The second meeting of the COP 13 Bureau took place in Ordos, China, on 13th September 2017. The chair, Ms. Jia Xiaoxia, from China made welcoming remarks.

An overview of the matters discussed and the decisions made by the Bureau is presented below.

I. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendments.

II. Progress report at the level of the Committee of the Whole (COW)

The report was been made by the Chair of the COW. At the third session of the COW, the following agenda items have been reviewed: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the effective implementation of the convention at national, sub-regional and regional level and the participation and involvement of civil society organizations in the meetings and processes of the UNCCD. The programme and budget contact group has almost finished its business and awaits the conclusion of the Drought discussions under contact group on other matters. A delegation has requested the secretariat to improve the translation for some documents in their Arabic version. It is envisaged that the final COW Plenary will be held on Friday morning to conclude its business.

II. Progress report at the level of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST)

The CST Chair presented the report. The CST held its fifth and last meeting in the evening of Saturday 9th September. The CST adopted the report that contains the following decisions to be considered by the COP: (1) The endorsement of the LDN scientific conceptual framework developed by the SPI, (2) The mandate given to SPI to further strengthen collaboration of the SPI with other intergovernmental international partners such as IPCC, the IPBES and the ITPS, (3) the extension of the mandate of the SPI until COP16 when it will reviewed again,(4) the adoption of the work programme of the SPI for the biennium 2018-19, (5) The provision of guidance on further development of the Knowledge Hub, including the analysis, access and dissemination to best practices on SLM.

III. Progress report at the level of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC)

The Chair of the CRIC introduced the report on the CRIC sessions. As stated by the Chair, Parties worked very constructively together producing good results. There are in total six decisions that will be forwarded from the CRIC to the plenary of the COP: (1) a decision for the forthcoming reporting process, (2) NAPs and their linkages to LDN process, (3) a decision on financing, (4) a decision on the collaboration with the GEF, (5) the programme of work for CRIC 17 scheduled for 2018 and (6) the date and the venue of that session.
V. Other Business

The secretariat presented to the Bureau the memorandum on parties’ Credentials to COP 13. After verification the document was accepted and an ensuing report and draft decision will be prepared by the secretariat for submission to the COP.

VI. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the COP13 Bureau will take place next Friday 15th September 2017 at 1.30 pm in MET-07. To be confirmed by email and board posting.