

## Decision 22/COP.12

### Roster of independent experts

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* article 24, paragraph two of the Convention,

*Also recalling* decision 26/COP.11,

*Having considered* document ICCD/COP(12)/13,

*Also having considered* document ICCD/COP(12)/CST/4, document ICCD/COP(12)/CST/6 and document ICCD/COP(12)/CST/7,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to facilitate the notification of experts from the roster of independent experts of the following activities and opportunities to:

(a) Participate in scientific events, including technical expert meetings and international and regional conferences organized as part of the mechanism for the provision of scientific and expert advice to the UNCCD, as outlined in decision 19/COP.12;

(b) Act as reviewers of science-based products elaborated under the supervision of the Science-Policy Interface;

(c) Participate in international expert panels and assessments on DLDD topics as experts nominated by the secretariat or by Parties; experts shall express their views in their own name and not in the name of the UNCCD;

(d) Act as reviewers of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform thematic assessment of land degradation and restoration;

(e) Provide relevant information to the UNCCD knowledge platforms such as the SKBP and the Capacity Building Marketplace;

2. *Also requests* the secretariat to integrate the roster of independent experts database into the SKBP to enable easier and more efficient use of the database, with the option to search for experts by discipline and country, and to provide links to other databases of relevant experts, as appropriate;

3. *Encourages* Parties to propose new experts in order to achieve a better gender balance within the roster of independent experts, and to include more experts from the social and economic sciences, especially experts on traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices.

*4<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting*

*16 October 2015*