

Decision 29/COP.6Programme of work of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22 of the Convention,

Recalling also its decisions 9/COP.1, 2/COP.2, 4/COP.3, 5/COP.4 and 5/COP.5 on its programme of work, 11/COP.1 on Procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation, 1/COP.5 on Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist in the review of the implementation of the Convention, and relevant decisions of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties,

1. *Decides* to include the following items in the agenda of its seventh session and, if necessary, its eighth session:

- (a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007;
- (b) Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2 (a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention:
 - (i) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;
 - (ii) Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, including the review referred to in paragraph 4 of decision 1/COP.5;
- (c) Committee on Science and Technology:
 - (i) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;
 - (ii) Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation of ad hoc panels of experts, as necessary, with their terms of reference and modalities of work;
- (d) Comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat, as defined in article 23, paragraph 2 of the Convention, the relevant articles of the regional implementation annexes, and in the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;
- (e) Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies, in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i) of the Convention;

(f) Consideration of the follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;

(g) Need for, modalities for, costs involved in, and feasibility and possible terms of reference of the regional coordination units;

(h) Outstanding items:

- (i) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure;
- (ii) Consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention,
- (iii) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6 of the Convention;

(i) Consideration of the progress made, *inter alia*, by the Global Mechanism, in mobilizing financial resources to support the UNCCD implementation, in particular national action programmes to combat desertification;

2. *Decides* to include interactive dialogue sessions with the relevant stakeholders, including ministers, non-governmental organizations, and members of parliament on points of the agenda of relevance to them;

3. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate in all official languages at least six weeks prior to the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties a provisional annotated agenda and appropriate documentation for that session, reflecting the decisions contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

*11th plenary meeting
5 September 2003*