The third meeting of the COP 13 Bureau took place in Ordos, China, on Friday, 15th 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 has been made by the representative of the Chair of the COW Ms. Mancotywa. The COW didn’t meet since Wednesday, 13th due to insufficient agenda items. The COW will have the last meeting the afternoon of the 15th September. The discussions are progressing in contact groups. The contact on budget finalized their work. Two agenda items: (1) Stability, Security and Migration; and (2) the draft advocacy framework on Sand, Dust and Storms are under discussion in the contact group of others matters. The Chair thanked respectively the two contact group’s chairs for their effectiveness, and the secretariat of UNCCD for their Leadership.

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. The CRIC finalized their work last Wednesday 13th September. The six decisions: (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; are adopted by the CRIC and will be forwarded to the plenary of the COP. The Chair thanked also Mr Trevor Benn (Guyana) for his assistance to facilitate discussions during CRIC sessions.

IV. Other Business

A bureau member raised a question related to the availability of documents due for adoption in all six languages. The Secretariat assured that documents submitted with enough time will indeed be available in all language versions; however, documents submitted with a short notice would only be available in English and, if required, adopted at dictation speed for simultaneous interpretation.