

Decision 26/COP.9

Programme of work of the tenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22 of the Convention,

Recalling its decisions 16/COP.3, 16/COP.4, 16/COP.5, 20/COP.6, 20/COP.7 and 18/COP.8 on the programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST),

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

Recalling decision 13/COP.8 on reshaping the operation of the CST in line with The Strategy,

Taking note of the observations made by the CST during its ninth session,

1. *Encourages* the CST to focus its attention on activities that would lead to the achievement of the above outcomes as described in decision 9/COP.9 on the programme and budget of all the Convention bodies;
2. *Decides* that the CST agenda should focus on the following two priorities:
 - (a) The development and implementation of impact indicators related to the measurement of strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy as contained in decision 17/COP.9, including additional mechanisms to communicate, share and discuss these issues;
 - (b) Implementation of the knowledge management system, including traditional knowledge as outlined in article 16(g) of the Convention text, best practices and success stories on combating desertification, land degradation and drought issues;
3. *Also decides* to include, inter alia, the following items on the agenda of the tenth session of the CST:
 - (a) Consideration of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology on its second special session;
 - (b) Consideration of the draft multi-year (four-year) workplan for the Committee on Science and Technology (2012–2015);
 - (c) Consideration of the costed draft two-year work programme for the Committee on Science and Technology (2012–2013);

(d) The development and implementation of impact indicators related to the measurement of strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy as contained in decision 17/COP.9, including additional mechanisms to communicate, share and discuss these issues and the status of items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10 listed in decision 17/COP.9;

(e) Modalities for analysis of the scientific and technical information contained in the reports to be submitted in 2012 from reporting entities as defined in decision 13/COP.9, as well as of the use of the related scientific outcomes;

(f) Consideration of the progress report on the preparation of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference on 'Economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas', in accordance with decision 16/COP.9;

(g) Enhanced scientific cooperation and knowledge exchange between the Committee on Science and Technology and the scientific subsidiary bodies of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility and relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations;

(h) Implementation of the knowledge management system, including traditional knowledge as outlined in article 16(g) of the Convention text, best practices and success stories on combating desertification, land degradation and drought issues;

(i) Strengthening the support for scientific, research and training institutions in implementing The Strategy;

(j) Consideration of the final report on the assessment, described in decision 18/COP.9, of how to organize international, interdisciplinary scientific advice in the UNCCD process.

4. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate in all United Nations official languages at least six weeks prior to the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties a provisional annotated agenda and appropriate documentation for that session reflecting the decisions contained in paragraph 3 above.

*9th plenary meeting
2 October 2009*