



Convention to Combat Desertification

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Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

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Venue

1. Pursuant to provisions contained in decision 39/COP.10, and in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties (COP) (decision 1/COP.1), the eleventh session of the COP (COP 11) will be held in Windhoek, Namibia from 16 to 27 September 2013.

Logistical arrangements

2. A few weeks before the opening of COP 11, the secretariat will distribute an information note (ICCD/COP(11)/INF.1) detailing registration and security procedures, as well as other logistical arrangements for the session.

Participants

3. In accordance with article 36, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), for each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Consequently, the Parties as at the opening of COP 11 on 16 September 2013 will be the States and regional economic integration organizations to have deposited their instruments by 18 June 2013. Parties which deposit their instruments after 18 June and by 29 June 2013 will become Parties during COP 11. Those which do so after 29 June 2013 will not become Parties until after the closure of the session but can participate in the session as observers, together with the United Nations, its specialized agencies, any State member thereof or observer thereto not Party to the Convention, as well as accredited intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Relevant information on the status of ratifications, acceptances, approvals or accessions has been made available on the Convention website (<www.unccd.int>).

Agenda

4. By its decision 38/COP.10, the COP decided to include in the provisional agenda for its eleventh session standing items on its agenda as defined in decision 9/COP.1, as well as matters arising from other decisions of the COP.

Documentation

5. A list of documents for COP 11 is provided in annex I below. In addition to normal distribution, official documents for the session will be made available on the UNCCD website (<www.unccd.int>).

1. Election of the President

6. Rule 22 of the rules of procedure, as amended by decision 20/COP.2, provides for the election of the President from among the representatives of the Parties present at the session. Rule 26 of the rules of procedure stipulates that at the first meeting of each ordinary session, the President of the previous ordinary session, or in the absence of the President, a Vice-President, shall preside until the COP has elected a President for the session.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

7. The COP will have before it for adoption the provisional agenda contained in this document. A tentative schedule of work for the session is contained in annex II below.

Purpose of the session

8. The tasks of the COP are defined in article 22, paragraph 2, of the Convention. The organization of work of the session is designed to facilitate these activities, while taking account of decision 38/COP.10 and other decisions of the COP relevant to its programme of work.

Opening plenary meeting

9. The COP may wish to consider the following scenario with regard to the structure of the opening plenary meeting. The President of COP 10 will open the session and call for the election of the President of COP 11. The President of COP 11 will make a statement after his or her election. Statements will then be made on behalf of the host country and by the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, to be followed by statements from representatives of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other IGOs and regional and interest groups, and by a representative of NGOs. The President will call for the adoption of the agenda and organization of work. Subsequently, the President will call for the election of the Vice-Presidents.

10. Finally, the COP will discuss accreditation of IGOs and NGOs, and admission of observers.

Establishment of a Committee of the Whole and allocation of its tasks

11. The practice followed at previous sessions of the COP has been to establish at the opening plenary meeting a sessional Committee of the Whole (COW) open to the participation of all Parties. The COP may wish to follow the same practice at COP 11. The COW will recommend draft decisions for adoption by the COP. The Chair of the COW will have the authority to delegate work, as appropriate, to drafting groups. The COP may allocate the following items to the COW:

- (a) The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy):
 - (i) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;
 - (ii) Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy;
 - (iii) Independent mid-term evaluation of The Strategy;
 - (iv) Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention;
 - (v) Alignment of action programmes with The Strategy;
 - (vi) Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties;
- (b) Programme and budget:
 - (i) Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015;
 - (ii) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds;

- (c) Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism, including recommendations on the new housing arrangements of the Global Mechanism:
 - (i) Revision of the Memorandum of Understanding with the International Fund for Agricultural Development contained in decision 6/COP.10;
 - (ii) Recommendation on the new housing arrangements for the Global Mechanism;
- (d) Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20);
- (e) The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020);
- (f) Rule 47 of the rules of procedure;
- (g) Programme of work for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties;
- (h) Any other matters deemed to be appropriate.

Committee on Science and Technology

12. The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) is tentatively scheduled to meet between 17 and 20 September. In accordance with decision 26/COP.10 and other relevant decisions of the COP, the secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda for the Committee's session, as well as other documents needed for its deliberations; these documents are listed in annex I of that provisional agenda (ICCD/COP(11)/CST/1).

Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

13. The Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) is tentatively scheduled to meet from 17 to 19 September and 25 to 26 September. In accordance with decisions 16/COP.10 and 11/COP.9 and other relevant decisions, the secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda for the Committee's work, as well as other documents for the session; these documents are listed in annex I of that provisional agenda (ICCD/CRIC(12)/1).

Ad hoc group of experts

14. It is proposed that the open-ended Ad Hoc Group of Experts (AHGE) be reconvened on 26 September, pursuant to decisions 29/COP.10 and 30/COP.10.

Initial segment

15. It is proposed in the tentative schedule that COP 11 be divided into three segments. During the initial segment, from 16 to 20 September, in addition to the CST and CRIC sessions, the COW would initiate its work.

16. The COP would meet in plenary on 20 September to hear reports from the COW, the CST and the CRIC to take all necessary decisions on matters before the COP and to review the organization of work for the second week, including providing for further meetings of the COW as appropriate.

Special segment

17. In accordance with decision 38/COP.10, interactive dialogue sessions among Ministers and other high ranking officials will be conducted on the occasion of the special segment on 23 and 24 September.

Round-table discussions with Members of Parliament

18. In accordance with decision 38/COP.10, the interactive dialogue session with Members of Parliament, will take the form of round-table discussions and is planned for 20 and 21 September. It is anticipated that any outcome from the round-table discussions will be communicated to the COP for consideration.

Open dialogue sessions

19. In accordance with decision 38/COP.10 and further to the request of the COP as referred to in decision 5/COP.9 to ensure that the programme of work of the COP includes open-dialogue sessions with the civil society in the first week of the COP in order to ensure the effectiveness of its input in the deliberations of the COP, two half-day sessions have been planned for this purpose on 20 and 25 September.

Concluding segment

20. During the concluding segment, the COP will consider all decisions not previously adopted. It will also have before it for adoption the report on credentials (ICCD/COP(11)/22¹) submitted by the Bureau. It will decide the date and venue of the twelfth session of the COP, taking account of:

(a) The pertinent legislative provisions of article 22, paragraph 4, of the Convention, rule 4, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, rule 3 of the rules of procedure and decision 1/COP.2;

(b) Any offer to host the twelfth session and meet the additional financial cost.

21. The COP will also decide the date and venue of the thirteenth session of the CRIC, taking into account decision 11/COP.9 on the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and its schedule of meetings.

22. The proposed schedule allows for the concluding plenary meeting on 27 September. Accordingly, all negotiations should be concluded by 26 September.

Times of meetings

23. The tentative schedule aims to make best use of the facilities available during normal working hours. No scheduling or budgetary provision has been made for evening or weekend sessions. In order to avoid incurring overtime expenses, the normal working hours of the session will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. No provision has been made for more than two official meetings to be held with interpretation services at any one time.

3. Election of officers other than the President

(a) Election of Vice-Presidents

24. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure contained in decision 1/COP.1, as amended by decision 20/COP.2, nine Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the COP from among the representatives of the Parties present at the session. This election will take place at the opening meeting of the COP on 16 September.

(b) Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology

25. Decision 25/COP.10 amended paragraph 1 of rule 22 and rule 31 of the rules of procedure (contained in decision 1/COP.1, as amended by decision 20/COP.2). In this

¹ Document to be issued in-session.

decision, the COP decided that the Chair of the CST is to be elected by the COP at its final meeting. This decision follows the same approach taken for the election of the Chair of the CRIC in accordance with decision 11/COP.9.

(c) Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

26. Rule 31 of the rules of procedure, as amended by decision 20/COP.2, provides for the election by the COP of Chairs of subsidiary bodies other than the CST, unless the COP decides otherwise. In accordance with paragraph 9 of the annex to decision 11/COP.9, the Chair of the CRIC is elected at the final meeting of the session of the CRIC, held in conjunction with the sessions of the COP, and will assume his/her office immediately.

4. Credentials of delegations

27. In accordance with rules 19 and 20 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the COP will examine the credentials of representatives, alternate representatives and advisers and submit its report to the COP for decision. This report on credentials will be contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/22.² In accordance with rule 21 of the rules of procedure, representatives will be entitled to participate provisionally in the session pending a decision by the COP to accept their credentials.

5. Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector

28. 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 IGOs and civil society organizations (CSOs), including NGOs proposed for accreditation at COP 9, is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/20. By its decision 5/COP.10, the COP adopted revised procedures for the accreditation of CSOs and the private sector.

6. Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation, as necessary, of ad hoc panels of experts

29. Article 24, paragraph 2, of the Convention provides that the COP shall establish and maintain a roster of independent experts with expertise and experience in the relevant fields. By its decision 18/COP.1, the COP adopted procedures for the establishment and maintenance of a roster of independent experts.

30. By its decision 23/COP.10, paragraph 1, the COP invited Parties to revise and update the details of existing national experts, and to propose new candidates for the roster in order to achieve better representation of all relevant disciplines, including traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices, and of women, and a more balanced geographical distribution of NGOs. In paragraph 3 of the same decision, the COP requested the CST to review the current list of disciplines, taking into account the Proposed International Standard Nomenclature for Fields of Science and Technology as well as the lists of disciplines used by the Parties at national level, and to update the list with new disciplines, including traditional and local knowledge, know-how and practices, as needed. Parties also requested the CST to present an updated list for consideration by the COP at its

² Document to be issued in-session.

eleventh session. The secretariat has included this information in document ICCD/COP(11)/15.

7. The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy)

31. The COP adopted The Strategy by its decision 3/COP.8. A follow-up on various COP 10 decisions relating to The Strategy has been made and reports have been submitted to COP 11 for consideration by Parties.

(a) Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties

32. By its decision 11/COP.9, the COP decided to establish the CRIC as a standing subsidiary body of the COP to assist it in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy. By the same decision, the COP adopted the terms of reference of the CRIC, which, inter alia, define the mandate and functions of the CRIC both at sessions held between ordinary sessions of the COP and at sessions held in conjunction with ordinary sessions of the COP.

33. Pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2 (d), of the Convention, the COP will review reports submitted by its subsidiary bodies and provide guidance to them. In accordance with decision 11/COP.9, the CRIC shall report regularly to the COP on all aspects of its work and in particular through draft decisions prepared at sessions held in conjunction with ordinary sessions of the COP, where necessary, for consideration and adoption by the COP. Such decisions should contain substantive elements aimed at facilitating effective implementation of the Convention, showing targets and assigned responsibilities and the expected financial implications of their implementation, as necessary. The report on the eleventh session of the CRIC, including draft decisions as required, will be submitted to the COP at its plenary meetings on 27 September for its consideration and for any deliberations the COP may wish to take on the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy.

(b) Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy

34. By its decision 4/COP.10, paragraph 1, the COP called on Parties to implement the comprehensive communication strategy as an integral part of the implementation of The Strategy and as an integral part of UNCCD knowledge management. In paragraph 2 of the same decision, the COP emphasized that training and capacity development among journalists and environmental correspondents are imperative for developing a core group of actors whose primary focus is on desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD).

35. In paragraphs 6 and 7 of the same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to continue coordinating the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy and to report on progress made in implementing it. This report, which is to be submitted by the Executive Secretary for consideration at COP 11, is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/2.

(c) Independent mid-term evaluation of The Strategy

36. By decision 12/COP.10, paragraph 1, Parties decided to adopt the terms of reference of the mid-term evaluation of The Strategy. In paragraph 2 of the same decision, the COP also decided to establish an ad hoc Intersessional Working Group (IWG), subject to available funding, with a mandate to prepare recommendations on the mid-term evaluation under the direction of the Bureau of the COP.

37. In paragraphs 8 and 14 of the same decision, Parties decided that the IWG will present an update on the process at the eleventh session of the CRIC. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/21.

(d) Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention

38. By its decision 3/COP.10, paragraph 1, the COP called upon the Executive Secretary and the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism (GM) to strengthen their cooperation at regional level through ensuring the effectiveness of addressing region-specific issues. In paragraph 2 of the same decision, the COP further requested them to work in a cooperative and coordinated manner within the framework of the Regional Coordination Mechanisms of their respective regions in order to define and implement their respective common regional priorities as delivered for the consideration of the COP.

39. In paragraph 5 of the same decision, the COP called on the Executive Secretary, at the request of and in collaboration with the affected country Parties of the regions concerned, to support the effective functioning of the thematic programme networks, subject to the provision of the necessary financial and technical support by country Parties. Finally, in paragraph 6 of the above-mentioned decision, the COP also decided that the subregional and regional institutions listed in the annex to the same decision will act as reporting entities with regard to the preparation and submission of reports on the implementation of the subregional and regional action programmes referred to in paragraph 2 of decision 8/COP.8, and requests the secretariat and the GM to facilitate this process. The report submitted by the Executive Secretary for consideration at COP 11 is contained in document ICCD/COP (11)/14.

(e) Alignment of action programmes with The Strategy

40. By its decision 2/COP.10, paragraph 1, the COP acknowledged the need to speed up the alignment process of national, subregional and regional action programmes with The Strategy and, in paragraph 2, it urged affected country Parties and Regional Implementation Annexes to intensify their efforts to align their national, subregional and regional action programmes with The Strategy.

41. In paragraph 7 of the same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, in coordination with the Global Environment Facility, to report to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session, through the CRIC, on the implementation of the provisions of this decision. The CRIC made recommendations on this matter at its eleventh session, which are contained in the final report of the CRIC (ICCD/CRIC(11)/19 and Add.1). Likewise, the report of the CRIC at its twelfth session will contain draft decisions for consideration and adoption by the COP, including on alignment of action programmes with The Strategy and their implementation.

(f) Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties

42. By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided that the review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2 (d) of the Convention, of the report of the CST, including its recommendations to the COP and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it, would be a standing item on its agenda.

43. The CST will transmit to the COP draft decisions resulting from the deliberations coming from the items included in the agenda of its eleventh session, in line with paragraph 2 of decision 27/COP.10. The COP may wish to discuss these recommendations and to provide any necessary guidance to the CST.

8. Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism, including recommendations on the new housing arrangements of the Global Mechanism

44. By its decision 6/COP.10, paragraph 1, the COP decided that the accountability and the legal representation of the GM shall be transferred from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to the UNCCD secretariat. In paragraph 2 of the same decision, the COP reaffirmed that the GM is accountable to and reports to the COP under its mandate, and decided that all issues relating to the implementation of the Convention will be reported to the COP through the Executive Secretary. In paragraph 3 of the same decision, the COP also decided that the Executive Secretary shall assume overall management responsibility, including coordinating reporting on, inter alia, accounting, performance and activities of the GM, to the COP.

45. In paragraph 8 of the same decision, Parties further decided to revise its Memorandum of Understanding with IFAD contained in decision 10/COP.3 with regard to the modalities and administrative operations of the GM, and requested the President of the COP to notify IFAD of this decision no later than 1 November 2011.

46. In accordance with decision 6/COP.10, the COP also decided to:

(a) Request the Executive Secretary to submit progress reports to the Bureau of COP 10 on the implementation of this decision;

(b) Direct the Executive Secretary to present to the COP at its eleventh session a recommendation on the new housing arrangement for the GM, including potential co-location with the UNCCD secretariat, for the COP to adopt a final decision;

(c) Request the Executive Secretary to, in consultation with the Managing Director of the GM and the President of IFAD, take all necessary measures as a matter of urgency to implement the governance arrangements in decision 6/COP.10 to ensure that the administrative, procedural and legal aspects of this decision are implemented.

47. The requests mentioned in paragraphs 44 to 46 above are addressed in document ICCD/COP(11)/3.

9. Programme and budget

48. 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.

(a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015

49. In adopting The Strategy by decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested the CST, the CRIC, the GM and the secretariat to each elaborate multi-year (four year) work plans according to the principles of results-based management, which would be integrated into the comprehensive multi-year work plan for the Convention. These multi-year work plans are regularly updated for each COP to cover the two subsequent intersessional periods. In addition, biennial cost estimations related to the work programme are developed. The budget is prepared by the secretariat, integrating cost-estimated biennial programmes of work for the CST, the CRIC, the secretariat and the GM.

50. The requests mentioned in paragraph 49 above form the basis for the results-based programme budget documentation that has been submitted for the consideration of the Parties at each session of the COP and the CRIC since the adoption of The Strategy. The integrated comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention is submitted to the CRIC

and presents the proposed strategic orientation for the CST, the CRIC, the secretariat and the GM. The costed two year work programmes are submitted to the COP.

51. By its decision 10/COP.10, paragraph 18, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to include budget scenarios reflecting zero nominal growth and zero real growth in the results-based budget and work programmes for the biennium 2014–2015. A general overview of the proposed budget that reflects these scenarios is provided in document ICCD/COP(11)/6, while the integrated costed 2014–2015 work programme, covering the proposed work programmes for the secretariat, the GM, the CST and the CRIC, is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/7. These documents should be read in conjunction with document ICCD/CRIC(12)/2-ICCD/COP(11)/CST/9 that contains the comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2014–2017).

(b) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds

52. In accordance with the financial rules of the COP, an interim statement of accounts for the first year of the financial period and a final audited statement of accounts for the full financial period shall be provided to Parties. In decision 10/COP.10, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its eleventh session on the status of the Convention trust funds established under the financial rules of the COP. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/8. The statement of accounts should be read in conjunction with document ICCD/CRIC(12)/3, which contains the report on the implementation of the costed 2012–2013 work programmes of the secretariat, the CRIC, the CST and the GM, in accordance with paragraph 2 (b) of the annex to decision 11/COP.9. Additional information on the performance of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies is provided in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/INF.1.

Financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013

53. The unaudited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013 are contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/9.

Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds

54. The audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds are contained in documents ICCD/COP(11)/10, ICCD/COP(11)/12 and ICCD/COP(11)/13.

Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013

55. The status of contributions to the trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013 is presented in document ICCD/COP(11)/11.

10. Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20)

56. By decision 8/COP.10, paragraph 1, Parties expressed their deep appreciation to the United Nations General Assembly for convening and holding the High-level Meeting on “Addressing desertification, land degradation and drought in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication” at its sixty-sixth session on 20 September 2011. In paragraph 5 of the same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to actively prepare for and participate in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and to contribute to the compilation document within the context of the conference themes, with a view to ensuring that due regard is paid to DLDD issues.

57. Parties requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its eleventh session on the implementation of decision 8/COP.10. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/5.

11. Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility: amendment of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility on enhanced collaboration

58. By its decision 2/COP.10, paragraph 7, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, in coordination with the Global Environment Facility, to report to the COP at its eleventh session, through the CRIC, on the implementation of the provisions of this decision. The CRIC made recommendations on this matter at its eleventh session, which are contained in its final reports (document ICCD/CRIC(11)/19 and Add.1). Likewise, the report of the CRIC at its twelfth session will contain draft decisions for consideration and adoption by the COP, including on the alignment of action programmes with The Strategy and their implementation.

12. Revised procedures for the accreditation of civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector to the Conference of the Parties and their participation in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

59. By its decision 5/COP.10, the COP decided to grant observer status and participation in official meetings of the governing bodies of the UNCCD to those business and industry entities that fulfil certain requirements. It also requested that the secretariat begin implementing this decision starting with CRIC 11 and COP 11. The COP also requested the secretariat in the same decision to facilitate the process of revising and updating the list of organizations accredited to the COP and to ensure the participation of the business and industry entities by establishing formats, guidelines and other tools that might be required for this purpose.

60. By its decision 5/COP.10, paragraph 1, the COP decided that the CSOs accredited to the COP shall fulfil certain requirements on 30 March 2012 and every five years thereafter. In paragraph 4 of the same decision, the COP decided to grant observer status and participation in official meetings of the governing bodies of the UNCCD to those business and industry entities that have expressed interest in participating in meetings of the COP and its subsidiary bodies, possess specific expertise in matters relating to the Convention and participate in the United Nations Global Compact. In paragraph 8 of the same decision, the COP decided that a selection panel, established by decision 5/COP.9, will be composed of two representatives of the secretariat and one representative of CSOs from each of the five Regional Implementation Annexes of the Convention. The COP also requested the Executive Secretary in paragraph 12 of the same decision to report to it at its eleventh session on the implementation of this decision. The secretariat has therefore prepared document ICCD/COP(11)/4.

13. Outstanding items

(a) Rule 47 of the rules of procedure

61. Article 22, paragraph 2 (e), of the Convention provides that the COP shall “agree upon and adopt, by consensus, rules of procedure ... for itself and any subsidiary bodies”.

By its decision 1/COP.1, the COP adopted its rules of procedure, with the exception of some paragraphs contained in rules 22, 31 and 47. The texts of rules 22 and 31 were amended by decision 20/COP.2 and decision 25/COP.10. By its decision 21/COP.2, the COP also decided to give further consideration to paragraph 1 of rule 47 of the rules of procedure, not yet agreed upon; the text resulting from this decision was provided in the annex to document ICCD/COP(3)/13.

62. By its decision 28/COP.10, the COP requested the secretariat to include consideration of this outstanding rule of procedure in the agenda of COP 11 and to report on the status of similar rules of procedure in other multilateral environmental agreements. The relevant information on this item is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/16.

(b) Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation

63. In accordance with article 27 of the Convention, the COP is to decide on procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation.

64. By its decision 29/COP.10, the COP decided to reconvene, during its eleventh session, the open-ended AHGE (established in decision 20/COP.3) to examine further and make recommendations on procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation. In the same decision, the secretariat was requested to prepare a new working document to include a compilation of submissions by Parties contained in previous COP documents on this matter, including a draft to provide options for, and the terms of reference of, a multilateral consultative process, and a compilation also of views submitted on article 27 of the Convention. Information on these matters, including views communicated by Parties and interested institutions and organizations, is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/17 for consideration by the COP.

(c) Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures

65. In accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2 (a) and 6 of the Convention, the COP is also to establish annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures.

66. By its decision 30/COP.10, the COP decided to reconvene the AHGE at its eleventh session to examine further and make recommendations on annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures. In the same decision the secretariat was requested to prepare a document to include: (a) a compilation of submissions contained in previous COP documents on this matter and those submitted on article 28 of the Convention; and (b) an updated version of the annexes contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/14 to reflect these views. Information on the above matters, including views communicated by Parties, is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/18 for consideration by the COP.

14. The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020)

67. By its decision 38/COP.10, the COP decided to include an item on the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020) in the agenda of COP 11. A report on the activities supporting the Decade is submitted for the consideration of the COP at its eleventh session, as requested through decision 31/COP.10 and contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/19.

15. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions

68. By its decision 27/COP.1, the COP requested that open dialogue sessions organized by NGOs be included within the official programme of work of the sessions of the COP, and that the secretariat make all efforts to facilitate the inclusion of at least two half-day sessions within the official programme of work. Such sessions would be organized in consultation with the secretariat and the Bureau of the COP through its President. Decisions 38/COP.10 and 5/COP.9 reiterated this request. The two half-day sessions have been tentatively scheduled for 20 and 25 September.

16. Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions

69. Decision 38/COP.10 on the programme of work of COP 11 proposed that an interactive dialogue session among high-level officials of Parties attending COP 11 take place on 23 and 24 September. This would include round-table discussions to focus on suggestions for actions to achieve the objectives of The Strategy and guidance on furthering the implementation process. Background information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/INF.2.

17. Programme of work for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties

70. In accordance with decision 9/COP.1, which listed items to be included as standing items on COP agendas, and following upon decision 38/COP.10 regarding the programme of work of the COP, the COP may wish to review its programme of work for the next session as appropriate.

18. Report on the session

71. A draft report of the session will be prepared for adoption at the concluding plenary meeting on 27 September, in accordance with established practice. The COP will be invited to authorize its Rapporteur to finalize the report after the session, with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the President.

Annex I

Documents before the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(11)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/2	Report of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/3	Implementation of decision 6/COP.10: Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism, including recommendations on the new housing arrangements of the Global Mechanism. Report by the Executive Secretary
ICCD/COP(11)/4	Revised procedures for the accreditation of civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector to the Conference of the Parties and their participation in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/5	Consideration of the follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/6	Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/7	The costed draft two-year work programmes for the secretariat, the Global Mechanism, the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology (2014–2015). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/8	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/9	Unaudited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013 as at 31 December 2012. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/10	Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2011, including the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors
ICCD/COP(11)/11	Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/12	Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2011, including the audit report of PricewaterhouseCoopers for the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(11)/13	Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013, including the audit report of PricewaterhouseCoopers as at 31 December 2012 for the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(11)/14	Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(11)/15	Report on progress on the maintenance of the roster of independent experts. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/16	Rule 47 of the rules of procedure. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/17	Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/18	Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/19	Report on activities supporting the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/20	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and admission of observers. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/21	Mid-term evaluation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Report by the Intersessional Working Group
ICCD/COP(11)/22 ³	Credentials of delegations. Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(11)/INF.1	Information for participants
ICCD/COP(11)/INF.2	Note on the high-level segment during the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session
ICCD/COP(11)/INF.3	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CRP.1	Outcomes of the consultative meeting of experts on a land degradation neutral world
ICCD/COP(11)/MISC.1	Compilation of submissions on the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification as submitted by Parties, observers and intergovernmental organizations

³ Document to be issued in-session.

Other documents before the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(10)/31	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its tenth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(10)/31/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its tenth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(9)/18	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its ninth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(9)/18/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its ninth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(8)/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(8)/16/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(7)/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(7)/16/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session: action taken
ICCD/COP(6)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(6)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(5)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(5)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(4)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fourth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(3)/20/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its third session: action taken
ICCD/COP(2)/14/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session: action taken
ICCD/COP(1)/11/ Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session: action taken

Annex II

Tentative schedule of work for the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties

Monday, 16 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<i>Informal consultations</i>	<p><i>Opening of the session by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of the President <p><i>Statement by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session</i></p> <p><i>Statement on behalf of the host country</i></p> <p><i>Statement by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</i></p> <p><i>Statements by the representatives of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations</i></p> <p><i>Statements by the representatives of regional and interest groups</i></p> <p><i>Statement by a representative of non-governmental organizations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (ICCD/COP(11)/1) • Election of officers other than the President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Election of Vice-Presidents</i> • Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and representatives from the private sector (ICCD/COP(11)/20)

Tuesday, 17 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme and budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015 (ICCD/COP(11)/6 and ICCD/COP(11)/7)</i> - <i>Financial performance for the Convention trust funds (ICCD/COP(11)/8)</i> <i>Unaudited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2012–2013 (ICCD/COP(11)/9)</i> <i>Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds (ICCD/COP(11)/10, ICCD/COP(11)/12 and ICCD/COP(11)/13)</i> <i>Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds (2012–2013) (ICCD/COP(11)/11)</i> • Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) (ICCD/COP(11)/5) • Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism, including recommendations on the new housing arrangements of the Global Mechanism (ICCD/COP(11)/3) 	

Friday, 20 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session 	<p><i>Consideration of the preliminary report of the Committee of the Whole</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties</i> • Election of officers other than the President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology</i>

Monday, 23 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p><i>Opening of the High-Level Segment</i></p> <p><i>Welcome address by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session</i></p> <p><i>Welcome address by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</i></p> <p><i>Special statements on behalf of regional and interest groups</i></p> <p><i>Round table 1: Role of the UNCCD in achieving a land-degradation neutral world in the context of sustainable development</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Round table 1: continued</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Round table 2: Overcoming the hurdles of scaling up and disseminating good practices in the context of the UNCCD implementation process</i></p>

Tuesday, 24 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p><i>Round table 3: Economics of desertification/land degradation and restoration: Considering cost-benefit analyses for scaling up investments in avoiding land degradation and restoring/regenerating degraded land</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p><i>Final discussions by Ministers and way forward: Capitalizing on achievements and enhancing the implementation of the UNCCD and The Strategy at country and regional levels</i></p> <p><i>Closing ceremony</i></p>

Wednesday, 25 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session 	- - -

Thursday, 26 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy (ICCD/COP(11)/2)</i> <i>Independent mid-term evaluation of The Strategy (ICCD/COP(11)/21)</i> <i>Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention (ICCD/COP(11)/14)</i> <i>Alignment of action programmes with The Strategy (ICCD/CRIC(11)/19 and Add.1)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020) (ICCD/COP(11)/19 and ICCD/COP(11)/MISC.1) Outstanding items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Rule 47 of the rules of procedure (ICCD/COP(11)/16)</i> Programme of work for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties <p><i>Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties</i></p>

Thursday, 26 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
A H G E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding items - <i>Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation (ICCD/COP(11)/17)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding items - <i>Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures (ICCD/COP(11)/18)</i> <i>Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties</i>

Friday, 27 September 2013		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy) - <i>Review of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties</i> • Election of officers other than the President - <i>Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention</i> • Credentials of delegations (ICCD/COP(11)/22⁴) <i>Consideration of the report of the Committee of the Whole</i> <i>Consideration of the report of the ad hoc group of experts</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the session

⁴ Document to be issued in-session.