

Decision 18/COP.8

Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions 16/COP.3, 16/COP.4, 16/COP.5, 20/COP.6 and 20/COP.7 on the programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST),

Recognizing the need for access to knowledge by all decision makers, including land users,

Recognizing also the need for knowledge to combat desertification and for adaptation to climate change,

Taking note of the report of the CST Bureau contained in document ICCD/COP(8)/CST/4 and the observations made by the CST during its eighth session,

Taking note also of the final report of the Group of Experts contained in documents ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2 and Add.1 to Add.9,

Bearing in mind the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) referred to in decision 3/COP.8, and in particular its operational objective 3.3 on science, technology and knowledge, and outcomes 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4,

Decides that the priority theme to be addressed by the CST in line with decision 13/COP.8 will be 'Bio-physical and socio-economic monitoring and assessment of desertification and land degradation, to support decision-making in land and water management'.

*3rd plenary meeting
7 September 2007*