

Decision 8/COP.9

Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that The Strategy calls for partnership building for the implementation of the Convention,

Reaffirming the need for mutually supportive targeted action to address desertification and land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought,

Welcoming the progress made to date in the development of cooperative arrangements with relevant conventions,

Expressing appreciation of those conventions, international agreements and programmes that have provided information and undertaken common action to assist with the delivery of The Strategy,

1. *Encourages* the development of further cooperation with relevant international bodies on matters pertaining to desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) with respect to the implementation of The Strategy;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue cooperation with, inter alia, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, with a view to strengthening the involvement of these agencies and organizations in the implementation of the Convention through their cooperation with affected countries;
3. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to continue coordinating with the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity through the Joint Liaison Group to facilitate exchanges of information and joint approaches to harmonizing and facilitating the reporting requirements of Parties;
4. *Requests* the secretariat to continue its advocacy on sustainable management of the land and water resources and drought risk management (DRM) issues in the context of international cooperation on climate change and biological diversity;
5. *Further requests* the secretariat in preparation for the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to elaborate draft advocacy policy frameworks that foster an enabling policy environment for advocating issues that include, inter alia, synergy with climate change adaptation and mitigation, and biological diversity of global ecosystems as related to addressing DLDD;

6. *Also requests* the secretariat to generate advocacy policy frameworks on thematic issues in order to address the adverse impacts of DLDD, keeping in mind gender sensitive approaches, and to regularly inform affected countries and other key stakeholders on such proceedings that may be useful in the implementation of action programmes;
7. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary in the development of the advocacy policy frameworks to consult widely with Parties and maintain consistency with the programme of work of the secretariat as it relates to the implementation of The Strategy;
8. *Invites* the Executive Secretary to utilize the relevant advocacy policy frameworks to be developed to seek financial resources for their implementation consistent with the fundraising activities of the secretariat;
9. *Urges* Parties and stakeholder organizations to seek and build cooperation through partnerships, targeted research and funding for the prevention of desertification and land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought through national action programmes, subregional action programmes, regional action programmes and thematic programme networks, thereby avoiding duplication of efforts and ensuring the promotion of policies in national strategies, cooperation frameworks and other plans and programmes, taking into account the importance of the carbon contained in dryland soils, sustainable land management and DRM in adaptation strategies and the relevance of the ecosystem approach to dryland biodiversity management;
10. *Invites* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to strengthen coordinated approaches to exploring opportunities for accessing funding through the Global Environment Facility and other funding mechanisms for relevant initiatives on DLDD;
11. *Requests* the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention to include in its programme of work for 2011 a review and assessment of progress with this decision and report to the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties.

*9th plenary meeting
2 October 2009*