

Decision 15/COP.8

Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the provisions of decision 19/COP.7 on Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA),

Noting with appreciation the initiatives in respect of the LADA project undertaken by various international organizations and institutions, with the collaboration of the secretariat,

Taking note of the report on progress of the LADA project contained in document ICCD/COP(8)/CST/9,

1. *Encourages* the continuation of work on the LADA project and the involvement in assessments of experts from the roster of independent experts;
2. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to follow closely the activities of the LADA project;
3. *Invites* the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) Bureau to take the necessary action to strengthen its links with the work of the LADA project;
4. *Also invites* the LADA project to involve, and take account of the needs of, the Convention national focal points and stakeholders in its further work;
5. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the CST at its ninth session on progress with the LADA project.

*3rd plenary meeting
7 September 2007*