

Decision 24/COP.10

The role and responsibilities of science and technology correspondents

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision 15/COP.7 on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology, in particular paragraph 6, which encourages country Parties to select a science and technology correspondent for the Committee, coordinated by the national focal point,

Further recalling decision 22/COP.9 on science and technology correspondents, in particular paragraph 1, which requests the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology to consult with Parties and the regional groups to develop recommendations on the role and responsibilities of the science and technology correspondents for consideration at the second special session and the tenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology,

Having reviewed the report prepared by the secretariat contained in document ICCD/COP(10)/CST/7,

Having discussed the role and responsibilities of science and technology correspondents,

1. *Decides* that the role of science and technology correspondents is to assist national focal points in scientific matters related to the implementation of the Convention, and that their responsibilities shall include assisting national focal points in:

(a) Enhancing relationships and networks with the scientific community at the local, national, regional and global level with the support of national focal points;

(b) Establishing a dialogue with scientists and technologists at the local, national, regional and global level;

(c) Measuring progress in the achievement of the strategic objectives of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) and the reporting process;

2. *Recommends* that any further responsibilities for science and technology correspondents should be proposed by the national focal points to their respective science and technology correspondents;

3. *Invites* the secretariat to communicate on matters relating to the involvement of science in the Convention process with national focal points, copying science and technology correspondents;

4. *Invites* Parties and other interested organizations with the capacity to do so to contribute to the Supplementary Fund of the Convention, in order to ensure wider participation of science and technology correspondents in the official meetings of the Convention and to strengthen their involvement in the Convention process.

3rd plenary meeting

14 October 2011