

**Decision 4/COP.6**Implementation of the Declaration on the commitments to enhance  
the implementation of the obligations of the Convention

*The Conference of Parties,*

*Recalling* its decision 8/COP.3 regarding the Recife Initiative: Towards enhancing the implementation of the Convention,

*Further recalling* its decision 8/COP.4 regarding the Declaration on the commitments to enhance the implementation of the obligations of the Convention,

*Considering* the need to improve the efficiency of actions to combat desertification and poverty with a view to achieving sustainable development in the affected areas,

1. *Commends* the Parties and international and non-governmental organizations for the quality of the information provided, whilst applying the terms of the Declaration;
2. *Invites* the affected developing country Parties and other Parties covered by Regional Implementation Annexes of the Convention to include systematically in their reports to the Conference of the Parties the areas of strategic action defined in the Declaration, with a view to enabling a better assessment of the state of implementation of the Convention at all levels;
3. *Stresses* that the affected developing country Parties and other Parties covered by Regional Implementation Annexes of the Convention need to enhance the role and effectiveness of the Convention in their national development strategies, and request for assistance in combating desertification and eliminating poverty, taking into consideration the importance of the participatory approach and the important role of the private sector;
4. *Encourages* the developed country Parties and the relevant international organizations to further take into account the aims and objectives of the UNCCD in their strategies to support the efforts of the affected developing country Parties and other Parties covered by Regional Implementation Annexes of the Convention in the context of the implementation of the Convention;
5. *Invites* the Committee on Science and Technology to provide, within the framework of the development and implementation of action programmes to combat desertification, opinions that are likely to enhance the implementation of methods to evaluate and monitor desertification;
6. *Invites* the secretariat to facilitate the updating of the help guide on drafting reports on the implementation of the Convention, so as to allow the country Parties to integrate fully into their reports the thematic areas specified in the Declaration on the commitments to enhance the implementation of the obligations of the Convention, working towards harmonizing the reporting system with other multilateral environmental agreements;

7. *Encourages* the affected developing country Parties and other Parties covered by Regional Implementation Annexes of the Convention which have not yet adopted national action programmes and, if applicable, subregional and regional action programmes, actively to pursue the goal of finalizing their programmes before the end of 2005 at the latest;

8. *Invites* the secretariat to refer to the areas of strategic action defined in the Declaration when determining the themes for the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought for the period covered by the Declaration, and to include some of these thematic areas in the programme of work of the third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention;

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make every effort to submit to the Conference of Parties at its seventh session, an interim report on the implementation of the Declaration on the commitments to enhance the implementation of the obligations of the Convention.

*9<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting  
3 September 2003*