

Decision 7/COP.11

United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020)

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/195 and resolution 64/201 on the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (UNDDD),

Also recalling decision 30/COP.9 and decision 31/COP.10,

Recognizing the importance of the UNDDD and the opportunity it offers all countries, in particular countries with deserts and those affected by desertification/land degradation and drought, in raising awareness on the value of deserts and mobilizing populations on issues of desertification,

Deeply concerned about the exacerbation of desertification/land degradation in all regions of the world, particularly in Africa, and about its grave implications for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, specifically those relating to the eradication of poverty and environmental sustainability,

Welcoming the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Task Force of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification and its enhanced support for observances of the World Day to Combat Desertification,

Having reviewed document ICCD/COP(11)/19 and *taking note* of document ICCD/COP(11)/MISC.1,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to support the implementation of the programme elaborated by United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) stakeholders in support of the Decade (UNDDD programme), prioritizing activities that enhance global visibility and the joint observance of the Decade and the World Day to Combat Desertification;
2. *Also requests* the secretariat, with the support of the Inter-Agency Task Force of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, to strengthen communication platforms and develop products, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, to demonstrate the outcomes and impact of the UNDDD programme on affected communities and affected ecosystems;
3. *Further requests* the secretariat to continue coordinating Decade activities in line with the mandate given by the General Assembly and to promote their integration in the work programmes of relevant United Nations system-wide entities;
4. *Invites* Parties, observers, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations that have not yet done so to submit to the secretariat proposals and contributions in the form of activities and events to mark the Decade for the period 2014–2015 and beyond;
5. *Encourages* Parties, observers, civil society organizations and intergovernmental organizations implementing Decade activities to specify in their national reports the nature of activities carried out and their results;

6. *Invites* Parties, multilateral funds including the Global Environment Facility and the World Bank, the private sector, and other partners of the Convention to provide financial contributions and technical support, including through North–South and South–South cooperation and partnerships, for the implementation of Decade programmes and activities of the Inter-Agency Task Force of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session on the implementation of this decision.

*9th plenary meeting
26 September 2013*