

Decision 22/COP.8

Relations between the secretariat and its host country

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 5/COP.1 on the physical location of the permanent secretariat of the Convention,

Recalling also its decision 29/COP.7 on relations between the secretariat and its host country,

Having considered document ICCD/COP(8)/12 on relations between the secretariat and its host country,

Noting that the secretariat moved to the United Nations Campus in Bonn, Germany, in June 2006 and that temporary arrangements have been made including with regard to cost sharing for maintaining and operating the new premises,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to develop its relations with the Government of Germany, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the City of Bonn, as well as with other relevant stakeholders;
2. *Encourages* the secretariat to seek more cost-effective solutions for official meetings held in Bonn, pending the availability of adequate conference facilities, and *invites* the Government of Germany to continue contributing, on a voluntary basis, to meetings of the Convention organized in Bonn;
3. *Invites* the United Nations organizations based in Bonn and the Government of Germany to continue consultations with a view to concluding a premises agreement before the end of September 2008;
4. *Requests* the Government of Germany to continue to absorb most of the costs and take responsibility for maintaining and operating the new premises;
5. *Also requests* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session on progress made in its relations with the host country.

*9th plenary meeting
14 September 2007*