

Decision 14/COP.2

Traditional knowledge

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting the synopsis of reports on traditional knowledge compiled by the secretariat¹,

1. Requests the secretariat to complete its ongoing work on compiling the most important and widely applied traditional knowledge on a subregional and regional basis and on a national scale where appropriate, and make a synthesis of this work available to the Committee on Science and Technology at its third session;

2. Requests the secretariat:

(a) To explore ways and means of linking the work of the Committee on traditional knowledge with similar work being undertaken under other related conventions and to report to the Committee thereon at its third session; and

(b) To prepare a report on traditional knowledge in dryland ecosystems drawing on the discussions that took place at the second session of the Committee and the synthesis referred to in paragraph 1 above in time for its presentation to the next meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

3. Decides to appoint an ad hoc panel composed of ten experts with terms of reference as follows:

(a) Drawing upon the synthesis referred to in paragraph 1 above, to identify successful experiences and conclusions relating to:

(i) Threats and other constraints, including socio-economic impacts, confronting such traditional knowledge and practices;

(ii) Strategies for integrating traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices with modern knowledge based on specific case histories; and

(iii) Mechanisms for promoting and exchanging successful approaches;

(b) To report accordingly to the Conference of the Parties at its third session;

4. Requests the United Nations Environment Programme to ensure that issues relating to linking information networks on traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices to the national action programmes are addressed under the survey and evaluation of networks.

*10th Plenary
10 December 1998*

¹ ICCD/COP(2)/CST/5.