



Ref.: COP(ES-2)/2021/GEN

NOTE VERBALE

The secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) presents its compliments to the diplomatic missions and has the honour to inform that, upon request of His Excellency Mr. Prakash Javadekar, Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, of the Republic of India and President of the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), **an extraordinary session of the COP should be organized for the purpose of considering and approving an interim programme budget for the secretariat's operations in 2022.**

According to Rule 4.3 of the rules of procedure of the COP, the second extraordinary session of the COP (COP(ES-2)) shall be convened within three months of the request being communicated to the Parties by the UNCCD secretariat, provided that, it is supported by at least one third of the Parties.

In the event that the above request is accepted, the secretariat would circulate a proposal for an interim budget for 2022 as soon as possible and not later than six weeks before the date of the COP(ES-2). Informal consultations with a view to adopt a draft budget decision would be facilitated through an Informal group on budget to be constituted along the lines of the Budget Contact Group format at ordinary sessions of the COP. It is envisaged that COP(ES-2) would consider the draft decision for approval through a silence/written procedure that would take place **within the period 6 to 9 December 2021.**

Should the COP(ES-2) be convened, it is requested that representatives of Parties to the Convention be provided with full powers to participate in the session. In accordance with Rule 19 of the rules of procedure of the COP, the credentials of delegations shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. Parties are kindly requested to observe this requirement.

Accordingly, the secretariat of the UNCCD would like to invite Parties to indicate their support for convening of the COP(ES-2) through an official letter addressed to the UNCCD Executive Secretary. The official letter should be sent as a scanned attachment by e-mail to secretariat@unccd.int as soon as possible and no later than 30 September 2021.

The secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the diplomatic missions the assurances of its highest consideration.

(Signed UNCCD seal)
Bonn, 28 June 2021

Distribution:

To country Parties and observers to the United Nations Convention on Combat Desertification through their national focal points and diplomatic missions