

Decision 17/COP.3Collaboration with other conventions and international bodies

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the provisions of article 8 of the Convention, on the relationship with other conventions, and article 22, paragraph 2(i), on the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions,

Recalling also article 23, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, on the coordination by the secretariat of its activities with the secretariats of other relevant international bodies and conventions,

Bearing in mind its decisions 13/COP.1 and 8/COP.2 on collaboration with other conventions, decision 9/COP.1 on the programme of work of the Conference of the Parties, decision 14/COP.1 on relations with the Global Environment Facility, and decision 24/COP.1 on the organization to house the Global Mechanism and agreement on its modalities,

Taking note of the reports by the secretariat on collaboration and synergies among Rio conventions for the implementation of the Convention^{1/} as well as on relations with the Global Environment Facility^{2/},

1. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the ongoing collaborative efforts between the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility on land degradation as it relates to the four focal areas of the Global Environment Facility; and in this regard, welcomes the development of the Action Plan for Enhancing Global Environment Facility Support for Land Degradation, to be considered by the Council of the Global Environment Facility in December 1999;

3. *Invites* the two secretariats to further enhance the collaboration between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility and to fully integrate the Global Mechanism in this collaboration;

4. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to take steps to implement the memoranda contained in the reports in consultation with concerned secretariats, and to develop, as appropriate, similar memoranda with the secretariats of relevant conventions and institutions in order to define their collaboration and cooperation, while respecting the status of the respective secretariats and autonomous decision-making of their conferences of the parties, taking into account that these conventions are at different stages of implementation;

^{1/} ICCD/COP(3)/9.

^{2/} ICCD/COP(3)/9/Add.1.

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, in preparing documents for the Conference of the Parties, to seek, as appropriate, the views of and inputs from relevant convention secretariats, as well as from relevant international organizations, agencies and institutions;

6. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to continue his consultations with the executive secretaries of the other relevant conventions, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention, on arrangements for liaison modalities at the Headquarters of the United Nations, with which they are institutionally linked, or with the United Nations Environment Programme and/or any other relevant locations;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to give special attention to the next Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity scheduled for May 2000, which has on its agenda a proposal for a work programme on dryland biodiversity;

8. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to give special attention to the next Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change scheduled for November 2000, which has on its agenda a discussion of issues related to land-use, land-use change and forestry;

9. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme and the executive secretaries of other relevant conventions, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention to facilitate the exchange of scientific and technical information and experience in order to enhance the linkages among various scientific bodies and promote efficiency in the reporting requirements of Parties under relevant conventions;

10. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session on the implementation of this decision, bearing in mind the relevant resolutions and/or decisions of the United Nations General Assembly.

*12th plenary
26 November 1999*