

Decision 16/COP.6

Traditional knowledge

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 17, paragraph 1(c) of the Convention, on the protection, integration, enhancement and validation of traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices,

Bearing in mind article 18, paragraph 2 of the Convention,

Bearing in mind also the stock of work carried out by the secretariat and the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) on traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices,

1. *Invites* the Parties through their national focal points to involve relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations, research institutions and local and indigenous communities in formulating views on how traditional knowledge can contribute to fulfilling the objectives of the Convention, and especially on the elements proposed for establishing a network on traditional knowledge to combat desertification, and to submit them to the secretariat no later than six months before the next session of the Conference of the Parties;
2. *Further invites* the Parties through their national focal points to involve relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations, research institutions, and local and indigenous communities, in compiling case studies and lessons learned at national, subregional and regional levels on the management and protection of traditional knowledge and to submit them to the secretariat no later than six months before the next session of the Conference of the Parties;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to compile the submissions and to report at the next session of the CST on this subject.

*9th plenary meeting
3 September 2003*