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**Conference of the Parties**

**Second extraordinary session**

Bonn, 6–9 December 2021

Items 2 (b) and (e) of the provisional agenda

**Organizational matters**

**Adoption of the agenda**

**Organization of work**

**Provisional agenda and annotations**

**Note by the secretariat**

**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Opening of the session;
2. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Officers;
  - (b) Adoption of the agenda;
  - (c) Credentials of delegations;
  - (d) Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers;
  - (e) Organization of work;
3. Programme and budget – Proposed interim budget for 2022;
4. Report on the session;
5. Closure of the session.



## II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

### Background

1. In accordance with the *Financial rules of the Conference of the Parties, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention Secretariat* (see decision 2/COP.1, annex, para. 4), “the Conference of the Parties shall, prior to the commencement of the financial period that the budget covers, consider the budget estimates and adopt by consensus a core budget authorizing expenditures...”. In consideration of the ongoing global challenges posed by the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties (COP Bureau), at its intersessional meeting held on 8 April 2021, decided to postpone the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to 2022.

2. Furthermore, the COP Bureau, at its subsequent intersessional meeting held on 28 June 2021, reviewed the situation and considered different scenarios for ensuring that the operations of the secretariat would continue beyond 2021. Following consultations, it was agreed to consider convening an extraordinary session of the COP to consider and approve an interim budget for 2022 through a silence/written procedure,<sup>1</sup> provided that the request for an extraordinary session received the support of at least one third of the Parties, in accordance with the applicable rule of procedure (rule 4, para. 3) and provisions of the Convention.

3. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary communicated the request to Parties to the Convention through a notification dated 28 June 2021 and invited the Parties to respond. Also, in accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the secretariat, on 5 and 6 July 2021, notified those entitled to be observers (pursuant to rules 6 and 7 of the rules of procedure) of this session so that they may be represented as observers. In early September 2021, the secretariat informed Parties of the acceptance of the proposal to hold an extraordinary session on 6–9 December 2021.<sup>2</sup>

### 1. Opening of the session

4. The second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP ES-2) will be opened on Monday, 6 December 2021, at 12.30 p.m. Bonn time (Central European Time) by the President of COP 14 or the representative of the President by the transmission of a written statement, in the official languages of the United Nations, to all registered representatives of Parties and observers.

### 2. Organizational matters

#### (a) Officers

5. Consistent with rule 22, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, the current President and Vice-Presidents will serve as the Bureau of the COP at its second extraordinary session.

#### (b) Adoption of the agenda

6. The provisional annotated agenda (ICCD/COP(ES-2)/1) was prepared by the secretariat, in accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, in agreement with the COP President and rule 14 of the rules of procedure, which requires the provisional agenda for an extraordinary session to consist only of those items proposed in the request for the holding of the extraordinary session. In that regard, item 3 below, which refers to the “Programme and budget – Proposed interim budget for 2022”, constitutes the main agenda of the extraordinary session.

7. The process for requesting the convening of an extraordinary session and the subsequent determination to convene this session as confirmed by the support of Parties

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<sup>1</sup> See chapter 2 (e) below for more information on this procedure.

<sup>2</sup> In accordance with rule 4, paragraph 3 of the rules of procedure of the COP (decision 1/COP.1).

shows that the agenda of the extraordinary meetings is already set and presumed agreed. Taking into account this fact and the silence/written procedure that will be applied for this session, the adoption of the agenda will be considered to have occurred at the time of the transmission of the first written communication by the President as described in paragraph 8 and 10 below.

ICCD/COP(ES-2)/1 – Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat

**(c) Credentials of delegations**

8. In accordance with rules 19 and 20 of the rules of procedure, the COP Bureau will examine the credentials of representatives, alternate representatives and advisers and circulate its report to the Parties together with the opening statement of the President of the COP.

ICCD/COP(ES-2)/4 – Credentials of delegations. Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties

**(d) Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers**

9. In accordance with the provisions of article 22, paragraph 7, of the Convention, of rules 6 and 7 of the rules of procedure, and of decision 26/COP.1, a list of intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs), including non-governmental organizations, proposed for accreditation at COP ES-2 is contained in document ICCD/COP(ES-2)/3. By its decision 5/COP.10, the COP adopted revised procedures for the accreditation of CSOs and representatives from the private sector to the COP and their participation in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

ICCD/COP(ES-2)/3 – Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector, and admission of observers. Note by the secretariat

**(e) Organization of work**

10. The session will be considered to have started at 12.30 p.m. Bonn time (Central European Time) on Monday, 6 December 2021, by the transmission of the written statement of the President. The written statement will enclose a draft decision text on an interim budget for 2022, as proposed by the President, for comments by the registered representatives of Parties. The proposed draft decision text will be placed under the silence procedure until 12.30 p.m. Bonn time (Central European Time) on Thursday, 9 December 2021. If the silence is not broken (i.e. no comment has been received during the preceding 72 hours), the decision will be considered adopted, and the President will announce same through a written statement that will be transmitted to delegations at 1.30 p.m. Bonn time (Central European Time) on the same day, thereby also marking the end of COP ES-2. If the silence procedure is broken, following consultations and further agreement of the COP Bureau members, the session will be suspended so as to allow more time for consultations among Parties. The resumed session may be held for a silence period of 48 hours.

11. The rules of procedure for the sessions of the COP shall continue to apply in full, except when otherwise decided due to the practical exigencies of virtual meetings.

### 3. Programme and budget – Proposed interim budget for 2022

12. Article 22, paragraph 2 (g), of the Convention calls on the COP to approve a programme and budget for its activities, including those of its subsidiary bodies, and to undertake the necessary arrangements for their financing.

13. In accordance with the *Financial rules of the Conference of the Parties, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention Secretariat* (see decision 2/COP.1, annex, para. 4), “the [COP] shall, prior to the commencement of the financial period that the budget covers, consider the budget estimates and adopt by consensus a core budget authorizing expenditures...”. Given that a results-based budget and work programme for the biennium 2022–2023 would have been prepared and submitted for consideration by Parties at COP 15, and that COP 15 will not take place in 2021 as initially planned, the secretariat will submit for the consideration of the COP at its second extraordinary session the interim programme budget proposal for 2022.

14. The secretariat has issued document ICCD/COP(ES-2)/2 containing a proposal for an interim budget for 2022 for the Convention.

15. Informal consultations among Parties will be conducted under the auspices of the President and the COP Bureau through an informal budget contact group meeting. At the end of this consultation period, a draft decision, based on the draft prepared and submitted by the Executive Secretary, will be developed as a proposal of the President.

16. Under this item, the COP is expected to adopt an interim programme budget for the year 2022 on the basis of the President’s proposal submitted through the silence procedure described in paragraph 10 above.

ICCD/COP(ES-2)/2 – Programme and budget – Proposed interim budget for 2022. Note by the secretariat

### 4. Report on the session

17. An outline of the draft report will be circulated together with the President’s opening statement referred to in paragraph 4 above. The report will be finalized to reflect the outcome of COP ES-2 and will be considered adopted when the President’s conclusion on agenda item 3 is circulated on Thursday, 9 December 2021, at 1.30 p.m. Bonn time (Central European Time).

18. In accordance with established practice, the Rapporteur will take the responsibility of completing the final report after the session, with the guidance of the President and assistance of the Secretariat.

### 5. Closure of the session

19. It is expected that COP ES-2 will close on Thursday, 9 December 2021, at 1.30 p.m. Bonn time (Central European Time), as indicated in paragraph 10 above.