

Decision 7/COP.7

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 articles 22 (a) and (b) and 26 of the Convention,

Recalling also decisions 1/COP.5 and 7/COP.6 on the consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention,

Taking note of the report by the secretariat contained in document ICCD/COP(7)/3,

Acknowledging the outcome of the sessions of the CRIC held so far,

1. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the CRIC as a subsidiary body of the COP up to and including the eighth session of the COP;
2. *Decides also* that the mandate and functions of the Committee as stated in paragraph 1 (b) of its terms of reference shall be subject to revision and renewal at the eighth session of the COP, in the light of lessons learned during the full cycle of review by the Committee;
3. *Invites* Parties and relevant CRIC stakeholders, including civil society, to submit their responses to the questions contained in document ICCD/COP(7)/3 to the secretariat no later than six months before COP 8, and *requests* the secretariat to compile this information for consideration by the Parties at COP 8;
4. *Decides further* that the review of the terms of reference of the Committee, its operations and its schedule of meetings will take place at the eighth session of the COP with a view to making any necessary modifications, including reconsidering the modalities of the Committee as a subsidiary body;
5. *Requests* the secretariat, in consultation with the Chairperson of the CRIC, to prepare the agenda and the organization of work of the Committee at its fifth session in accordance with decision 1/COP.5, in such a way as to maximize exchanges of best practices, experiences and lessons learned between Parties and observers, while paying due regard to improving the cost-effectiveness and time efficiency of its meetings.

*13th plenary meeting
28 October 2005*