

Decision 11/COP.10

Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling articles 5, 6, 20 and 21 of the UNCCD,

Also recalling its decisions 6/COP.6, 6/COP.7, 6/COP.8 and 10/COP.9 on collaboration with the Global Environment Facility,

Further recalling decision 3/COP.8 and, in particular, paragraph 35,

Having considered the report of the Global Environment Facility contained in document ICCD/CRIC(10)/23,

Having also considered document ICCD/CRIC(10)/24 and the support provided by the Global Environment Facility in the current biennium to the reporting and review process under the Convention,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Fourth Global Environment Facility Assembly for the amendment to the Global Environment Facility Instrument which states that the Global Environment Facility shall be available to serve as a financial mechanism of the UNCCD;
2. *Welcomes* the improved resource allocation system of the Global Environment Facility, the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources, whereby indicative envelopes of resources are allocated to all eligible countries so that they can access funding for projects aimed at combating land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation;
3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Global Environment Facility Council for setting aside funds for enabling activities outside the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources resources to support activities under the focal area in accordance with the priorities of the UNCCD;
4. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to also support the alignment of subregional action programmes and regional action programmes with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (The Strategy), in the context of enabling activities and their implementation;
5. *Encourages* eligible Parties, taking into account the cross-sectoral nature of land degradation, to use existing potential to harness synergies across the Global Environment Facility focal areas in order further to reinforce the importance of sustainable land management for integrating environmental and developmental aspirations globally;
6. *Invites* the Convention institutions and the Global Environment Facility secretariat to assist eligible Parties in building capacities to mobilize and use Global Environment Facility resources in a timely fashion;
7. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, in further enhancing resource allocation during future replenishments, to consider increasing allocations to the land degradation focal area, depending on the availability of resources;
8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme, the Global Mechanism and the Global Environment Facility, to further explore the feasibility and modalities of a global programme of support to the

national, subregional and regional action programme alignment and reporting process, taking into consideration the feedback received from Parties at the tenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention;

9. *Urges* Parties to access the Global Environment Facility funding available for enabling activities, in accordance with Global Environment Facility procedures, to meet their obligations under the Convention, either (a) through a Global Environment Facility agency, (b) via direct access or (c) under an umbrella project;

10. *Encourages* Parties to seek support from all possible sources, including the Global Environment Facility, for country-driven activities to implement the results of national capacity self-assessments and other relevant capacity assessment initiatives;

11. *Encourages* affected eligible country Parties to increase their efforts to submit project proposals to multilateral financial institutions, in particular with respect to the resources allocated under the Global Environment Facility and its System for Transparent Allocation of Resources;

12. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to further simplify its procedures for access to land degradation focal area allocations in the interest of full and timely utilization by the eligible country Parties;

13. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult with the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility on whether amendments to the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and the Global Environment Facility are required, and on possible proposals in light of recent developments, and to report to the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties.

*9th plenary meeting
21 October 2011*