

Decision 29/COP.7

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,

Having considered document ICCD/COP(7)/14 on relations between the secretariat and its host country,

Noting with appreciation that the secretariat's relationship with the Government of Germany continues to evolve constructively,

Welcoming the proposal made by the Government of Germany to move the physical location of the secretariat to the new United Nations campus facilities in Bonn,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to continue developing its relations with the Government of Germany, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the City of Bonn, as well as with academia and the private sector;
2. *Encourages* the secretariat to seek more cost-effective solutions for official meetings to be held in Bonn, pending the availability of adequate conference facilities;
3. *Invites* the Government of Germany to continue contributing, on a voluntary basis, to UNCCD meetings organized in Bonn;
4. *Requests* the secretariat, together with the other United Nations organizations based in Bonn, to continue consultations with the Government of Germany regarding the move to the United Nations campus, with a view to identifying ways to meet the subsequent anticipated higher costs of the facilities, and *further requests* the Government of Germany, in this regard, to make arrangements to absorb these costs, in keeping with its obligations as host country;
5. *Requests* the secretariat to report to the COP at its eighth session on further progress made in its relations with the host country.

*13th plenary meeting
28 October 2005*