

## Decision 6/COP.11

### Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recognizing* the need to ensure accountability, efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and institutional coherence in the delivery of services by the Convention's institutions and bodies for the implementation of the Convention and its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy), in line with the relevant provisions of decision 3/COP.8,

*Recalling* articles 20, 21, 22 and 23 of the Convention,

*Recalling also* article 27 of the Convention, which requires the Conference of the Parties to consider and adopt procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to the implementation of the Convention,

*Having noted* the revised memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on the “governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism”, signed in April 2012, replacing the original understanding as contained in decision 10/COP.3, in compliance with decision 6/COP.10 on the “governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism”, particularly its operative paragraphs 8, 9 and 10,

*Recalling* decisions 10/COP.3, 3/COP.7 and 3/COP.8 and particularly decision 6/COP.9, notably its paragraph 9, and the resulting report by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session on the evaluation of existing and potential reporting, accountability and institutional arrangements for the Global Mechanism as a follow-up to the assessment of the Global Mechanism by the Joint Inspection Unit,

*Recalling also* decision 6/COP.10, paragraph 11, which requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session, to undertake a process to identify a new housing arrangement for the Global Mechanism, including potential co-location with the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), with consideration given to information on costs, operational modalities and synergies, and governance efficiencies,

*Recalling further* paragraph 14 of the same decision which directs the Executive Secretary to present to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session a recommendation on the new housing arrangement for the Global Mechanism, including potential co-location with the UNCCD secretariat, for the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to adopt a final decision,

*Having considered* the report by the Executive Secretary as presented in document ICCD/COP(11)/3, whose recommendations are the result of consultations held since 1 July 2012 with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session, and informal discussions with Parties in conjunction with the eleventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, in compliance with decision 6/COP.10,

*Taking note* that United Nations duty stations other than Rome and Bonn also serve as centres of excellence in the domain of environment and sustainable development and that the present decision does not prejudice any future decision on the location and hosting organizations of the UNCCD secretariat and its entities,

*Having taken note* of the letter contained in document ICCD/COP(10)/INF.5 in which the International Fund for Agricultural Development states that should the Conference of the Parties decide to retain the International Fund for Agricultural Development as a host for the Global Mechanism, there “should be no cost or liability to the IFAD” in any future possible relationship,

*Mindful* that the accountability and legal representation of the Global Mechanism was transferred from the International Fund for Agricultural Development to the UNCCD secretariat through decision 6/COP.10,

*Recalling* the responsibilities of the Executive Secretary to assume overall management responsibility, including coordinating reporting on, inter alia, accounting, performance and activities of the Global Mechanism, to the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the same decision,

1. Noting the recommendation contained in the document ICCD/COP(11)/3 further reaffirming decision 6/COP.10, *decides* to relocate the Global Mechanism from the International Fund for Agricultural Development in Rome to Bonn, to be co-located with the UNCCD secretariat;
2. Further recognizing the importance and need to continue with coordination and interaction with United Nations agricultural agencies and donor community in Rome, *decides* to establish a liaison office in Rome with appropriate staff. The purpose and functioning of the liaison office is to be decided by the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism in agreement with the Executive Secretary;
3. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary, from the 1st of October 2013, to take all necessary measures, in consultation with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and, going forward, with others as appropriate, to develop the institutional arrangements in this decision in an expeditious manner so as to ensure that the administrative, procedural and legal aspects are implemented;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism to prepare and submit progress reports to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session and to the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its thirteenth session as well as the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session, on the implementation of this decision.

*10<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting  
27 September 2013*