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ICCD/COP(13)/1



Convention to Combat Desertification

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Ordos, China, 6–16 September 2017

Items 1 (b) and (f) of the provisional agenda

Organizational matters

Adoption of the agenda

Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the secretariat

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 - (f) Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies.
2. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: implications for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

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Please recycle



- (a) Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: “to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”, into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;
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 - (iii) Round table 3: Land degradation neutrality: “From targets to action...what will it take?”;
 - (b) Gender and land rights (a dialogue with civil society);
 - (c) How can local governments help address the challenges of land degradation? (a dialogue with elected and local government representatives);
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- (a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters

Venue and opening of the session

1. Pursuant to provisions contained in decision 35/COP.12 and subsequent consultations with the Government of China, the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) will be held in Ordos, China from 6 to 16 September 2017.

2. The thirteenth session of the COP (COP 13) will be opened by the President of COP 12.

(a) Election of the President

3. The President of COP 12 will propose the election of the President of COP 13.

(b) Adoption of the agenda

4. The COP will be invited to adopt its agenda and schedule of work for the session.

(c) Election of officers other than the President

(i) Election of Vice-Presidents

5. *Background:* Decisions 1/COP.1 and 20/COP.2 (rule 22 of the rules of procedure).

6. *Action:* The COP will be invited to elect nine Vice-Presidents from among the representatives of the Parties present at the session. This election will take place at the opening meeting of the COP on 6 September.

(ii) Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology

7. *Background:* Decision 25/COP.10, which amended paragraph 1 of rule 22 and rule 31 of the rules of procedure (contained in decision 1/COP.1, as amended by decision 20/COP.2).

8. *Action:* The COP will be invited to complete its consultations and elect the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) at the final meeting of COP 13.

(iii) *Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention*

9. *Background:* Rule 31 of the rules of procedure, as amended by decision 20/COP.2, provides for the election by the COP of Chairs of subsidiary bodies other than the CST, unless the COP decides otherwise. In accordance with paragraph 9 of the annex to decision 11/COP.9, the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) is elected at the final meeting of the session of the CRIC, held in conjunction with the sessions of the COP, and will assume her/his office immediately.

10. *Action:* The COP will be invited to complete its consultations and elect the Chairs of the CRIC.

ICCD/COP(13)/1 – Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat

(d) **Credentials of delegations**

11. *Background:* In accordance with rules 19 and 20 of the rules of procedure, the COP Bureau will examine the credentials of representatives, alternate representatives and advisers and submit its report to the COP for decision. This report on credentials will be contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/20.¹

12. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the report of its Bureau and adopt a decision on this matter.

ICCD/COP(13)/20 – Credentials of delegations. Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties

(e) **Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers**

13. *Background:* In accordance with the provisions of article 22, paragraph 7, of the Convention, of rules 6 and 7 of the rules of procedure, and of decision 26/COP.1, a list of intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs), including non-governmental organizations proposed for accreditation at COP 13, is contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/17. By its decision 5/COP.10, the COP adopted revised procedures for the accreditation of CSOs and representatives from the private sector to the COP and their participation in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

14. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider this matter and decide on the admission of observers as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/17 – Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers. Note by the secretariat

(f) **Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies**

Establishment of a Committee of the Whole and allocation of its tasks

15. *Background:* The practice followed at previous sessions of the COP has been to establish at the opening plenary meeting a sessional Committee of the Whole (COW) open

¹ Document to be issued in-session.

to the participation of all Parties. The COP may wish to follow the same practice at COP 13. The COW will recommend draft decisions for adoption by the COP. Its Chair will have the authority to delegate work, as appropriate, to drafting groups. The COP may allocate the following items to the COW:

(a) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Implications for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

- (i) Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: “to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”, into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;
- (ii) The future strategic framework of the Convention;
- (iii) Implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020);

(b) Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional level:

- (i) Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention – Terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention;
- (ii) Addressing particular regional and national conditions;
- (iii) Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies;
- (iv) Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms:
 - Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility;
 - Report of the Global Mechanism;

(c) Programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

(d) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds;

(e) Report of the Evaluation Office;

(f) Procedural matters:

- (i) Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;
- (ii) Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the business engagement strategy;
- (iii) Any other matters deemed to be appropriate.

16. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider following the practice described in paragraph 15 above.

Committee on Science and Technology

17. The CST is tentatively scheduled to meet from 6 to 9 September. In accordance with decision 23/COP.12 and other relevant decisions, the secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda for the Committee's session (ICCD/COP(13)/CST/1), as well as other documents needed for its deliberations.

ICCD/COP(13)/CST/1 – Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat

Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

18. The CRIC is tentatively scheduled to meet from 7 to 8 September and on 13 September. In accordance with decision 11/COP.9 and other relevant decisions, the secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda for the Committee's work (ICCD/CRIC(16)/1), as well as other documents for the session.

ICCD/CRIC(16)/1 – Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat

Initial segment

19. It is proposed in the tentative schedule that COP 13 be divided into three segments. During the initial segment, from 6 to 9 September, in addition to the CST and CRIC sessions, the COW would initiate its work.

Open dialogue sessions

20. In accordance with decision 34/COP.12 and further to the request of the COP as referred to in decision 5/COP.9 to ensure that the programme of work of the COP includes open dialogue sessions with the civil society in the first week of the COP, in order to ensure the effectiveness of its input in the deliberations of the COP, one half-day session has been planned for this purpose on 9 September.

Special segment

21. In accordance with decision 34/COP.12, interactive dialogue sessions among ministers and other high-ranking officials will be conducted on the occasion of the special segment on 11 and 12 September.

Concluding segment

22. During the concluding segment, the COP will consider all decisions not previously adopted. It will decide the date and venue of the fourteenth session of the COP, taking account of:

(a) The pertinent legislative provisions of article 22, paragraph 4, of the Convention, rule 4, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, rule 3 of the rules of procedure and decision 1/COP.2;

(b) Any offer to host the fourteenth session and meet the additional financial cost.

23. The COP will also decide the date and venue of the seventeenth session of the CRIC, taking into account decision 11/COP.9 on the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and its schedule of meetings, and any further decision on the matter taken during the current session.

24. The proposed schedule allows for the concluding plenary meeting on 15 September. Accordingly, all negotiations should be concluded by 14 September. On the last day of the

COP scheduled on 16 September, a technical field trip will be organized by the host country.

Times of meetings

25. In order to avoid incurring overtime expenses, the tentative schedule aims to make best use of the facilities available during normal working hours of the session (from 10:00 to 13:00 and from 15:00 to 18:00).

2. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: implications for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

(a) Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: “to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”, into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

26. *Background:* By decision 3/COP.12, the Parties decided that striving to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 15.3 is a strong vehicle for driving implementation of the UNCCD, within the scope of the Convention, and directed the UNCCD secretariat and invited other relevant agencies and stakeholders to seek cooperation to achieve SDG target 15.3.

27. The COP also invited Parties in paragraph 5 of the same decision to formulate voluntary targets to achieve land degradation neutrality (LDN) and, as needed, to add additional indicators to monitor, evaluate and communicate progress towards achieving the LDN target. Furthermore, the Parties were invited to explore options on how to integrate the voluntary LDN targets in their national action programmes (NAPs) as part of their overall discussion on the implementation of the SDGs.

28. The same decision encouraged developed country Parties and invited other countries in a position to do so, multilateral financial institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations, and technical and financial institutions to, inter alia, provide scientific, technical and financial assistance to help affected country Parties requesting assistance to set and achieve LDN targets as well as to implement sustainable land management (SLM) practices and LDN initiatives.

29. In paragraph 10 of decision 3/COP.12, the secretariat and appropriate UNCCD bodies were requested to develop options for scaling up and scaling out successful LDN initiatives and other SLM practices and explore how they could further develop partnerships with other organizations to provide scientific and technical support to the Parties. Also, they were requested to develop guidance for formulating national LDN targets and initiatives, and make options available to Parties for the integration of national LDN targets and initiatives in their NAPs. Finally, they were requested to further develop, keep under review and facilitate the use of the UNCCD indicator framework and improve the effectiveness of collaboration with the other Rio conventions and other partners at national and subnational levels to support the implementation and monitoring of LDN targets and initiatives.

30. In paragraph 11 of decision 3/COP.12, the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism (GM), in consultation with the Executive Secretary, was requested to develop options for increasing incentives and financial support, including assisting in the possible creation of an independent LDN fund, to be made available for the full realization of LDN initiatives.

31. Parties requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its thirteenth session on the implementation of decision 3/COP.12. This information is contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/2.

32. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the implementation of decision 3/COP.12 and to agree on any further steps, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/2 – Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: “to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”, into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Report by the Executive Secretary

(b) The future strategic framework of the Convention

33. *Background:* In paragraph 1 of decision 7/COP.12, the Parties decided to establish an Intergovernmental Working Group on the future strategic framework of the Convention (IWG-FSF), within the scope and mandate of the Convention to:

(a) Assess the current 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy), including the effectiveness of its implementation and the relevance of progress indicators for the future period;

(b) Consider options for the possible future strategic approach for the Convention, including whether the current Strategy should be extended or revised, or whether a new strategy should be adopted;

(c) Propose an approach the Convention should adopt for its future strategic direction and elements that should be included therein.

34. In paragraph 5 of the same decision the Parties requested the IWG-FSF to present its proposals to Parties for their consideration and action at COP 13.

35. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the proposals of the IWG-FSF as contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/3 and to adopt decisions, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/3 – The future strategic framework of the Convention. Report by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the future strategic framework of the Convention

(c) Implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020)

36. *Background:* In paragraph 5 of decision 4/COP.12, the Parties requested the secretariat to:

(a) Develop a compelling communications narrative for action and to structure communications around key strategic themes in view of SDG target 15.3;

(b) Identify inspiring human-interest stories and testimonies from SLM projects for promotion and dissemination through the Land for Life multi-media products in order to build awareness and public support for addressing DLDD by maximizing the expertise and strengths available through the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020) (UNDDD) Inter-Agency Task Force;

(c) Continue coordinating the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and the General Assembly-mandated resolution on UNDDD.

37. The COP requested the secretariat to report on progress made in the implementation of decision 4/COP.12 at COP 13. This report is contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/4.

38. *Action:* The COP is invited to consider the actions taken during the reporting period through the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020).

ICCD/COP(13)/4 – Report on progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and on the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020). Note by the secretariat

3. Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional level

(a) Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties

39. *Background:* By its decision 11/COP.9, Parties decided to establish the CRIC as a standing subsidiary body of the COP to assist it in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy. In the same decision, the COP adopted the terms of reference of the CRIC, which, inter alia, define the mandate and functions of the CRIC.

40. Pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2 (d), of the Convention, the COP will review reports submitted by its subsidiary bodies and provide guidance to them. In accordance with decision 11/COP.9, the CRIC shall report regularly to the COP on all aspects of its work and in particular through draft decisions prepared at sessions held in conjunction with ordinary sessions of the COP, where necessary, for consideration and adoption by the COP.

41. *Action:* The COP will be invited at its plenary meeting on 15 September to consider the report of the sixteenth session of the CRIC and to adopt decisions as appropriate.

(b) Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention – Terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

42. *Background:* In paragraph 2 of decision 11/COP.9, the COP decided that it shall, no later than at its fourteenth session (2019) review the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and its schedule of meetings with a view to making any necessary modifications, including reconsidering the need for and modalities of the CRIC as a subsidiary body.

43. *Action:* The COP will be invited to review the terms of reference of the CRIC as included in the annex to decision 11/COP.9 and the information contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/5 and take any action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/5 – Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention – Terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

(c) Addressing particular regional and national conditions

44. *Background:* In paragraph 2 of decision 8/COP.12, the COP invited the secretariat, relevant Convention bodies, and bilateral and multilateral partners to provide assistance to Parties to guide their policies relating to DLDD and voluntary targets when striving to achieve LDN at national and subnational levels.

45. The COP requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its thirteenth session on the implementation of decision 8/COP.12.

46. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the relevant information contained in documents ICCD/COP(13)/2 and ICCD/COP(13)/3 and take any further action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/2 – Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: “to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”, into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Report by the Executive Secretary

ICCD/COP(13)/3 – The future strategic framework of the Convention. Report by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the future strategic framework of the Convention

(d) Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies

47. *Background:* In decision 9/COP.12, Parties proposed the use of the three land-based progress indicators as set out in decision 15/COP.12 for reporting under the Rio conventions and requested the secretariat to promote further harmonization of indicators and reporting procedures and continue working with the Interagency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators in order to define indicators for SDG target 15.3.

48. In paragraph 3 of the same decision both the secretariat and the GM were requested to continue to fulfil their respective roles in the established partnerships and to seek new partnerships according to their respective mandates in order to further enhance the implementation of the Convention.

49. Further, the secretariat was requested to continue improving partnerships fostering capacity development for national drought preparedness planning, drought early warning, risk and vulnerability assessments, and enhanced drought risk mitigation and participate, within the mandate and scope of the Convention, in partnerships fostering capacity development to respond to dust and sand storms, and floods.

50. The COP requested the secretariat to report to the COP at its thirteenth session on progress made in implementing decision 9/COP.12. This information is contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/6.

51. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the relevant document and take any further action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/6 – Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies. Note by the secretariat

Draft advocacy policy frameworks: Gender, Drought, and Sand and Dust Storms

52. *Background:* Paragraph 6 of decision 8/COP.9 requested the secretariat to generate advocacy policy frameworks on thematic issues in order to address the adverse impacts of DLDD, keeping in mind gender-sensitive approaches, and to regularly inform affected countries and other key stakeholders on such proceedings that may be useful in the implementation of action programmes. Also, paragraph 12 of decision 9/COP.11 urged the secretariat to increase efforts in undertaking policy advocacy based on the UNCCD advocacy strategy and ensure harmonization, alignment and mutual reinforcement of

thematic advocacy policy frameworks in line with the UNCCD's objective and principles. Document ICCD/COP(13)/19 contains the relevant draft advocacy policy frameworks.

53. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the relevant document and take any further action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/19 – Draft advocacy policy frameworks: Gender, Drought, and Sand and Dust Storms. Note by the secretariat

(e) **Securing of additional investments and the relations with financial mechanisms**

(i) *Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility*

54. *Background:* By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided to include as a standing item on its agenda a review of available information on the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) concerning desertification, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention.

55. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the UNCCD and the GEF adopted in decision 6/COP.7 provides that the GEF will submit a report to the COP at each regular session through the UNCCD secretariat on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification.

56. Paragraph 17 (e) in the annex to decision 11/COP.9 stipulates that, at sessions held in conjunction with the COP, the CRIC shall assist the COP in reviewing the collaboration with the GEF, including in 2013 and at any other time that the COP may decide.

57. In paragraph 3 of decision 11/COP.12, Parties requested the secretariat of the UNCCD to report on the implementation of the present decision and to submit the draft MOU to the COP at its thirteenth session for its consideration and decision.

58. Document ICCD/CRIC(16)/4 and document ICCD/COP(13)/18 contain the report submitted by the GEF and the draft amended MOU between the UNCCD and the GEF, respectively, for consideration by the COP.

59. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the respective draft decision from the CRIC and the draft amended MOU, and to take any action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/18 – Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/CRIC(16)/4 – Report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification. Note by the secretariat

(ii) *Report of the Global Mechanism*

60. *Background:* By its decision 1/COP.12, the COP approved the strategic orientation of the secretariat, the GM, the CST and the CRIC as contained in the UNCCD results framework for 2016–2019.

61. In paragraph 2 of the same decision, the COP requested the CST, the CRIC, the GM and the secretariat to utilize the UNCCD results framework for 2016–2019 in organizing

their work in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Convention and decisions taken at COP 12, and in line with the guidance outlined in The Strategy.

62. The same decision also requested the secretariat and the GM to prepare a multi-year workplan for the Convention (2018–2021), utilizing the results-based management approach, to be considered at COP 13.

63. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the reports on this matter and to take any action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/8-ICCD/CRIC(16)/2 – Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2018–2021) and two-year costed work programme for the Convention (2018–2019). Note by the secretariat

ICCD/COP(13)/9 – Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat

4. Linking scientific knowledge with decision-making: review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties

64. *Background:* In decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided that the review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2 (d) of the Convention, of the report of the CST, including its recommendations to the COP and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it, would be a standing item on its agenda.

65. The CST will transmit to the COP draft decisions resulting from the deliberations coming from the items included in the agenda of its thirteenth session, in line with decision 23/COP.12.

66. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the report of the thirteenth session of the CST and to adopt decisions, as appropriate.

5. Special segment

(a) Parallel ministerial/high-level round tables

(i) *Round table 1: Land degradation: a challenge to development, prosperity and peace*

(ii) *Round table 2: Drought and sand and dust storms: early warning and beyond*

(iii) *Round table 3: Land degradation neutrality: “From targets to action...what will it take?”*

(b) Gender and land rights (a dialogue with civil society)

(c) How can local governments help address the challenges of land degradation? (a dialogue with elected and local government representatives)

(d) How can the private sector invest to help achieve land degradation neutrality? (a dialogue with the private sector)

67. *Background:* In accordance with decision 34/COP.12, interactive dialogue sessions with relevant stakeholders including ministers and other high ranking officials will be conducted on the occasion of the special segment on 11 and 12 September. This will

include parallel ministerial/high level round-table discussions and interactive dialogue sessions focusing on the following topics: (i) Land degradation: a challenge to development, prosperity and peace; (ii) Drought and sand and dust storms: early warning and beyond; (iii) Land degradation neutrality: “From targets to action...what will it take?”; (iv) Gender and land rights (a dialogue with civil society); (v) How can local governments help address the challenges of land degradation? (a dialogue with elected and local government representatives); (vi) How can the private sector invest to help achieve land degradation neutrality? (a dialogue with the private sector).

68. Interactive dialogue sessions with civil society, the private sector and local government are planned for 12 September.

69. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the outcomes of the special segment.

ICCD/COP(13)/INF.2 – Note on the special segment of the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth session. Note by the secretariat

6. Programme and budget

70. Article 22, paragraph 2 (g) of the Convention calls on the COP to approve a programme and budget for its activities, including those of its subsidiary bodies, and to undertake the necessary arrangements for their financing.

(a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019

71. *Background:* The COP, in paragraph 19 of decision 10/COP.12, requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a results-based budget and work programmes for the biennium 2018–2019, in line with decision 1/COP.12 on work plans, presenting budget scenarios and work programmes based on the projected needs for the biennium in (1) a zero nominal growth scenario; and (2) a scenario based on further recommended adjustments to the first scenario and their associated costs. The above-mentioned requests from the COP are addressed in document ICCD/COP(13)/7.

72. By its decision 18/COP.11, paragraph 1, the COP decided that the intersessional session of the CRIC, based on its review of performance indicators, shall give recommendations to entities of the UNCCD on priorities to be included in their programme of work and budget for the following programming biennium.

73. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the proposed programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019 and take decisions, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/7 – Programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/COP(13)/8-ICCD/CRIC(16)/2 – Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2018–2021) and two-year costed work programme for the Convention (2018–2019). Note by the secretariat

(b) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds

74. *Background:* In accordance with the financial rules of the COP, an interim statement of accounts for the first year of the financial period and a final audited statement of accounts for the full financial period shall be provided to Parties. In decision 10/COP.12, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its thirteenth session on

the status of income and expenditure and on budget performance, using a results-based management approach. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/9. The statement of accounts should be read in conjunction with document ICCD/CRIC(16)/3, which contains the report on the implementation of the costed 2016–2017 work programmes of the secretariat, the CRIC, the CST and the GM.

Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds

75. The audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds are contained in documents ICCD/COP(13)/10 and ICCD/COP(13)/11. The audited financial statements for the GM are contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/12.

Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2016–2017

76. The status of contributions to the trust funds for the biennium 2016–2017 is presented in document ICCD/COP(13)/13.

77. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the relevant documents on the financial performance of the Convention and take a decision, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/9 – Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/COP(13)/10 – Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2016–2017 as at 31 December 2016. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/COP(13)/11 – Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2015, including the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/COP(13)/12 – Audited financial statements for the Global Mechanism as at 30 September 2013. Note by the secretariat

ICCD/COP(13)/13 – Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2016–2017. Note by the secretariat

(c) Report of the Evaluation Office

78. *Background:* The United Nations regulations and rules governing programme planning, monitoring and evaluation² request a regular, periodic evaluation of all programmes, and the integration of the evaluation plans with the programme budget cycle. These regulations and rules further state that the evaluation findings shall be communicated to Member States through intergovernmental bodies in order to facilitate the reconsideration of existing mandates, policies, strategies and objectives, the substantive content of programmes and its utility to the users.

79. Accordingly, the findings and recommendations of the UNCCD evaluations in 2016–2017 and related action taken, as well as the 2018–2019 evaluation plan, will be presented to Parties at COP 13.

² United Nations regulations and rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

80. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the evaluation findings and recommendations and the 2018–2019 evaluation plan and take decisions, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/14 – Report of the Evaluation Office. Note by the secretariat

7. Procedural matters

(a) Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

81. *Background:* By its decision 5/COP.12, the COP requested the secretariat and the Civil Society Organization Panel (CSO Panel) to make proposals to the COP Bureau on ways to support the work of the Panel and expand its membership. The COP also requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate the elections to the CSO Panel in January 2016.

82. In paragraph 6 of same decision the COP requested the CSO Panel, through the secretariat, to report to the COP at its thirteenth session on the implementation of its tasks during the forthcoming biennium. Furthermore, in paragraph 7 the Executive Secretary is requested to report to the COP at its thirteenth session on the implementation of decision 5/COP.12.

83. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the information contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/15 and take any action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/15 – Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat

(b) Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the business engagement strategy

84. *Background:* By decision 6/COP.12, the Parties took note of the UNCCD business engagement strategy and requested the secretariat and the GM to continue implementing it when engaging in partnership with the private sector. The COP also requested the secretariat to submit future amendments of the business engagement strategy to the COP for consideration and approval.

85. Paragraph 3 requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its thirteenth session on the implementation of the decision 6/COP.12, including on any developments in the engagement with the private sector.

86. *Action:* The COP will be invited to consider the information contained in document ICCD/COP(13)/16 and take any action, as appropriate.

ICCD/COP(13)/16 – Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat

(c) Programme of work for the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties

87. *Background:* In accordance with decision 9/COP.1, which listed items to be included as standing items on COP agendas, and following upon decision 34/COP.12

regarding the programme of work of the COP at its thirteenth session, the COP may wish to review its programme of work for the next session as appropriate.

88. *Action:* The COP will be invited to review its programme of work for its fourteenth session and adopt a decision on this matter.

8. Report on the session

89. A draft report of the session will be prepared for adoption at the concluding plenary meeting on 15 September, in accordance with established practice. The COP will be invited to adopt the report of its thirteenth session and authorize its Rapporteur to finalize the report after the session, with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the President.

Annex I

Documents before the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(13)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/2	Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: “to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”, into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Report by the Executive Secretary
ICCD/COP(13)/3	The future strategic framework of the Convention. Report by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the future strategic framework of the Convention
ICCD/COP(13)/4	Report on progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and on the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/5	Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention – Terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/6	Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/7	Programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/8- ICCD/CRIC(16)/2	Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2018–2021) and two-year costed work programme for the Convention (2018–2019). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/9	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/10	Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2016–2017 as at 31 December 2016. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/11	Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2015, including the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP (13)/12	Audited financial statements for the Global Mechanism as at 30 September 2013. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/13	Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2016–2017. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/14	Report of the Evaluation Office. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/15	Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(13)/16	Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/17	Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/18	Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/19	Draft advocacy policy frameworks: Gender, Drought, and Sand and Dust Storms. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP (13)/20 ³	Credentials of delegations. Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(13)/INF.1	Information for participants. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/INF.2	Note on the special segment of the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth session. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(13)/INF.3	Status of ratification

Other documents available at the session

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(12)/20	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twelfth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(12)/20/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twelfth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(11)/23	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(11)/23/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session: action taken
ICCD/COP(10)/31	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its tenth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(10)/31/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its tenth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(9)/18	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its ninth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(9)/18/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its ninth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(8)/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(8)/16/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session: action taken

³ Document to be issued in-session.

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(7)/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(7)/16/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session: action taken
ICCD/COP(6)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(6)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(5)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(5)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(4)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fourth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(3)/20/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its third session: action taken
ICCD/COP(2)/14/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session: action taken
ICCD/COP(1)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session: action taken

Annex II

Tentative schedule of work for the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties

Wednesday, 6 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<i>Opening of the session by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session</i>	- - -
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Election of the President 	
	<i>Statement by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth session</i>	
	<i>Statement on behalf of the host country</i>	
	<i>Statement by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</i>	
	<i>Statements by the representatives of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations</i>	
	<i>Statements by the representatives of regional and interest groups</i>	
	<i>Statement by a representative of non-governmental organizations</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of the agenda (ICCD/COP(13)/1) - Election of officers other than the President: Election of Vice-Presidents - Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers (ICCD/COP(13)/17) 	

Wednesday, 6 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m. ⁴
C O W	- - -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme and budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/7, ICCD/COP(13)/8-ICCD/CRIC(16)/2</i>) - Financial performance for the Convention trust funds (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/9</i>) - Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/10, ICCD/COP(13)/11, ICCD/COP(13)/12</i>) - Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds (2016–2017) (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/13</i>) - Report of the Evaluation Office (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/14</i>) • 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: implications for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 which states: “to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”, into the implementation of the UNCCD (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/2</i>) - The future strategic framework of the Convention (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/3</i>) • Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addressing particular regional and national conditions (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/2, ICCD/COP(13)/3</i>) - Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and the Global Environment Facility (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/18</i>) - Report of the Global Mechanism (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/8-ICCD/CRIC(16)/2, ICCD/COP(13)/9</i>)

⁴ From Wednesday afternoon (6 September) to Saturday afternoon (9 September), the subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties (Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC)) will meet and carry out their work according to their respective agendas. The CRIC will also meet on 13 September in the afternoon.

Friday, 8 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.⁵	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention – Terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention <i>(ICCD/COP(13)/5)</i> - Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies - <i>Draft advocacy policy frameworks: Gender, Drought, and Sand and Dust Storms</i> <i>(ICCD/COP(13)/19)</i> 	- - -

Saturday, 9 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of activities of civil society organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session 	- - -

⁵ The Committee of the Whole will commence after the conclusion of the deliberations of the CRIC.

Monday, 11 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment <p><i>Opening of the high-level segment</i></p> <p><i>Welcome address by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth session</i></p> <p><i>Welcome address by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</i></p> <p><i>Special statements on behalf of regional and interest groups</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment <p><i>Round table 1: Land degradation: a challenge to development, prosperity and peace</i></p> <p><i>Round table 2: Drought and sand and dust storms: early warning and beyond</i></p> <p><i>Round table 3: Land degradation neutrality: “From targets to action...what will it take?”</i></p>

Tuesday, 12 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Gender and land rights (a dialogue with civil society)</i> - <i>How can local governments help address the challenges of land degradation? (a dialogue with elected and local government representatives)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>How can the private sector invest to help achieve land degradation neutrality? (a dialogue with the private sector)</i> <p><i>Final discussions by ministers and other high-ranking officials</i></p> <p><i>Closing ceremony</i></p>

Wednesday, 13 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: implications for the UNCCD - Implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020) (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/4</i>) 	- - -

Thursday, 14 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional level - Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/6</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the UNCCD (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/15</i>) - Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the UNCCD and the business engagement strategy (<i>ICCD/COP(13)/16</i>)

Friday, 15 September 2017		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties • Organizational matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Election of officers other than the President: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology - Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention - Credentials of delegations <i>(ICCD/COP(13)/20)⁶</i> • Procedural matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme of work for the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties <p><i>Consideration of the report of the Committee of the Whole</i></p> <p><i>Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the session

⁶ Document to be issued in-session.