secretariat further informed the CST Bureau about options being considered for the implementation of Phase C of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference, which relates to the final proceedings and submission of the report of the Conference to COP 11 through CST 11.

5. Next meeting

22. The next meeting of the CST Bureau will tentatively take place end of May 2013 in Bonn, Germany. The UNCCD secretariat will confirm the date in due time.

List of Annexes:

Annex I – List of participants

Annex II – Agenda

Annex I – List of Participants

List of Participants to the CST10 Bureau Meeting 13 April 2013, Bonn Germany

	Region	Address
CST Bureau		
Mr. Antonio Rocha Magalhães (Chair)	Brazil (Latin America and the Caribbean Group)	CGEE-Centre for Strategic Studies and Management Ministry of Science and Technology SCN Quadra 2, Bloco A, Ed. Corporate Financial Center 11° anda, Sala 1102 CEP 70712-900-Brasilia DF, Brazil Email: armagalhaes@gmail.com; antoniom@cgee.org.br
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Mr. Stefan Sommer (Vice-Chair & Rapporteur)	Italy (Western Europe and other Groups)	European Commission Joint Research Centre Institute for Environment and Sustainability Land Resource Management Unit via Enrico Fermi, 2749 21027ISPRA Varese, Italy Email: stefan.sommer@jrc.ec.europa.eu
Dr. Amjad Tahir Virk (Vice-Chair)	Pakistan (Asia & the Pacific Group)	National Project Coordinator Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP) Ministry of Disaster Management Government of Pakistan House 7, Street 62, G-6/4 Islamabad, Pakistan Email: amjadvirk@slmp.org.pk, atvirk@gmail.com
Dr. Yuriy Kolmaz (Vice-Chair)	Ukraine (Eastern European Group)	Head of Land Resources Division Ministry of Environmental Protection 35 Urytskogo Street 03035 Kyiv, Ukraine Email: saveland@menr.gov.ua, kolmaz@ukr.net

Representative of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP)

Annette Cowie (STAP - GEF - Land Degradation Panel Member)	STAP advisor on land degradation	
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Resource Person		
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UNCCD		
Elysabeth David (Secretary to the CST Bureau)	UNCCD Secretariat	Coordinator, Knowledge Management, Science and Technology Unit (KMST) UNCCD Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10 D-53113 Bonn GERMANY Tel: +49 (228) 815 2834 Email: edavid@unccd.int
Mr. Simone Quattrini	The Global Mechanism	Coordinator, Policy & Investment Analysis The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD Via Paolo di Dono, 44 00142 Rome, Italy Tel. +39 06 5459 2154 Fax: (39) 06 5459 2135 Email: s.quattrini@global-mechanism.org

ANNEX II – Agenda

Meeting of the CST10 Bureau

Date: Saturday, 13 April 2013

Venue: UN Campus - Langer Eugen
Meeting Room: Meeting Room 6 (P2.7), World Conference Center (WCC)
Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10
53113 Bonn, Germany

Working language: English

Working hours: Saturday: 15:00 – 18:00

- AGENDA -

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF): Possible future areas of engagement (presentation by Annette Cowie, STAP advisor on land degradation)
3. Preparation of the eleventh session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST11)
 - 3.1. Draft agenda and draft list of documents for CST 11
 - 3.2. Progress report on the assessment of how to organize international, interdisciplinary scientific advice (presentation from the Chair of the AGSA, Dr. Mariam Akhtar-Schuster)
 - 3.3. Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with The Strategy:
 - a) Review of the outcomes of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference
 - b) Assessment of the organization of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference
 - c) Assessment of UNCCD scientific conferences

3.4. Improvement of knowledge management, including traditional knowledge, best practices and success stories and the Roster of Expert

3.5. Draft multi-year (four-year) workplan for the Committee on Science and Technology (2014–2017)

4. Other matters

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