

Decision 15/COP.4Roster of independent experts

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 24, paragraph 2, of the Convention,

Having reviewed the revised roster of independent experts prepared by the secretariat in accordance with decision 15/COP.3, including the amended list of disciplines based on submissions from Parties through diplomatic channels,

Having reviewed also the report^{1/} prepared by the secretariat for the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Bearing in mind that little response was received by the secretariat from Parties on the use that has been made of the roster,

Noting the efforts made by the secretariat to ensure that the roster is available in electronic form as well as through the regular channels of the United Nations system,

Noting also the recommendations of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology on this subject,

1. *Invites* Parties to supplement their submissions to the secretariat for inclusion in the roster, with the aim in particular, of:

- (a) Making the roster more balanced in terms of gender;
- (b) Ensuring better representation of all relevant disciplines;
- (c) Including expertise from grassroots organizations and non-governmental organizations;

2. *Invites* Parties that have not yet submitted nominations of experts for the roster, to do so, including full mailing and e-mail addresses, via regular diplomatic channels before 30 June 2001;

3. *Further invites* Parties to report to the secretariat before 30 June 2001 on the use that they have made of the roster;

4. *Requests* the secretariat to ensure that an updated roster is made available in electronic form, as appropriate;

5. *Also requests* the secretariat to distribute on an annual basis a hard copy of the roster to Parties.

*12th Plenary
22 December 2000*

^{1/} ICCD/COP(4)/5/Add.1.