

Decision 7/COP.6

Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 2 (a) and (b) of the Convention, on the Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, and article 26, on Communication of information,

Recalling also its decision 11/COP.1 on Procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation,

Recalling further its decision 1/COP.5 on Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist in the review of the implementation of the Convention,

Acknowledging the outcome of the first and second sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC), held in Rome, Italy, from 11 to 22 November 2002 and in Havana, Cuba, from 26 to 29 August 2003, respectively,

Recalling in particular that the mandate and functions of the Committee as stated in paragraph 1(b) of its terms of reference shall be subject to renewal at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, in the light of lessons learned during the overall review of the Committee,

Also recalling that the Conference of the Parties, no later than its seventh session, shall review the terms of reference of the Committee, its operations and its schedule of meetings, with a view to making any necessary modifications, including reconsidering the need for, and modalities of the Committee as a subsidiary body,

Having considered the written proposals submitted by country Parties and the document prepared by the secretariat (ICCD/COP(6)/3),

1. *Takes note* of the views and suggestions of the country Parties' on how to improve the implementation review process as a whole, as contained in document ICCD/COP(6)/3;
2. *Decides* that the criteria against which the terms of reference, operations and schedule of meetings of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) will be reviewed at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, will be as follows:
 - (a) *Relevance*: the extent to which the Committee's overall objectives, purpose and results have been in line with the needs and expectations of the Parties;

(b) Impact: the extent to which there has been progress towards achieving the overall objectives of the Convention which can be attributed to the CRIC, *inter alia*, through relevant action taken by the Conference of the Parties on approaches, policies and strategies to strengthen the implementation of the Convention;

(c) Effectiveness: the extent to which the Committee has responded to its mandate and functions as defined in decision 1/COP.5, and in particular in paragraph 1 (a) and (b) of the annex to that decision;

(d) Appropriateness of format: the extent to which the format of CRIC sessions is conducive to interactive discussions and learning-based interaction leading to a transparent and flexible review of implementation;

(e) Cost-effectiveness: the extent to which the outcomes of the Committee are commensurate with the resources invested, in terms of both the quantity and quality of its deliberations;

3. *Invites* Parties to submit their views on the review as decided in paragraph 2 above, before 1 January 2005, but not later than six months before the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a report based on views submitted in regard to paragraph 3 above with the aim of facilitating such review, and to submit it to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session.

*11th plenary meeting
5 September 2003*