



**Conference of the Parties**

**Draft report of the Conference of the Parties on its  
fourteenth session, held in New Delhi, India from 2 to 13  
September 2019**

**Rapporteur: Mr. Carlos M. Rodriguez (Costa Rica)**

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Annexes

- I. [REMAINING CHAPTERS, ANNEXES AND FINAL DECISIONS TO BE COMPLETED]

## **I. Opening of the session**

### **A. Opening of the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties**

1. On 2 September 2019, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 14) was opened by Mr. Sun, Guoji, Director General, Department of Combating Desertification, National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China, on behalf of the COP 13 President H.E. Mr. Zhang Jianlong. Pursuant to article 22 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the President of COP 14 made a statement.

### **B. Election of the President**

#### **(Agenda item 1 (a))**

2. At its 1st meeting, on 2 September 2019, the COP elected, by acclamation, H.E. Mr. Prakash Javadekar, Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, of the Republic of India, as President of its fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 14).

3. The incoming President made a statement.

### **C. General statements**

4. Also, at the 1st meeting, on 2 September 2019, H.E. Mr. Babul Supriyo, Minister of State, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, of the Republic of India made a statement on behalf of the host country.

5. At the same meeting, Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, made a statement.

6. Also at the 1st meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the State of Palestine (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Finland (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Africa (Annex I)), Iraq (on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group), Grenada (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group), Malta (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Northern Mediterranean (Annex IV)), Belarus (on behalf of Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V)) and Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Arab Group).

7. Furthermore, a statement was made by a representative of a non-governmental organization (Gram Bharati Samiti).

## **II. Organizational matters**

### **A. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies**

#### **(Agenda item 1 (b) and (f))**

8. The Conference considered agenda item 1 (b) and (f) at its 1st meeting, on 2 September 2019.

9. Following a statement by the President of COP 14, the Conference adopted its agenda and the organization of work as contained in document ICCD/COP(14)/1, as follows:

1. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Election of the President;
  - (b) Adoption of the agenda;

- (c) Election of officers other than the President:
    - (i) Election of Vice-Presidents;
    - (ii) Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology;
    - (iii) Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention;
  - (d) Credentials of delegations;
  - (e) Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers;
  - (f) Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies.
2. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: implications for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:
- (a) Integration of Sustainable Development Goal 15 and related target 15.3 into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and land degradation neutrality;
  - (b) Modalities, criteria and terms of reference for a midterm evaluation of the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework;
  - (c) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification communication plan and the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020).
3. Effective implementation of the Convention at national, subregional and regional level:
- a) Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;
  - b) Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies;
  - c) Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues:
    - i. Drought;
    - ii. Sand and dust storms;
    - iii. New and emerging issues: land tenure;
  - d) Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms: Global Mechanism.
4. Linking scientific knowledge with decision-making: review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology and its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties.
5. Special segment:
- a) Parallel ministerial/high-level round tables:
    - i. Round table 1: Land, climate and renewable energy;
    - ii. Round table 2: Rural and urban communities – failing or flourishing together;
    - iii. Round table 3: Fostering a global movement for ecosystem restoration;
  - b) Interactive dialogue 1: A values-based approach to land stewardship;
  - c) Interactive dialogue 2: Healthy land – healthy people;

- d) Interactive dialogue 3: Boosting sustainable value chains for land-based business.
6. Programme and budget:
  - a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2020–2021;
  - b) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds;
  - c) Report of the Evaluation Office.
7. Procedural matters:
  - a) Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;
  - b) Participation and involvement of the private sector in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the business engagement strategy;
  - c) Programme of work for the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties.
8. Report on the session.

## **B. Election of officers other than the President**

### **(Agenda item 1 (c))**

10. The Conference considered this agenda item at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 2 and 4 September 2019, and elected the following officers for its fourteenth session:

#### *Vice-Presidents:*

- Mr. Jean Ilunga Muneng (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
- Mr. Kamaye Maazou (Niger)
- Mr. Abdulrahman Alfadley (Saudi Arabia)
- Mr. Carlos M. Rodriguez (Costa Rica)
- Mr. Robert Browne (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
- Mr. Andrey Kuzmich (Belarus)
- Mr. Ashot Vardevanyan (Armenia)
- Mr. Franz Breitwieser (Austria)
- Ms. Barbara De Rosa-Joynt (United States of America)

11. At the 2nd meeting, on 4 September 2019, the Conference appointed Mr. Carlos M. Rodriguez (Costa Rica) as Rapporteur of the fourteenth session.

#### *Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology*

12. At the \_\_\_\_ meeting, on \_\_\_\_ September, the Conference elected \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) as Chair of the forthcoming fifteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology.

#### *Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention*

13. At the \_\_\_\_ meeting, on \_\_\_\_ September, the Conference elected \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) as Chairperson of the forthcoming nineteenth and twentieth sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.

### **C. Credentials of delegations**

#### **(Agenda item 1d)**

14. At its 4th and \_\_\_ meetings, on 6 September and \_\_\_ September 2019, the Conference considered the provisional report on credentials of delegations, as contained in document ICCD/COP(14)/21, and the final report on credentials of delegations, as contained in document ICCD/COP(14)/XX, and the recommendations contained therein.

15. At its \_\_\_\_\_ meeting, the Conference adopted a draft decision contained in document ICCD/COP(14)/L.X approving the final report on credentials.

### **D. Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers**

#### **(Agenda item 1 e)**

16. At the 1st meeting, on 2 September 2019, following a statement by a representative of the UNCCD, the Conference decided to accredit as observers the organizations and private sector entities listed in annexes I to III of document ICCD/COP(14)/15 and in annex I of document ICCD/COP(14)/15/Add.1.

### **E. Committee on Science and Technology**

17. The fourteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology was convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Carl Kojo Fiati (Ghana). The Committee held six meetings, from 3 to 6 September.

18. At the 1st meeting, on 3 September 2019, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda as contained in document ICCD/COP(14)/CST/1, and approved the organization of work for the session as contained in the annex of the document.

19. At the same meeting, the Committee agreed to establish a contact group and appointed Mr. Matti Nummmelin (Finland) as Facilitator of the contact group.

20. At its 6th meeting, on 6 September 2019, the Committee elected, by acclamation, the following as Vice-Chairs for its forthcoming fourteenth session: Ms. Anna Louise (Italy), Mr. Ratko Ristic (Serbia), Mr. Pablo Viegas (Argentina) and Ms. Karma Dema Dorji (Bhutan).

21. The Committee submitted six recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its 6th meeting, on 6 September 2019.

### **F. Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**

22. The eighteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention was convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Samuel Mabilin Contreras (Philippines). The Committee held four meetings, from 3 to 12 September 2019.

23. At the 1st meeting, on 3 September 2019, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(18)/1 and approved the organization of work for the session as contained in the annex of the document.

24. Also at the same meeting, the Committee agreed to establish a contact group and appointed Ms. Skumsa Ntshanga (South Africa) as Facilitator of the contact group.

25. The Committee submitted seven recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its 4th meeting, on 12 September 2019.

*(to be completed)*

## **G. Committee of the Whole**

26. At its 1st meeting, on 2 September 2019, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole and to allocate to the Committee the agenda items listed in paragraph 16 of the COP 14 agenda contained in document ICCD/COP(14)/1 and as orally corrected.

27. Also, at its 1st meeting, the Conference designated Mr. Trevor Benn (Guyana) as Chair of the Committee of the Whole. The Committee held five meetings, from 3 to 12 September 2019.

28. At its 1st meeting, the Committee established two contact groups: (a) a contact group on programme and budget matters, and (b) a contact group on COW matters other than the programme and budget. The Committee decided that the Chair of the Committee of the Whole would serve as the Facilitator of the first meetings of the Contact Groups, on the understanding that the respective Facilitators would be appointed once identified. At its 2nd meeting, the Committee appointed Mr. Troy Torrington (Guyana) as the Facilitator of Contact Group 2 on COW matters other than the programme and budget. At its 3rd meeting, the Committee appointed Mr. R.B. Lal (India) as the Facilitator of Contact Group 1 on programme and budget matters.

29. The Committee submitted \_\_\_\_\_ recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its 5th meeting, on 12 September 2019.

*(to be completed)*

## **H. Attendance**

30. The fourteenth session of the COP was attended by representatives of the following \_\_\_\_\_ Parties to the Convention:

31. The session was also attended by observers from the following States not Party to the Convention: \_\_\_\_\_

32. The following United Nations organs, organizations and programmes, offices and specialized agencies were represented: \_\_\_\_\_

33. The session was also attended by representatives of \_\_\_\_\_ intergovernmental organizations and \_\_\_\_\_ civil society organizations.

*(to be completed)*

## **I. Documentation**

34. The documents submitted for the consideration of the COP at its fourteenth session are listed in annex xx.

## **III. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session**

(Agenda item 1 b) and f))

35. The Conference held two open dialogue sessions under agenda item 1 (b) and (f) at its 3rd and 12th meetings, on 5 September and 11 September 2019.

36. Mr. Octavio Perez Pardo from CIASE (Argentina) facilitated the first open dialogue session entitled: "Inclusive dialogue on land tenure in the context of land degradation neutrality".

37. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Mr. Valentin Ciubotaru from NGO Bios, Mr. Goundo Sissoko from REFEDE, Ms. Nahid Naghizadeh from CENESTA, Mr. Pablo Mota from Mision Verde Amazonia and Ms. Nathalie van Haren from Both ENDS.

38. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of: Dominican Republic, European Union, Argentina, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Colombia, Brazil, Gabon, India, Senegal, Switzerland and Burkina Faso and by a representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

39. Statements were made by representatives of Guinea Bissau and Bolivia (Plurinational State of). A statement was made on behalf of a civil society organization.

40. Mr. Emmanuel Seck from ENDA Tiers Monde (Senegal) facilitated the second open dialogue session entitled: “Intergenerational cooperation for Land Restoration including land tenure security, green jobs and migration”.

*(to be completed)*

## **IV. Special segment:**

**(Agenda item 5)**

### **A. Parallel ministerial/high-level round tables**

41. At its 5th to 11th meetings, on 9 and 10 September 2019, the Conference held a special high-level segment with opening and closing meetings, three parallel ministerial/high-level round tables, three interactive dialogue sessions and one formal statements session under the agenda item.

42. At the 5th meeting, on 9 September 2019, the President of the Conference opened the special high-level segment and made a statement.

43. At the same meeting, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD made a statement.

44. Also at the same meeting, the United Nations Deputy Secretary General, Ms. Amina Mohammed made a statement.

45. At the same meeting, the Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, H.E. Mr. Ralph Gonsalves, delivered a statement.

46. Also at the same meeting, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, addressed the Conference.

47. At the same meeting, H.E. Mr. Zhang Jianlong, Minister of State Forestry Administration of China and COP 13 President, made a statement.

48. Also at the same meeting, statements on behalf of regional and interest groups were made by H.E. Mr. Riad Attari, Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), H.E. Ms. Elina Kalkku, Deputy Minister of Development Policy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States), H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Garba, Minister of Environment, Urban Sanitation and Sustainable Development of Niger (on behalf of the African Group), H.E. Dr. Mahendra Reddy, Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, Waterways and Environment of Fiji (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States), H.E. Mr. Robert Browne, Minister of Health of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), H.E. Dr. Jose A. Herrera, Minister of Environment of Malta, (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Northern Mediterranean (Annex IV)) and H.E. Mr. Ezzaldin Omar Abusteit, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of Egypt (on behalf of the Arab Group).



49. A statement was also made by Mr. Emmanuel Seck, Executive Director of ENDA (on behalf of civil society organizations).

50. At the 6th, 7th and 8th meetings, on 9 September 2019, the Conference held three closed parallel ministerial/high-level round tables under agenda item 5 (a), as follows:

**1. Round table 1: Land, climate and renewable energy**

51. Round table 1 was co-chaired by H.E. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and H.E. Mr. Guðmundur Ingi Guðbrandsson, Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources of Iceland.

**2. Round table 2: Rural and urban communities – failing or flourishing together**

52. Round table 2 was co-chaired by H.E. Ms. Ana Cristina Quiros, Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, and H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Garba, Minister of Environment, Urban Safety and Sustainable Development of Niger.

**3. Round table 3: Fostering a global movement for ecosystem restoration**

53. Round table 3 was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Nestor Bassiere, Minister of Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change of Burkina Faso, and H.E. Dr. Mahendra Reddy, Minister of Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, Waterways and Environment of Fiji.

55. At its 9th meeting, the Conference held two interactive dialogue sessions under agenda items 5 (b) and (c) as follows:

**B. Interactive dialogue 1: A values-based approach to land stewardship**

56. Interactive dialogue 1 was moderated by H. E. Mr. Ezekiel Joseph, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Cooperatives of Saint Lucia.

**C. Interactive dialogue 2: Healthy land – healthy people;**

57. Interactive dialogue 2 was moderated by H.E. Mr. Dennis Musuku Wanchinga, Minister of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection of Zambia.

58. At its 11th meeting, the Conference held a third interactive dialogue session under agenda item 5 (d), as follows:

**D. Interactive dialogue 3: Boosting sustainable value chains for land-based business.**

59. Interactive dialogue 3 was moderated by H.E. Mrs. Patricia Appiagyei, Deputy Minister of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation of Ghana.

60. At its 10th meeting, during the formal statements session, statements were made by the Minister of Environment of Armenia, Eric Grigoryan (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe (Annex V)); the Minister of Agriculture and Forests of Bhutan, Yeshey Penjor; the Minister for Environment Energy and Climate Change of Seychelles, Wallace Cosgrow; the Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock of Burundi, Deo-Guide Rurema; the Minister of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection of Zambia, Dennis Musuku Wachinga; the Minister of Environment of Haiti, Joseph Jouthe; the Minister of the Environment, Green Economy and Climate Change of Burkina Faso, Batio Nestor Bassiere; the Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change of Bangladesh, Shahab Uddin; the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Senegal, Abdou Karim Sall; the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Central African Republic, Thierry Kamach; the Vice-

Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, Ana Cristina Quirós; the General Director at the Ministry of Agriculture of Lebanon, Louis Lahoud; the Director General of the National Fund for Environment and Climate of Benin, Appolinaire D. Gnanvi; the Deputy Chef de Cabinet of the Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d'Ivoire, Nasséré Kaba; the Vice-Minister for Water Resources and Irrigation of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Braulio Huaylla; the Chief Director at the Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining of Malawi, Oliver Kumbambe; the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources of Iceland, Guðmundur Ingi Guðbrandsson; the High Commissioner of Guyana in India, David Goldwin Pollard; the Ambassador of Ecuador to India, Héctor Cueva; and the Permanent Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Environment of Nigeria, Ibukun Odusote.

61. At the 11th meeting, on 10 September 2019, the President of the Conference closed the special high-level segment. The meeting heard reports by the respective Chairs of the three closed parallel ministerial/high-level round tables held under agenda item 5 (a). The outcomes of the three interactive dialogues held under agenda item 5 (b), (c) and (d) were also presented.

62. The Chairpersons' summary reports on the three parallel ministerial/high-level round tables and the moderators' summary reports on the interactive dialogues are included in Annex \_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

*(to be completed)*

## **V. Decisions and resolution adopted by the Conference of the Parties**

63. At its \_\_\_\_th, \_\_\_\_th and \_\_\_\_\_ meetings, on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ September 2019, the Conference adopted \_\_\_\_ decisions and \_\_\_\_ resolutions.

*(to be completed)*

### **A. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the President of the Conference of the Parties**

64. At the recommendation of the President of its fourteenth session, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

*(to be completed)*

### **B. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Bureau**

65. At the recommendation of the Bureau of the COP at its fourteenth session, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

*(to be completed)*

### **C. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole**

66. At the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

*(to be completed)*

#### **D. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**

67. At the recommendation of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

*(to be completed)*

#### **E. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology**

68. At the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

*(to be completed)*

#### **F. Resolution adopted by the Conference**

69. At its \_\_\_th meeting, on \_\_\_ September 2019, the Conference adopted the following resolution at the recommendation of\_\_\_\_\_:

*(to be completed)*

### **VI. Conclusion of the session**

#### **Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its fourteenth session**

##### **(Agenda item 8)**

70. At its \_\_\_\_ meeting, on \_\_\_\_ September 2019, the Conference adopted the draft report on its fourteenth session (ICCD/COP(14)/L.\_\_\_\_) and authorized the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report, as appropriate.

*(to be completed)*

**Annex xx**

**Documents before the Conference of the Parties at its  
fourteenth session**

*(to be completed)*

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