



Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) on Effective policy and implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD

IWG Foundation Document

I. Background

1. In accordance with decision 23/COP.14, paragraph 10, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to establish an Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) on effective policy and implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD with a view to presenting its findings and recommendations to Parties for their consideration at COP 15.

II. Terms of Reference of the IWG

2. In accordance with decision 23/COP.14, paragraph 11a, Parties decided that the Terms of Reference of the Intergovernmental Working Group are:
 - a. To take stock of and review the existing policy, implementation and institutional coordination frameworks, including partnerships, on drought preparedness and response;
 - b. To consider options for appropriate policy, advocacy and implementation measures at all levels for addressing drought effectively under the Convention to be carried out in the context of a wider, holistic and integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and enhancing the resilience of communities and ecosystems against drought.

III. Composition

3. The IWG will comprise Parties, international organizations, the SPI, CSOs and other key stakeholders, as appropriate.
4. The IWG will consist of a maximum of three-Party representatives from each regional group of the convention nominated by the respective regional group on the basis of nominations by national governments.
5. The secretariat, in consultation with the COP Bureau, will also nominate participation from key stakeholders, including UN organizations, the SPI, and other scientific organizations, regional organizations and CSOs, with a maximum of 15 additional members (experts).



6. At its first meeting, the IWG will select a chair from its members to coordinate the work of the group.

IV. Substitution and Remuneration

7. In the case that an IWG member is no longer able to fulfill her/his duties in the IWG, s/he may be replaced by an alternate identified in agreement with the regional group.
8. IWG members are not financially remunerated by the UNCCD secretariat. As required, travel costs and the daily subsistence allowances (DSAs) will be covered for all eligible members in accordance with the United Nations rules and regulations.

V. Modalities

9. The IWG members will contribute directly to delivering the outputs as agreed by decision 23/COP 14 and described in paragraph 1 of this document drawing from a range of resources including, but not limited to, inter alia, UNCCD background documents and the resource materials and work of other entities referenced within them, such as:
 - a. Drought Resilience Adaptation and Management Policy Framework (DRAMP): Technical guidelines¹
 - b. Drought Impact and Vulnerability Assessment: A Review²
 - c. The Land-Drought Nexus³
 - d. Menu of options for addressing drought under the UNCCD⁴;
 - e. UNCCD-led Drought Toolbox⁵ and
 - f. Other peer-reviewed scientific and technical products and SPI products dealing with drought issues.
10. The IWG members will also analyse the submissions by Parties, international organizations, and stakeholders, as agreed by decision 23/COP 14 (Paragraph 13), on: (a) Policy, implementation and institutional coordination frameworks and implementation measures for addressing drought under the Convention: and (b) Barriers, challenges, opportunities and implementation measures as well as preparing for, responding to, and recovering from drought.

VI. Reporting and Transparency

¹<https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/relevant-links/2019-09/190906%20UNCCD%20drought%20resilience%20technical%20guideline%20EN.pdf>

² <https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/relevant-links/2019-09/190829%20UNCCD%20A%20Rapid%20Review%20Web.pdf>

³ http://catalogue.unccd.int/1211_03EP_UNCCD_SPI_2019_Report_2.pdf

⁴ https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/sessions/documents/2019-08/ICCD_COP%2814%29_INF.3-1914121E.pdf

⁵ <https://knowledge.unccd.int/drought-toolbox>



11. The IWG will report periodically to the COP Bureau on its activities and on progress made with the view of seeking the guidance of the Bureau as appropriate.
12. The IWG will prepare a draft report for consideration by Parties at the 19th session of the Committee for the Review of the implementation of the Convention (CRIC 19).
13. Each meeting of the IWG will produce a brief summary, which will be made available online following the meeting.

VII. Role of the UNCCD secretariat

14. The UNCCD secretariat will provide administrative and secretariat support to the work of the IWG, including to its meetings as needed.

VIII. Timeline of activities (Tentative)

Timing	Activity
2019	
06 November	Secretariat submits draft IWG foundation document and the call for Experts (non-Party members of the IWG) to the COP Bureau
02 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Foundation document and the call for Experts (non-Party members of the IWG) adopted by COP Bureau➤ The call for Experts (non-Party members of the IWG) is online
31 December	Deadline for application of the Experts (non-Party members of the IWG)
2020	
07 January	Secretariat submits vetted list of IWG candidates for membership (the 15 experts with information on their compliance with the requirements) to COP Bureau for its consideration.
15 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ COP Bureau names regionally-nominated representatives of the IWG (three from each of the regional groups)➤ Approves the 15 IWG additional members (Experts). IWG is established.➤ Secretariat notifies all candidates of the outcome of their applications.
22 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Background draft documents submitted to IWG members. This include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Preliminary analysis of the submitted data from Parties, international organizations, and stakeholders (as agreed by decision 23/COP 14 (para 9 and 13) and para 10 in this document- Scoping Paper- Draft agenda



04-06 March	1 st IWG Meeting takes place <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Selection of IWG Chair➤ Organization of work and setting of timetables➤ Consideration of the organization of the consultative process➤ Consideration of the above-mentioned background documents
13 March	Secretariat circulates draft brief summary of the 1 st IWG meeting report to IWG members for their approval; after IWG approval the document is posted on the UNCCD website.
April-August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ IWG continues to work virtually (video conference, emails, etc.)➤ Secretariat finalizes report on the data gathered on existing tools and best practices from Parties, IGOs, and stakeholders via the submissions invited in decision 23/COP.14 para 9 and 13 (Online inventory of tools, policy, etc in all 6 UN languages)➤ Progress report to COP Bureau
30 September	Draft report made available among the CRIC 19 documents
1 st week of December (CRIC)	2 nd and final IWG Meeting takes place <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Present draft report to CRIC➤ IWG collects and integrates feedback from Parties and other key stakeholders.➤ Secretariat circulates 2nd IWG meeting summary to IWG members for adoption (one week after CRIC) and subsequent posting on the UNCCD website.➤ Finalized report is also posted on the website when available, as soon after the CRIC as practicable.
22 December	Progress report to COP Bureau
2021	
End of May	Final IWG report included among the COP 15 documents
Fall 2021	Final IWG report presented at COP 15