

Decision 4/COP.3

Programme of work for the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22 of the Convention,

Recalling also its decisions 9/COP.1 and 2/COP.2 on its programme of work, 10/COP.1 on review of the implementation of the Convention and 11/COP.1 on procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation,

1. *Decides* to include the following selected items in the agenda of its fourth session and, if necessary, its fifth session:

(a) 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 of reports on implementation of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including on the participatory process, and on experience gained and results achieved in the preparation and implementation of national action programmes;
- (ii) Review of the report on progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in regions other than Africa;
- (iii) Review of reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist in the preparation and implementation of action programmes of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa, including information on financial resources they have provided, or are providing, under the Convention;
- (iv) Review of information provided by relevant organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on their activities in support of the preparation and implementation of action programmes under the Convention;
- (v) Consideration of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention, with a view to adopting it;

(b) 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 Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;

(c) Review, pursuant to the same article, of the report of the Global Mechanism on its activities, and the provision of guidance to it;

(d) Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention;

(e) Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies;

(f) Adjustment of the programme and budget;

(g) Consideration of outstanding items:

(i) Consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions of implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward;

(ii) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention;

(iii) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure;

(h) Open dialogue with non-governmental organizations;

2. *Decides also* to include the following selected item in the agenda of its fifth session:

(a) Adoption of the programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003;

3. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate in all official languages at least three months prior to the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties a provisional annotated agenda and appropriate documentation for that session, reflecting the decisions contained in paragraph 1 above.

*12th plenary
26 November 1999*