

**Conference of the Parties****Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh  
session, held in Windhoek from 16 to 27 September 2013****Part one: proceedings****Contents**

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

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

1. On 16 September 2013, the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) was opened by the President of its tenth session, H.E. Mr. Don Koo Lee (Republic of Korea). Pursuant to article 22 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the President of the tenth session of the COP made a statement.

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

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

2. At its 1st meeting, on 16 September 2013, the COP elected, by acclamation, the Honourable Uahekua Herunga, Minister of Environment and Tourism of the Republic of Namibia, as President of its eleventh session.

3. The incoming President made a statement.

### **C. General statements**

4. Also at the 1st meeting, on 16 September 2013, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD secretariat made a statement.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the European Union, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the African States), India (on behalf of the Asia-Pacific States), Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the Latin America and Caribbean States) and Armenia (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe).

6. A statement was also made by the representative of non-governmental organizations.

## **II. Organizational matters**

### **A. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

#### **(Agenda item 2)**

7. The Conference considered this agenda item at its 1st meeting, on 16 September 2013.

8. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted its agenda as contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/1, as follows:

1. Election of the President.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Election of officers other than the President:
  - (a) Election of Vice-Presidents;
  - (b) Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology;

- (c) Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.
4. Credentials of delegations.
5. Accreditation of intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector.
6. Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation, as necessary, of ad hoc panels of experts.
7. The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy):
  - (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;
  - (b) Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy;
  - (c) Independent mid-term evaluation of The Strategy;
  - (d) Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention;
  - (e) Alignment of action programmes with The Strategy;
  - (f) Review of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties.
8. Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism, including recommendations on the new housing arrangements of the Global Mechanism.
9. Programme and budget:
  - (a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015;
  - (b) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds.
10. Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).
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.
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.
13. Outstanding items:
  - (a) Rule 47 of the rules of procedure;
  - (b) Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation;
  - (c) Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures.
14. The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020).

15. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions.
  16. Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions.
  17. Programme of work for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties.
  18. Report on the session.
9. At the same meeting, following a statement by the President of the Conference, in the course of which he orally corrected the tentative schedule of work annexed to the agenda, the Conference approved its proposed schedule of work for the session, as orally corrected.

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

### **(Agenda item 3)**

10. The Conference considered this agenda item at its 1st, 3rd and 10th meetings, on 16 September, 20 September and 27 September 2013.

11. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 16 and 20 September 2013, the Conference elected the following officers for its eleventh session:

#### *Vice-Presidents:*

- Mr. Mamadou Honadia (Burkina Faso)
- Mr. Choi Young Tae (Republic of Korea)
- Ms. Heimata Louisa Karika (Cook Islands)
- Mr. Ashot Vardevanyan (Armenia)
- Ms. Dalia Gudaitiene Holiman (Lithuania)
- Mr. Thiago Cavalcanti (Brazil)
- Mr. Mariano Espinoza (Costa Rica)
- Mr. Thomas Tichelmann (Ireland)
- Ms. Christine Dawson (United States of America)

12. At the 3rd meeting, on 20 September, the Conference appointed Ms. Heimata Louisa Karika (Cook Islands) as Rapporteur of the eleventh session.

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

13. At the 10th meeting, on 27 September, the Conference elected Mr. Uriel Safriel (Israel) as Chair of the forthcoming twelfth session and intersessional meetings of the Committee on Science and Technology.

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

14. At the 10th meeting, on 27 September, the Conference elected Mr. Philbert Brown (Jamaica) as Chairperson of the forthcoming thirteenth and fourteenth sessions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.

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

**(Agenda item 4)**

15. At the 10th meeting, on 27 September, the Conference considered the report on credentials of delegations, as contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/22 and the recommendation contained therein.

16. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted the report.

### **D. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers**

**(Agenda item 5)**

17. At the 1st meeting, on 16 September, following a statement by the President, the Conference decided to accredit as observers, the organizations and business and industry entities listed in annexes I, II and III of document ICCD/COP(11)/20/Rev.1.

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

18. The eleventh session of the Committee on Science and Technology was convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Antonio Rocha Magalhães (Brazil). The Committee held seven meetings, from 17 to 20 September 2013.

19. At the 1st meeting, on 17 September 2013, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda as contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/CST/1, and approved the organization of work for the session as contained in annex II of the document.

20. Also at the same meeting, the Committee agreed to establish a contact group and appointed Mr. Nicholas Hanley (European Union) as Facilitator of the contact group.

21. At its 7th meeting, on 20 September, the Committee elected by acclamation, the following as Vice-Chairs of its forthcoming twelfth session: Mr. Chehat Fouad (Algeria), Mr. Allaadeen Mohamad Abdalla Al-Sharjabi (Yemen), Mr. Hamid Custovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), and Ms. Sonia Gonzalez (Peru). The Committee agreed to postpone the appointment of the Rapporteur to a later date, following consultations by the Bureau.

22. The Committee submitted nine recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its 3rd meeting, on 20 September 2013. Before the adoption, oral statements of programme budget implications were read out by the representative of the UNCCD secretariat in connection with draft decisions contained in documents ICCD/COP(11)/CST/L.2<sup>1</sup>, ICCD/COP(11)/CST/L.3<sup>2</sup>, ICCD/COP(11)/CST/L.4<sup>3</sup>, ICCD/COP(11)/CST/L.6<sup>4</sup>, ICCD/COP(11)/CST/L.7<sup>5</sup>, and ICCD/COP(11)/CST/L.8.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Final decision 26/COP.11.

<sup>2</sup> Final decision 23/COP.11.

<sup>3</sup> Final decision 24/COP.11.

<sup>4</sup> Final decision 22/COP.11.

<sup>5</sup> Final decision 21/COP.11.

<sup>6</sup> Final decision 28/COP.11.

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

23. The twelfth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention was convened under the chairmanship of Ms. Mary Rowen (United States of America). The Committee held five meetings, from 18 to 27 September 2013.

24. At the 1st meeting, on 17 September 2013, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/1, and approved the organization of work for the session as contained in annex II of the document.

25. Also at the same meeting, the Committee agreed to establish a contact group and appointed Mr. Luis Estuardo Ríos González (Guatemala) as Facilitator of the contact group.

26. At its 5th meeting, on 27 September 2013, the Committee elected by acclamation, Mr. Richard Mwenedandu (Kenya), Mr. Warapong Waramit (Thailand), Mr. Yuri Kolmaz (Ukraine), Mr. Patrick Wegerdt (European Union), as Vice Chairs of the 13th and 14th sessions of the Committee.

27. The Committee submitted 12 recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its 9th and 10th meetings, on 26 and 27 September 2013. Before the adoption, oral statements on programme budget implications were read out by the representative of the UNCCD secretariat in connection with draft decisions contained in documents ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.1<sup>7</sup>, ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.2<sup>8</sup>, ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.5<sup>9</sup>, ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.7<sup>10</sup>, ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.9<sup>11</sup> and ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.10<sup>12</sup>.

28. The following statement was made by the representative of Brazil on agenda item 2 (b) and (c): Brazil understands that all mention of desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) in document ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.12<sup>13</sup> and in all other decisions of COP 11 are to be implemented in accordance with the mandate of the Convention and the definitions of its Article 1, since it would not be possible for the Convention to set targets and make recommendations against its own mandate. Therefore, Brazil is of the view that there is no need to amend all the occurrences of this acronym to specify that it is within the mandate of the Convention, as contained in the annex of document ICCD/CRIC(12)/L.12, Chapter A, Operational Objective 1 – Advocacy, Awareness-raising and Education, Item 1 (c), Target for 2015.

## G. Committee of the Whole

29. At the 1st meeting, on 17 September 2013, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole and also decided to allocate to the Committee the agenda items listed in paragraph 11 of the COP 11 agenda, as well as the consideration of agenda item 12. Agenda item 7 (e) was allocated to the CRIC for consideration.

30. At the same meeting, the Conference designated Mr. Chenchu Norbu (Bhutan) as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole. The Committee held five meetings, on 17, 19, 26 and 27 September.

<sup>7</sup> Final decision 2/COP.11.

<sup>8</sup> Final decision 9/COP.11.

<sup>9</sup> Final decision 19/COP.11.

<sup>10</sup> Final decision 16/COP.11.

<sup>11</sup> Final decision 17/COP.11.

<sup>12</sup> Final decision 14/COP.11.

<sup>13</sup> Final decision 1/COP.11.

31. At the 1st meeting, the Committee established two contact groups: (a) a contact group on programme and budget matters, under the facilitation of Mr. Sem Chikongo (Namibia); and (b) a contact group on matters other than the programme and budget, under the facilitation of Mr. Markku Aho (Finland).

32. The Committee submitted ten recommendations to the COP. The Conference took action on these recommendations at its 4th and 5th meetings, on 26 and 27 September 2013.

33. Following the adoption of the draft decision contained in document ICCD/COP(11)/L.19, the representative of the Republic of Armenia (on behalf of country Parties of Annex V) stated that this decision does not take into account the interests of member States of Annex V, that have particular conditions outside the bounds of arid zones.

34. The representative of the Republic of Korea welcomed decision 8/COP.11 on the “Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20)” and the establishment of the intergovernmental working group (IWG) to define land degradation neutrality and develop options for its achievement. However, he expressed disappointment for the absence of a critical element in that decision referring to the target setting approach. Furthermore, he believes that the implementation of the Convention could be further strengthened through the target setting and an appeal was made that the issue of the target setting approach be revisited in the future process of the UNCCD.

## H. Ad Hoc Group of Experts

35. The Group submitted two recommendations to the COP, which took action on them at its 10th meeting, on 27 September 2013.

## I. Attendance

36. The eleventh session of the COP was attended by representatives of the following 144 Parties to the Convention:

Albania	Cape Verde	European Union
Algeria	Chad	Fiji
Angola	China	Finland
Antigua and Barbuda	Colombia	France
Argentina	Comoros	Gabon
Armenia	Congo	Gambia
Australia	Cook Islands	Georgia
Austria	Costa Rica	Germany
Azerbaijan	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana
Bangladesh	Cuba	Grenada
Belarus	Czech Republic	Guatemala
Belgium	Democratic People's Republic of	Guinea
Benin	Korea	Guinea-Bissau
Bhutan	Democratic Republic of the	Haiti
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Congo	Honduras
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Denmark	India
Botswana	Djibouti	Indonesia
Brazil	Dominica	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Burkina Faso	Ecuador	Iraq
Burundi	Egypt	Ireland
Cambodia	Eritrea	Israel
Cameroon	Ethiopia	Italy



Jamaica	Nauru	Sri Lanka
Japan	Nepal	Sudan
Jordan	Netherlands	Swaziland
Kenya	Niger	Switzerland
Kiribati	Nigeria	Tajikistan
Kuwait	Niue	Thailand
Kyrgyzstan	Norway	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Oman	Timor-Leste
Latvia	Pakistan	Togo
Lebanon	Panama	Trinidad and Tobago
Lesotho	Peru	Tunisia
Liberia	Philippines	Turkey
Libya	Portugal	Turkmenistan
Lithuania	Republic of Korea	Uganda
Madagascar	Republic of Moldova	Ukraine
Malawi	Romania	United Republic of Tanzania
Malaysia	Russian Federation	United States of America
Mali	Rwanda	Uruguay
Marshall Islands	Saint Lucia	Uzbekistan
Mauritania	Samoa	Vanuatu
Mexico	Sao Tome and Príncipe	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Saudi Arabia	Viet Nam
Mongolia	Senegal	Yemen
Morocco	Seychelles	Zambia
Mozambique	Slovakia	Zimbabwe
Myanmar	South Africa	
Namibia	South Sudan	
	Spain	

37. The session was also attended by observers from the following State not Party to the Convention:

Holy See

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

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Environment Programme / Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP/ROWA)

Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

United Nations Office of the High Representative for The Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)

World Bank

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

39. The session was also attended by representatives of 14 intergovernmental organizations and 46 civil society organizations.

## **J. Documentation**

40. The documents submitted for the consideration of the COP at its eleventh session are listed in annex VII.

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

### **(Agenda item 15)**

41. The Conference held two open dialogue sessions under this agenda item, at its 2nd and 8th meetings, on 20 and 25 September 2013.

42. At the 2nd meeting, on 20 September, the Conference held the first dialogue session on the theme “Resource mobilization to support the implementation of the UNCCD through building effective partnerships between national and international actors”, which was opened by the Vice-President (Ireland) and moderated by Mr. Patrice Burger (CARI, France).

43. Following the statements by the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD secretariat and the President of the Conference, the moderator made a statement after which presentations were made by the following panellists: Ms. Marioldy Sanchez Santivanez (AIDER, Peru); Ms. Fatima Ahmed (ZENAB for Women in Development, Sudan); and Ms. Eileen de Ravin (UNDP Equator Initiative/World Indigenous Network).

44. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Egypt, the European Union, Peru, the Sudan, China, Seychelles, the United States, the Philippines and Indonesia, as well as by the representatives of the Global Mechanism and the United Nations Environment Programme.

45. Also at the 2nd meeting, following a statement by the moderator, presentations were made by the following panellists: Mr. Sung-gil Lee (Future Forest, Republic of Korea); Mr. Christophe Houdus (RESAD and DRYNET); and Mr. Jean-Marc Sinnassamy (GEF).

46. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Switzerland, Israel, China, Turkey and the United States.

47. At the 8th meeting, on 25 September, the Conference held the second dialogue session on the theme “Capacity building for civil society organizations for the implementation of the UNCCD”, which was moderated by Dr. Mary Seely (Desert Research Foundation of Namibia).

48. Following the statements by the Vice-President (Ireland) and the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD secretariat, the moderator made a statement after which presentations were made by the following panellists: Mr. Kenef Ganeb (Desert Research Foundation of Namibia); Ms. Vivian Kinyaga (Desert Research Foundation of Namibia); and Ms. Maria Tharacky (Working Group of Indigenous Minorities in Southern Africa, Namibia).

49. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Turkey, the Philippines, Burkina Faso and Kenya.

50. Also at the 8th meeting, following a statement by the moderator, presentations were made by the following panellists: Ms Nahideh Naghisadeh (CENESTA, Islamic Republic of Iran); Ms. Fatima Kaba (ENDA-TM, Senegal); Mr. Wang Wenbiao (Elion Group, China); and Ms. Nathalie ven Haren (Both ENDS, Netherlands).

51. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the United States, Senegal, Peru, Libya, India, China, Brazil and Kenya, as well as by a representative of the International Organisation of La Francophonie and two representatives of civil society organizations.

#### **IV. Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions**

##### **(Agenda item 16)**

52. The Conference held a special high-level segment with four interactive dialogue sessions under the agenda item, at its 4th to 7th meetings, on 23 and 24 September 2013.

53. At the 4th meeting, on 23 September, the President of the Conference opened the special high-level segment and made a statement.

54. At the same meeting, the Deputy Prime Minister of Namibia, His Excellency Marco Hausiku, addressed the Conference on behalf of the Prime Minister of Namibia

55. Also at the same meeting, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD secretariat made welcoming remarks.

56. At the same meeting, the Director, Environment and Energy Group of the United Nations Development Programme, Dr. Veerle Vandeweerd, delivered a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

57. Also at the same meeting, statements on behalf of regional and interest groups were made by: the High Commissioner of Fiji to South Africa, His Excellency Beniamino Salacakau (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China); the Minister of Environment of Lithuania, His Excellency Valentinas Mazuronis (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States); the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Burkina Faso, His Excellency Salifou Ouedraogo (on behalf of the African States group); Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests of India, Mr. Susheel Kumar (on behalf of the Asia-Pacific States group); the Vice-Minister of Environment of Panama, His Excellency Geremias Aguillar (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States group); the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus, His Excellency Igor Kachanovsky (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe); and the Director, Blaustein Institute for Desert Research of Israel, Professor Uriel Safriel (on behalf of the Regional Implementation Annex for the Northern Mediterranean).

58. Statements were also made by the civil society representative, Ms. Nathalie van Haren of Both ENDS, the Netherlands, and the youth representative, Mr. Mathias Fikameni of the National Youth Council of Namibia.

**A. Round table 1: Role of the UNCCD in achieving a land-degradation neutral world in the context of sustainable development**

59. At the 4th meeting, on 23 September, the President of the Conference opened the first round table of the interactive dialogue sessions of the special high-level segment, which was co-chaired by the Deputy Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation of Ghana, the Honourable Bernice Adiku Heloo, and Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests of India, Mr. Susheel Kumar. The moderator was the former Secretary of State for International Development of the United Kingdom, Ms. Clare Short, and the keynote speaker was the Director of Blaustein Institute for Desert Research of Israel, Professor Uriel Safriel. Presentations were made by the following panellists: the Director, Directorate-General for Environment of the European Commission, Mr. Timo Makela, and the Minister for Water and Environmental Affairs of South Africa, Her Excellency Edna Molewa.

60. At the 5th meeting, on 23 September, the Conference continued with its first round table and heard the presentations by the following panellists: the Senior Expert, Secretariat of the National Committee to Combat Desertification (NCCD) of Iran, Dr. Asghar Tahmasebi, on behalf of the Vice Minister and Head of Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Management Organization of Iran, His Excellency Alireza Owrangi; the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Senegal, His Excellency Mor Ngom; and the Director of the Environment and Energy Group of the United Nations Development Programme, Dr. Veerle Vandeweerd.

61. In the ensuing interactive discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of China, the Gambia, Lesotho, Zambia, Turkmenistan, Malawi, Brazil, Eritrea, Rwanda, Thailand, the United States, India, the Republic of Korea and Angola, as well as by a representative of civil society organizations.

**B. Round table 2: Overcoming the hurdles of scaling up and disseminating good practices in the context of the UNCCD implementation process**

62. Also at the 5th meeting, on 23 September, the Conference held the second round table of the interactive dialogue sessions of the special high-level segment, which was co-chaired by the Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to Germany, His Excellency Neville Gertze, and the Assistant Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Mr. Michel Mordasini. The moderator was the Drylands Ambassador and former Executive Director of the World Agroforestry Centre, Mr. Dennis Garrity. The keynote speakers were World Resources Institute Senior Fellow from the Centre for International Cooperation of the VU University Amsterdam, Mr. Chris Reij, and a farmer from Burkina Faso, Mr. Yacouba Savadogo. A presentation was made by the Minister of Environment and Rural Development of Burkina Faso, His Excellency Salif Ouédraogo.

63. At the 6th meeting, on 24 September, the Conference continued with its second round table and heard the presentations by the following panellists: the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of National Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus, His Excellency Igor Kachanovskiy; the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy of Sri Lanka, His Excellency Mudiyanse Lage Uthpala Dayananda

Basnayake; and the Ambassador in the Ministry of Agricultural Affairs of Cuba, His Excellency Carlos Manuel Rojas Lago.

64. At the same meeting, following a statement by the respondent, the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Africa of the United States Agency for International Development, Mr. Franklin C. Moore, an interactive discussion ensued and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Mali, Swaziland, Uzbekistan, Switzerland and Egypt.

**C. 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**

65. Also at the 6th meeting, on 24 September, the Conference held the third round table of the interactive dialogue sessions of the special high-level segment, which was co-chaired by the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Namibia, His Excellency Onno Adalbert Hückmann, and the Ambassador of Algeria to Namibia, His Excellency Lahcene Kaid-Slimane. The moderator was the Assistant Director of the Drylands Programme of the United Nations University, Institute for Water Environment and Health, Mr. Richard J. Thomas who also delivered a keynote address. The other keynote speaker was the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility, Ms. Naoko Ishii. Presentations were made by the Minister for General Direction of Environmental Matters in the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Argentina, Ms. Maria Teresa Kralikas and the Ambassador for the Environment in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, His Excellency Jean-Pierre Thebault.

66. At the same meeting, following a statement by the respondent representing the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Mr. Michael Mack, comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of China and Zimbabwe.

67. At the 7th meeting, on 24 September, the interactive discussion continued and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Zambia, Morocco, India, Ethiopia, the Philippines, Niger, Algeria, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**D. Ministerial discussion: The way forward: capitalizing on achievements and enhancing the implementation of the UNCCD and The Strategy at country and regional levels**

68. Also at the 7th meeting, on 24 September, the Conference held the ministerial discussion of the special high-level segment chaired by the President of the Conference, who made a statement.

69. At the same meeting, statements were made by the General Director of the General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion, Ministry of Forests and Water Affairs of Turkey, Mr. Hamiti Avci, and the Executive Secretary-designate of the UNCCD secretariat, Ms. Monique Barbut.

70. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan, Oman, Viet Nam, Egypt, Malawi, Iraq, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, Kenya, Indonesia, Brazil and Bangladesh.

71. Statements were also made by the Assistant Secretary-General of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, as well as two representatives of civil society organizations and a representative of the business and industry entities.

72. At the same meeting, the President of the Conference made a concluding statement and presented a summary of the high-level segment proceedings, including the outcomes of the round table interactive sessions (see annex I).

73. Concluding remarks were made by the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD secretariat.

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

74. At its 3rd, 9th and 10th meetings, on 20 September, 26 September and 27 September, the Conference adopted 40 decisions and one resolution.

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

75. At the recommendation of the President of its eleventh session, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

- 34/COP.11 Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions
- 35/COP.11 Report on the Tenth Round Table of Members of Parliament
- 36/COP.11 Namib Declaration on a stronger United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification for a land degradation neutral world
- 37/COP.11 Declaration of civil society organizations attending the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties
- 38/COP.11 Declaration by the Sustainable Land Management Business Forum
- 40/COP.11 Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties

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

76. At the recommendation of the Bureau of its eleventh session, the Conference adopted the following decision:

- 33/COP.11 Credentials of delegations

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

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

- 3/COP.11 Improving mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention
- 4/COP.11 Review of progress in the implementation of the comprehensive communication strategy

- 5/COP.11 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
- 6/COP.11 Governance and institutional arrangements of the Global Mechanism
- 7/COP.11 United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020)
- 8/COP.11 Follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)
- 10/COP.11 Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015
- 12/COP.11 Review of the independent mid-term evaluation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) and the establishment of a process to develop a new strategy and plans to further improve the implementation of the Convention
- 30/COP.11 Rule 47 of the rules of procedure
- 39/COP.11 Programme of work for the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties

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

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

- 1/COP.11 Multi-year workplans of the Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies
- 2/COP.11 Strengthening and enhancing the process of alignment and implementation of action programmes with The Strategy
- 9/COP.11 Ways of promoting and strengthening relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies
- 11/COP.11 Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility
- 13/COP.11 Assessment of the implementation of the Convention against the operational objectives of The Strategy
- 14/COP.11 Assessment of financial flows for the implementation of the Convention
- 15/COP.11 Assessment of the implementation of the Convention against strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3
- 16/COP.11 The iterative process relating to the assessment of implementation, including performance and progress indicators, methodology and reporting procedures
- 17/COP.11 Consideration of best practices in the implementation of the Convention
- 18/COP.11 Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention
- 19/COP.11 Programme of work for the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
- 20/COP.11 Date and venue of the thirteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

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

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

- 21/COP.11 Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018)
- 22/COP.11 Advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy
- 23/COP.11 Measures to enable the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to become a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought
- 24/COP.11 Improvement of knowledge management, including traditional knowledge, best practices and success stories
- 25/COP.11 United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification fellowship programme
- 26/COP.11 Roster of independent experts
- 27/COP.11 Programme of work of the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology
- 28/COP.11 Date and venue of the fourth special session of the Committee on Science and Technology
- 29/COP.11 Programme of work of the twelfth session of the Committee on Science and Technology

**F. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts**

80. At the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts, the Conference adopted the following decisions:

- 31/COP.11 Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation
- 32/COP.11 Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures

**G. Resolution adopted by the Conference**

81. Also at its 10th meeting, on 27 September, the Conference adopted the following resolution at the recommendation of the Republic of Korea:

- 1/COP.11 Expression of gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Namibia



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

### **A. Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties**

**(Agenda item 17)**

82. At its 10th meeting, on 27 September 2013, the Conference adopted decision 40/COP.11 on the date and venue of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties.

### **B. Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session**

**(Agenda item 18)**

83. At its 10th meeting, on 27 September 2013, the Conference adopted the draft report on its eleventh session (ICCD/COP(11)/L.11) and authorized the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report, as appropriate.

## Annex I

### Summary of the high-level segment by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session

#### Introduction

1. The high-level segment of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP 11), that was held on 23 and 24 September 2013 in Windhoek, Namibia, instilled political momentum to the deliberations of country Parties on the best options for the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan 2008–2018. The vision of the Parties that we must seek to realize through the implementation of this Strategy is stated as follows: *“The aim for the future is to forge a global partnership to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas in order to support poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.”*

2. On the occasion of the high-level segment, the Deputy Prime Minister, His Excellency Mr. Marco Hausiku delivered a statement on behalf the Prime Minister of Namibia and welcomed the Ministers and heads of Delegation and International Organizations. This was followed by the opening remarks of the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, Mr. Luc Gnacadja. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme, Dr. Veerle Vanderweerd, delivered a message on behalf of the Secretary General of the United Nations, and special statements were made on behalf of regional and interest groups. The high-level segment was held in the form of three ministerial round tables with keynote speakers, panel discussions, and contributions of the country Parties addressing the issue at hand. Ministers and representatives discussed practical and concrete responses to emerging challenges as they relate to desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD). There were three round-table discussions:

(a) Round Table 1: Role of the UNCCD in achieving a land degradation neutral world in the context of sustainable development;

(b) Round Table 2: Overcoming the hurdles of scaling up and disseminating good practices in the context of the UNCCD implementation process; and

(c) 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.

3. These discussions focused on an integrated landscape approach that addressed the biophysical, socio-economic and cultural aspects of drylands and the need to scale up sustainable land management practices. They highlighted the fact that the UNCCD is a unique instrument of global solidarity for the drylands in that it integrates their environmental and socio-economic aspects in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development. They also stressed the need for continued and robust scientific collaborations to support efforts in implementing the Convention and the 10-Year Strategy.

## **I. Round table 1: Role of the UNCCD in achieving a land degradation neutral world in the context of sustainable development**

4. The representatives of Ghana and India co-chaired the first Round Table, the moderator from the United Kingdom introduced the questions to be discussed: (1) What does ‘going land-degradation neutral’ mean and imply for the drylands?; (2) What are the goals and targets at national level?; and (3) What kind of guidance on a land-degradation neutral world, including a target-setting approach, and the translation of the DLDD commitments made at Rio+20 into concrete activities within the Convention framework?

5. In his keynote address, Professor Uriel Safriel described land degradation as both a state and a process resulting from a loss of biological productivity. In practical terms, a land degradation neutral world means investing in restoring already degraded land and preventing further degradation. It should not, however, be seen as an offset or compensation scheme. He pointed out that land degradation results not only in a decline of agricultural productivity but leads to an additional loss in all ecosystem services that sustain the global life support system. He concluded that land degradation is a serious challenge that needs to be addressed, as neither intensification of agricultural systems nor extensification (converting intact natural ecosystems) are sustainable in the long-term. UNCCD can play a key role in that regard by raising awareness and engendering motivation among parties for concrete, innovative solutions.

6. Panelists agreed that DLDD pose serious challenges to sustainable development in all countries and emphasized the socio-economic significance and multiple co-benefits of sustainable land management (SLM) practices, including food security, women’s empowerment, and addressing the impacts of climate change. Many emphasized the compounded future challenges for sustainable land management in view of the expected increase in the demand for food and fiber for coming generations. Others stressed the need to embrace the green economy and pursue a paradigm shift in land stewardship and a new sustainable path of growth. This was made apparent in the various initiatives and programmes undertaken by the countries represented, where all three dimensions of sustainable development (environmental, social and economic) were being addressed.

7. Other panelists put a spotlight on the need for partnerships to address the global challenges of DLDD, stressing that these actions require serious international investments. At the local level, the important role of civil society organizations was celebrated, in particular the cost-effectiveness of harnessing traditional knowledge to scale up SLM practices. One panel member highlighted that by 2025, approximately two-thirds of arable land in Africa will no longer be economically productive. Given this rapidly approaching date, many parties called for concrete and immediate actions and strategic approaches with view to regional differences.

8. Most speakers from the floor noted the resolve, in accordance with the UNCCD, to monitor globally land degradation and restore degraded land in the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid lands. In addition, the majority welcomed the support of the international community for the Convention and the 10-Year Strategy as pledged, including efforts towards resource mobilization. Given the findings from key global scientific assessments, as well as the research of the broader scientific and practitioner community, parties felt that it was the time to translate these commitments into action.

9. At the global level, one of the speakers noted that the role of the UNCCD in the post-2015 development agenda must be proactive and prepared to design targets on land and soil under the overarching goals related to food, water and poverty. Need for alternative resources and biofuels was reiterated by many parties, while coordination within the

“United Nations as One” was highlighted as a helpful mechanism to make significant progress at the local level. The majority of parties also pointed to the need for a stronger scientific approach and for an easier accessibility of scientific facts to better prioritize national needs.

10. Some Parties noted the unique role accorded to the Convention by the Member States at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (“Rio+20”) to address DLDD issues included in paragraphs 205-209 of “The Future We Want” but there was some disagreement on the significance and scope of a “land degradation neutral world” as coined in this document. Overall, ministers and other high ranking officials made interventions that focused on the restoration of the degraded land and multi-sectoral approach to solving the problem of land degradation.

## **II. Round table 2: Overcoming the hurdles of scaling up and disseminating good practices in the context of the UNCCD implementation process**

11. The representatives from Switzerland and Namibia co-chaired the second Round Table, while moderator Dennis Garrity, UNCCD’s Drylands Ambassador, opened the discussion by highlighting the progress achieved in the local communities in face of the expansion of degraded lands and the losses associated with this global issue. He pointed out, however, that scaling up best practices to the national level remains a key challenge, particularly for developing countries, many of which are still operating in a reactive mode by using up resources without strategic planning.

12. Panelists agreed that despite these challenges, best practices have played a significant role in the regeneration of degraded lands, citing examples from Niger, Burkina Faso, and other countries. They emphasized the many government activities that can facilitate and scale up best practices, touching upon the importance of national legislative reforms, policies, and communication strategies. During these discussions, many panelists also highlighted the invaluable role of reforestation in the global fight against land degradation and food scarcity. The use of trees on farmlands has proven to be the keystone to future sustainability in the drylands. There is, therefore, a strong need to embed agroforestry into national policies as well as legislations that target food security and poverty eradication. Resounding arguments were made throughout the Round Table discussion acknowledging that the fight against land degradation is fundamental to addressing global issues such as food security, malnutrition, and underemployment.

13. Additionally, panelists and speakers from the floor underlined the tangible benefits of regional knowledge-sharing partnerships to better disseminate best practices beyond the local level, particularly highlighting the role of databases and knowledge portals that document best practices for other countries to consider. Examples of regional partnerships were noted between Brazil and Cuba, in Western Africa, and in the Horn of Africa. Most speakers from the floor provided examples as to how their national programmes and policy reforms contribute to the scaling up of best practices. These include prestigious national programmes that recognize farmers at the national level as in Belarus, the establishment of a “farmer-to-farmer” partnership programmes that facilitate knowledge sharing in Cuba, rainwater harvesting programmes in Swaziland as well as the inclusion of water, land and forestry components in the national legal frameworks.

14. Participants also pointed to the importance of strategic communication plans and the availability of educational resources to farmers and communities, regardless of age or trade. On this note, many stressed the need to revisit the definition and role of farmers, noting that farmers are not only food producers, but providers of many other vital ecosystem services.

As such, they must be perceived and represented as key stakeholders by equitably addressing the issues of land tenure, resource rights, and legislation. Many delegates also recognized the important role that the private sector, CSOs and other partners should play in helping to scale up best practices, emphasizing that governments alone cannot carry out this critical task.

15. Participants commented on the role of the UNCCD in the scaling up of best practices. Their suggestions supported the secretariat's role in making available a knowledge portal on sustainable land management that would unleash scientific knowledge and best practices found in regional and national databases. The delegates look forward to seeing the secretariat implement related decisions adopted at this COP.

### **III. 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**

16. The representatives from Germany and Algeria co-chaired the third Round Table. Two keynote presentations provided different perspectives on the economics of land degradation (ELD). Mr. Richard Thomas on behalf of the United Nations University provided a clear and comprehensive overview of the ELD report. He stressed the urgency of the problem and the need to address land degradation in economic terms, translating the scientific discourse into policy language for decision-makers. He pointed out that cost-benefit analysis tools that capture a full suite of ecosystem services can promote activities that enhance food and water security and thus contribute to the overarching goal of poverty eradication.

17. Ms. Naoko Ishii, Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility, emphasized the need to break out of traditional silos, welcoming the timeliness of the topic on ELD at this event. She stressed that many ecosystems are rapidly approaching their tipping points, after which restoration will no longer be feasible. Taking note of the megatrends in population, consumption and urbanization, business as usual is no longer an option. Land degradation could be transformed into the catalyst to take coordinated and concerted action. The GEF is actively implementing new strategies that focus on the value of natural capital to help shift the paradigm in decision-making.

18. The panelists emphasized that food security and poverty eradication are the most pressing current challenges, and that efforts to overcome these will require institutional arrangements to combat land degradation including, among others, land tenure and rights to resources, and the need to empower women and local communities. Demonstrating the full value of land and its benefits to people can help land managers, communities and businesses to assess the trade-offs in ecosystem services. Cost-benefit analysis can serve as the basis for informed decision-making to avoid land degradation and invest in restoration

19. Several panelists stressed the need for greater effectiveness in our communication tools and to target economic actors focused on their profit margins. Messages on the cost of inaction and the benefits of sustainable practices need to reach decision-makers in the private sector. Many panelists and participants highlighted examples in the implementation of best practices in their countries that yield the same profit while having less impact on the land.

20. One panellist pointed out that the quality of scientific work under the UNCCD offers a glimmer of hope. A pragmatic science-policy interface is needed to ensure CSOs are fully taken on board in this Convention as essential stakeholders with experience and

testimonies, especially since they are often the ones that take action on the ground. A representative of the business community commented that the ELD study is an important, fact-based element for sound public policy. Science-based decision-making in the private sector is the basis for making sound long-term investments. He pointed out that many farmers are not in the private sector but want to be and that the silos in large businesses are often not as hardened as has been portrayed by others.

21. The general discussion that followed all three Round Tables focused on the ways in which the secretariat could continue to support country Parties in the fight against desertification. In general, these priorities included: supporting capacity building and educational initiatives that communicate the impact and costs of land degradation, identifying the drivers and causes for land degradation, establishing the criteria and methodologies for monitoring indicators, and scaling up best practices. Representatives from Egypt and Oman prioritized the need for a collective inventory of best practices and technological innovations to help transfer innovation between country Parties. Most parties reiterated that land degradation is intrinsically tied to food security and environmental stability, and that setting goals for climate change while ignoring land degradation can only have limited success, thus underlining the need for increased synergy between the Rio Conventions.

22. In addition, participants also articulated the need to disseminate successful business models and experiences that have successfully monetized sustainable land management practices. The call to public-private partnerships resounded in the audience, as country Parties reaffirmed the need for the private sector to work around environmental constraints and develop new products, which build on available resources in order to decrease the stress on land, and address poverty alleviation and underemployment.

## **IV. Conclusions**

23. The speakers and participants during the high-level segment agreed that the UNCCD should continue to enhance the implementation of the Convention in accordance with The Strategy. Land degradation is a global phenomenon affecting sustainable development in all countries and that addressing land degradation is one of the most important ways of ensuring food and water security as well as achieving the overarching goal of poverty eradication. Fully recognizing this nexus will provide the impetus for countries and communities to mobilize the necessary resources and scale up good management practices.

24. The outcomes of Rio+20 were successful in bringing DLDD issues into sharp focus. Although the phrase “striving to achieve a land-degradation neutral world” does not enjoy universal clarity, it has served to highlight the need for reversing land degradation trends and restoring degraded land in the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid lands. Successful efforts to prevent further degradation and recover the health and productivity of our land will require the continued inputs and expertise from the relevant scientific and socio-economic disciplines.

25. Effective SLM policies and practices is one of the key pathways of action for countries and communities to halt and reverse land degradation. A key challenge, particularly for developing countries, is scaling up best practices from the farm to the landscape scale. There is a need to shift from a reactive stance to a more proactive one that involves prevention and planning at the national level.

26. The ELD is a global study that highlights the value of SLM and aims to increase awareness of the costs of land degradation. It also identifies those industries that are subject to the direct impacts of land degradation. The ELD study can enable businesses make more informed decisions by presenting the cost of inaction versus the benefits of action.

Investments in SLM practices, land restoration and rehabilitation will increase when the full suite of benefits are accounted for in land use and planning.

27. In summary, country Parties explicitly expressed how they envision the secretariat's role in supporting many of these goals, prioritizing the scaling up of best practices, the standardization of DLDD monitoring practices, and the need for a stronger scientific and technological foundation to support policy decision-making.

## Annex II

### List of speakers at the special segment: interactive dialogue sessions

[English only]

#### **Round table 1: Role of the UNCCD in achieving a land-degradation neutral world in the context of sustainable development**

1. Honourable Bernice Adiku Heloo (Ghana), Deputy Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation
2. Mr. Susheel Kumar (India), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests
3. Ms. Clare Short (United Kingdom), former Secretary of State for International Development
4. Prof. Uriel Safriel (Israel), Director of Blaustein Institute for Desert Research
5. Mr. Timo Makela (European Commission), Director, Directorate-General for Environment
6. H. E. Edna Molewa (South Africa), Minister for Water and Environmental Affairs
7. Dr. Asghar Tahmasebi (Iran), Senior Expert, Secretariat of the National Committee to Combat Desertification (NCCD), on behalf of the Vice Minister and Head of Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Management Organization
8. H. E. Alireza Owrangi (Iran), Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development
9. H. E. Mor Ngom (Senegal), Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development
10. Dr. Veerle Vandeweerd (United Nations Development Programme), Director of the Environment and Energy Group

#### **Round table 2: Overcoming the hurdles of scaling up and disseminating good practices in the context of the UNCCD implementation process**

1. H.E. Neville Gertze (Namibia), Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to Germany
2. Mr. Michel Mordasini, Assistant Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
3. Mr. Dennis Garrity, Drylands Ambassador and former Executive Director of the World Agroforestry Centre
4. Mr. Chris Reij, World Resources Institute Senior Fellow from the Centre for International Cooperation of the VU University Amsterdam
5. Mr. Yacouba Savadogo, farmer (Burkina Faso)
6. H.E. Salif Ouédraogo (Burkina Faso), Minister of Environment and Rural Development
7. H.E. Igor Kachanovskiy (Belarus), Deputy Minister of the Ministry of National Resources and Environmental Protection



8. H.E. Mudiyansele Uthpala Dayananda Basnayake (Sri Lanka), Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy
9. H.E. Carlos Manuel Rojas Lago (Cuba), Ambassador in the Ministry of Agricultural Affairs
10. Mr. Franklin C. Moore (United States of America), Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Africa of the United States Agency for International Development

**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**

1. H.E. Onno Adalbert Hückmann (Germany), Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Namibia
2. H.E. Lahcene Kaid-Slimane (Algeria), Ambassador of Algeria to Namibia
3. Mr. Richard J. Thomas (Canada), Assistant Director of the Drylands Programme of the Institute for Water Environment and Health
4. Ms. Naoko Ishii (Global Environment Facility), Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson
5. Ms. Maria Teresa Kralikas (Argentina), Minister for General Direction of Environmental Matters in the Ministry of Foreign Relations
6. H.E. Jean-Pierre Thebault (France), Ambassador for the Environment in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
7. Mr. Michael Mack, Representative of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development

## Annex III

### Declaration by the Members of Parliament

*Tenth Round Table of Members of Parliament  
Windhoek, 20 and 21 September 2013  
in parallel with the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the  
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification*

#### **The role of Members of Parliament in the efforts to combat desertification, land degradation and drought: Parliamentary contributions to achieving a land-degradation neutral world in the context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda**

*We, members of parliament*, meeting – on the issues of the UNCCD implementation process and of a land-degradation neutral world in the context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda – in Windhoek, Republic of Namibia, on 20 and 21 September 2013 on the occasion of the tenth Round Table, at the invitation of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Parliament of the Republic of Namibia, with the support of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, alongside the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties; ,

*Are alarmed* by the increased frequency of droughts, as currently experienced in Namibia, and continuing desertification and land degradation trends;

*Reaffirm* that the most important instrument for dealing with desertification/ land degradation and drought is the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification including its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy);

*Acknowledge* that, despite progress made in the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy, achievements have so far been uneven and fewer than expected;

*Reiterate* our commitment to the 1992 Rio Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals and the 2010 Millennium Declaration, with particular reference to sustainable development, poverty eradication, peace and security, human rights and democracy;

*Recall* that the outcome document of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), “the future we want”, acknowledged that desertification/land degradation and drought represent common challenges that continue to pose serious threats to the sustainable development of all countries;

*Are convinced* that global, national, regional, subregional and local efforts to halt and reverse land degradation are prerequisites for freeing hundreds of millions of people from poverty by addressing food, sanitation, water and energy security, adapting and

mitigating climate change, building resilience to drought, as well as achieving the Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals;

**Recognize** that Rio+20 gave birth to the new paradigm of a land-degradation neutral world, which constitutes one of the most important Sustainable Development Goals and presents an unprecedented opportunity to shape the post-2015 development agenda and to renew parliamentary efforts in this context;

**Emphasize** in accordance with the outcome document of Rio+20 that democracy, good governance and the rule of law at all levels, are essential for sustainable development;

**Are committed** to mobilize stronger parliamentary support in the implementation of the Convention by undertaking the following six main roles of legislators (“the parliamentary hexagon”): (a) making laws; (b) allocating budgets; (c) overseeing and controlling the actions of governments; (d) fostering public discourse and raising awareness; (e) electing competent personalities and bodies; and (f) influencing foreign policy and international cooperation.

***We declare that Parliamentarians and Parliaments should:***

1. Enact an enabling legislation and identify standards, aligning them with the provisions of the UNCCD and its 10-year Strategy, as well as with the ‘land-degradation neutrality’ goal, through a clear roadmap.
2. Promote the mainstreaming of desertification/land degradation and drought issues into the domestic and the development cooperation agenda.
3. Work towards improving the quality of development cooperation and increasing the volume of Official Development Assistance, particularly in those developed countries that have not yet reached the 0.7 per cent target –to be achieved as fast as possible, by 2018 at the latest (in order to contribute to enhancing the implementation of the UNCCD 10-year Strategy).
4. Give higher priority to land degradation issues and water scarcity problems to overcome the marginalization of dryland communities, increase investment in rural areas – also in order to create new income opportunities, and put an end to the calamitous agricultural protection arrangements and subsidized agricultural exports.
5. Provide substantial, adequate, timely and predictable financial resources to support initiatives to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought, taking into account, and advancing, the natural capital approach.
6. Further support targeted capacity-building including parliaments and parliamentarians, training programmes and women’s empowerment.
7. Promote scientific and technology research findings on desertification/land degradation and drought, for example in the fields of desalinisation and renewable energies; harness traditional knowledge, as well as capitalize on the benefits from modern information and communication technologies; and use the results of these scientific activities in policies and decision-making to benefit the public, private and civil society organization sectors in their efforts to address desertification/land degradation and drought.
8. Monitor executive actions and enquire whether anti-desertification measures are included in overall government agendas (by means of oral and written questions to the executive, motions, establishment of special commissions or ad hoc committees, hearings, and field visits).

9. Ask for stronger involvement when it comes to the elaboration and execution of multilateral environment agreements, poverty reduction strategy papers, country strategy papers and national action plans/programmes, supported by bilateral and multilateral development agencies and organizations.
10. Promote and support relevant annual events, such as special parliamentary debates and the World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June with appropriate activities in constituencies, issuing commemorative postal stamps, establishing awards for good desertification/land degradation and drought activities, engaging in environmental education, as well as involving schools, academics, artists and the mass media.
11. In order to achieve a land-degradation neutral world by 2030 at the latest, promote partnership building between policymakers and decision makers, the business sector, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, youth and women's associations and the academic community.
12. Ensure that political parties, represented in Parliaments, include the implementation of the Convention and the land-degradation neutral world goal in their manifestos and other policy documents as a matter of priority.
13. Elect committed personalities to parliamentary leadership, relevant committees and rapporteur roles.
14. Establish a national network of Members of Parliament and a parliamentary focal point on issues relating to the UNCCD, if not already in place.
15. Pursue an integrative approach dealing with the three Rio Conventions.
16. Contribute towards making the UNCCD the global leading authority on land and soil and desertification/land degradation and drought, help establish an Intergovernmental Panel/Platform on Land and Soil and promote an agreement of a new legal instrument, e.g. a protocol on a land-degradation neutral world, to provide the UNCCD with a global monitoring framework to focus efforts and empower the international community to act with the speed and scale required to address this issue.
17. Help ensure that the post-2015 process, particularly the Sustainable Development Goals and land degradation neutrality, serve as a driver for implementation and mainstreaming of sustainable human development in the United Nations system as a whole and support the mobilization of resources to facilitate the implementation of the Convention through building effective partnerships between national and international actors.
18. Strengthen and capitalize regional/continental parliaments in desertification/land degradation and drought issues.
19. Create parliamentary oversight mechanisms, e.g. vis-à-vis the Global Environment Facility, regional development banks, the Green Climate Fund.
20. Promote the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly.

***We, the Parliamentarians, emphasize that:***

21. The UNCCD deserves more success, for the sake of the people living under the stress caused by desertification, as well as greater visibility by making desertification and land degradation a cornerstone in the general architecture of global environmental governance.

22. The Parliamentary Network on the UNCCD must be better utilized; its Steering Committee is invited to consider options for a better follow-up of the declarations of the Round Tables and for an efficient use of the UNCCD handbook for parliamentary action.
23. The UNCCD secretariat should continue to actively participate in the consultations and events related to the post-2015 development agenda and the elaboration of Sustainable Development Goals.
24. The UNCCD secretariat should continue providing high quality services to the Parliamentary Round Tables with a view to promote and make visible our activities; and we further invite the secretariat to facilitate the organization of the eleventh Round Table of Parliamentarians in conjunction with the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.
25. The President of the Steering Committee in collaboration with the Steering Committee members is invited to take appropriate follow-up actions on the outcome of the present Round Table and report to the Round Table at its next session.

## Annex IV

### **The Namib Declaration on a stronger UNCCD for a land degradation neutral world**

On the occasion of the 11th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Windhoek, Namibia, the Member States, inter-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, and other organizations (with observer status), are called upon to commit to enhance sustainable land management and improve livelihoods at global, regional, national and especially at the local level.

This being the first UNCCD Conference of the Parties (COP) since the agreement on the “Future we want”, Parties agree that new and refreshed momentum is required to address our planet’s environmental and social challenges regarding desertification, land degradation and drought.

In the context of the UNCCD, critical decisions had to be made during COP 11 concerning the further implementation of the 10 years strategy after mid-term evaluation, establishment of a science-policy interface to improve knowledge based decision-making in the convention process, enhancing the integration of desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) related aspects in the development of the sustainable development goals, as well as the improvement of the functions of the Global Mechanism through its housing within the secretariat.

Hosting a UNCCD COP for the first time in history in southern Africa, this COP made the specific effort of facilitating dialogues with the local communities most affected by the effects of DLDD in Namibia, and to inject these voices into the decision-making processes. Furthermore, civil society representatives and participants from indigenous peoples from around the world attended the COP. Technically inspiring and stimulating side events, as well as excursions were part of the agenda and contributed to a deeper understanding of the real-life realities of DLDD in local communities.

Based on the deliberations, the Government of the Republic of Namibia hereby would like to make the following declaration:

#### **Declaration**

##### **1. Strengthen UNCCD leadership for the future we want**

1. As host country, we have the responsibility to indicate that there was different momentum in the willingness of Parties to address the outcomes of the Rio +20 in the UNCCD context. Seeing daily that the world is challenged by ever increasing problems relating to the loss and degradation of arable soils, and related critical ecosystem services, which are linked to food security, livelihoods and poverty, we feel that much stronger and dedicated leadership is required to secure the future we want. Although we were successful in laying out an initial intergovernmental process that will examine issues related to the Rio +20 over the coming two years – we would have liked the Conference to set a bolder agenda for a global land degradation problem at this COP in Windhoek. We consider decision ICCD/COP(11)/L.20 a milestone decision for further thinking on these matters.

2. As a country affected by desertification, land degradation and drought we have taken the implementation of the UNCCD forward through national action programmes, dating back to the beginning of our Independence. Based on our own experiences, we would like to engage with all Parties and partners of the Convention, in advancing practical solutions that will have positive impacts in reversing and halting land degradation on the ground.

3. And therefore, we count on the support of all Parties to make the Convention stronger for a land degradation neutral world, and welcome the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development with regard to the desertification, land degradation and drought.

## **2. Address drought mitigation as a matter of priority**

4. Droughts can severely impact on sustainable land management and reverse achievements in good rangeland management and agricultural practices. Therefore, an increased emphasis on drought mitigation must be given. Momentum towards the development of national drought policies focusing on increasing the long-term preparedness and resilience of farmers and communities to instances of drought must be strengthened. We understand this as critical linkage to climate change challenges, exacerbating already existing land degradation problems, including in areas that previously were not drylands.

## **3. Advance the science-policy interface**

5. We agree on the need for increased use of science-based solutions and research for improved on-the-ground decision making and effective implementation of this Convention. In our understanding, such science incorporates, traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of rural communities, human- and sociological sciences, complementing bio-physical and economic understanding. We strongly advocate that the proposed Science-Policy Interface (SPI) established at this COP will enhance policy directives under this Convention.

## **4. Focus on local Communities**

6. We recognise the important role of local and rural communities in areas affected by desertification, land degradation and drought. Not only are they the most affected - but their contributions to traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the sustainable land management and usage of soils, as well as for combating and reversing land degradation, are essential. Therefore, Namibia urges all Parties and relevant institutions to direct resources and efforts into more meaningful and dedicated actions to ensure sustainable livelihoods and food security.

## **5. Engage with the private sector**

7. Recognising the role of the private sector towards innovative strategies and relevant technologies for establishing a business case for reversing land degradation and enhancing land restoration, partnerships must be fostered.

## **6. Empower women in sustainable land management**

8. Women are critical pillars in achieving the Convention's Strategic Objectives. The outcomes of the first ever Gender Day convened within this COP, offer means to advance the empowerment of women affected by DLDD in decision making, access to material resources and knowledge. The Windhoek Initiative on Women's Empowerment will be a key component that Namibia will advance during its Presidency of the COP.

## Annex V

### Declaration by civil society organizations

1. We, the civil society organizations (CSOs), meeting in Windhoek on the occasion of the eleventh session of the Conference of Parties (COP 11) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), wish to thank the Government and people of Namibia and the secretariat for the successful organization of the COP.
2. During the COP, we the CSOs have engaged in the deliberations of the conference and have taken note that a number of issues of concern to us remained to be addressed.
3. The civil society urges country Parties to take a people-centered, bottom-up approach to the concept of a land degradation neutral world to ensure that this initiative contributes to improving living conditions of people living in drylands.
4. CSOs are not generally against the observer status of the private sector. CSOs strongly disagree with taking agribusiness companies producing genetically modified organisms and having patents on living organisms on board. Strong criteria based on sustainability principles are needed for obtaining observer status. Private sector activities should be consistent with the objectives of the UNCCD and 10 Year Strategy, and avoid the conflict of interest.
5. We consider that mining is one of the main drivers of land degradation. Mining must not be allowed in national parks, protected areas and other sensitive dryland ecosystems. In communities where mining is already happening, compensation for the loss of land must be paid to all affected people including indigenous and traditional communities. Mine closure plans and funds for the rehabilitation of mining sites must be enforced.
6. Regarding the roster of independent experts, it should be extended to include all components of civil society, indigenous and local community expertise. In order to avoid bureaucracy, such experts should not have to go through a national focal point in order to be enlisted. We encourage Parties and the secretariat of the UNCCD to make the roster operational.
7. Proper land tenure should be granted to indigenous and traditional communities. This includes the rights to use their customary laws that they have been obeying since time immemorial. Governments must have the capacity to prevent land grabbing at the expense of communities.
8. CSOs are an important link between the international and grassroots level and can help disseminate good practices in desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) efficiently. Therefore we request the Parties to provide more financial support for CSOs to build the capacities of local communities to document these good practices for the effective implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018).
9. The empowerment of women and youth by making basic services available, such as education, clean water, energy and food production are essential ingredients to enhance the resilience of local and especially, indigenous communities. There is a need for increased recognition of indigenous people as a constituency in the UNCCD process.
10. We welcome the Turkish Government's offer to host the next Conference of Parties, COP 12, in 2015.



11. We strongly urge Canada to reconsider its decision to withdraw from the Convention and to come back as soon as possible in the interest of sustainable world.

12. We congratulate Luc Gnacadja, the outgoing Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, for his tremendous work during his tenure of office, and welcome the incoming Executive Secretary Monique Barbut and wish her a successful tenure. We expect her to strongly support CSO engagement in the activities of UNCCD, particularly in attending international meetings and events related to DLDD. We are looking forward to fruitful collaboration with her and the secretariat at all levels.

13. We, CSOs, reaffirm our commitment to the success of this Convention for the benefits of communities, particularly those affected by desertification, land degradation and drought.

## Annex VI

### Declaration by the Sustainable Land Management Business Forum

#### The “Windhoek Declaration”

*The participants of the second Sustainable Land Management Business Forum meeting in Windhoek, Namibia,*

*Acknowledging* desertification/land degradation and drought as acute and escalating challenges to human and business development with major negative social, economic, political, climate and ecosystem implications,

*Recognizing* that societies consist of the public sector, private sector and civil society, including citizens and their non-governmental organizations, and that targeted activities aimed at sustainable social development are needed to reach poor stakeholders,

*Emphasizing* the important role the business community can and should play in tackling desertification/land degradation and drought,

*Noting* the multiple benefits sustainable land management offers to business operations in terms of financial and operational performance, market opportunities, compliance with legislation, and ethical, social and environmental values and responsibilities,

*Noting also* that natural resource management enhances business models and opportunities,

#### **Commit to:**

1. *Participate* in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) process and *support* the implementation of the Convention and its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018);
2. *Monitor, measure and communicate* the environmental, social and economic impacts of business activities on land and *strive* to eliminate or minimize negative impacts;
3. *Incorporate* sustainable land management into business operations and corporate, social, environmental and sustainability strategies, practices and policies;

#### **Our approach**

4. *Develop and apply* procedures and/or mechanisms for identifying information, regulations and resources needed within each company to achieve land degradation neutral performance;
5. *Identify* specific measurable land management objectives with relevant indicators and *report* on their progress;
6. *Assess* new business initiatives and products, and *adopt* a precautionary approach that prevents serious or irreversible land degradation;
7. *Incorporate* land issues into internal management systems, decision-making processes, accounting systems and standards;

8. *Consider* developing and participating in voluntary certification schemes that promote sustainable land management and land degradation neutrality;

**Networking and partnerships**

9. *Engage* in relevant public-private partnerships to promote sustainable land management and pioneer land restoration initiatives;

10. *Undertake* measures to create synergies with other United Nations initiatives aimed at promoting environmental, social and corporate governance issues;

11. *Contribute* to the achievement of those societal must-haves included in the World Business Council for Sustainable Development–World Resources Institute Action2020 strategy that are related to climate change, ecosystems, water and sustainable land management solutions that can result in food, feed, fibre and biofuel security within ecological limits;

12. *Support* the UNCCD Soil Academy and *call on* private and public-sector stakeholders to join the initiative.

13. *Support* the Economics of Land Degradation initiative by providing input and considering and commenting on the scientific outcomes and recommendations;

14. *Provide* the UNCCD process and the Economics of Land Degradation initiative with existing and new best sustainable land management cases to mainstream innovation and sustainable land management across the business sector;

15. *Support* and *leverage* business influence to ensure the implementation of a policy framework (e.g. the post-2015 development agenda) that helps achieve zero net land degradation by 2030 and zero net forest degradation by 2030, and ensure that drought policies and preparedness measures are put in place in all drought-prone countries by 2020;

**Communication and outreach**

16. *Publish* land-related policies and good practices on company websites and share them with the UNCCD process for their promotion and knowledge-sharing;

17. *Research* and *showcase* information on sustainable land management practices and innovations, or *support* existing and/or new research to improve own company performance;

18. *Address* the need for the increased visibility of the Sustainable Land Management Business Forum between Conferences of the Parties through a dedicated website;

19. *Focus on* the need to harness and manage business experiences and results through knowledge management, including gathering, storing, disseminating and producing new knowledge via the website;

20. *Explore* the idea of establishing a virtual resource centre to help harness business skills.

## Annex VII

### Documents before the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session

[English only]

<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)/5/Corr.1	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. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(11)/6	Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/6/Corr.1	Programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015. Note by the secretariat. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(11)/7	The costed draft two-year work programme 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)/7/Corr.1	The costed draft two-year work programme 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. Corrigendum
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

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
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
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)/18/Corr.1	Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures. Note by the secretariat. Corrigendum
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/Rev.1	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	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)/INF.4	List of participants
ICCD/COP(11)/CRP.1	Outcomes of the consultative meeting of experts on a land degradation neutral world

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
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
ICCD/COP(11)/MISC.2	Provisional list of participants

## **Documents before the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its twelfth session**

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/CRIC(11)/19	Report of the eleventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Bonn from 15 to 19 April 2013
ICCD/CRIC(11)/19/ Add.1	Report of the eleventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Bonn from 15 to 19 April 2013. Addendum
ICCD/CRIC(12)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(12)/2- ICCD/COP(11)/CST/9	Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2014–2017). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(12)/3	Report on the performance of the Convention secretariat, the Global Mechanism, the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (2012–2013). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(12)/4- ICCD/COP(11)/CST/7	Promoting the analysis and dissemination of best practices. Report by the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/CRIC(12)/4/Corr.1- ICCD/COP(11)/CST/7/Corr.1	Promoting the analysis and dissemination of best practices. Report by the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology. Corrigendum
ICCD/CRIC(12)/5	Consideration of best practices in the implementation of the Convention: Accessibility of best practices. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(12)/6	Report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification
ICCD/CRIC(12)/7	Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and format of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties: Overall report on the fourth reporting and review process. Report by the Executive Secretary
ICCD/CRIC(12)/INF.1	Draft action plan for coordinated action in the drylands (to implement recommendations of the Global Drylands Report). Note by the secretariat

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/CRIC(12)/CRP.1	Progress made on the implementation of the existing advocacy policy frameworks of the Convention on gender, food security and climate change

## **Documents before the Committee on Science and Technology at its eleventh session**

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/2	Refinement of the set of impact indicators on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3. Recommendations of the ad hoc advisory group of technical experts. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/2/Corr.1	Refinement of the set of impact indicators on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3. Recommendations of the ad hoc advisory group of technical experts. Note by the secretariat. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/3	Organization of international, interdisciplinary scientific advice to support the Convention process. Conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group to Further Discuss the Options for the Provision of Scientific Advice Focusing on Desertification/Land Degradation and Drought Issues. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/4	Review of the preliminary outcome of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference and assessment of UNCCD scientific conferences. Report by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/5	Progress report on the preparation of the UNCCD 3rd Scientific Conference. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/6	Improving knowledge management in the UNCCD. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(12)/4- ICCD/COP(11)/CST/7	Promoting the analysis and dissemination of best practices. Report by the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/CRIC(12)/4/Corr.1- ICCD/COP(11)/CST/7/Corr.1	Promoting the analysis and dissemination of best practices. Report by the Bureaux of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and the Committee on Science and Technology. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/8	Progress report on the UNCCD fellowship programme. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/8/Corr.1	Progress report on the UNCCD fellowship programme. Note by the secretariat. Corrigendum
ICCD/CRIC(12)/2- ICCD/COP(11)/CST/9	Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention (2014–2017). Note by the secretariat

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.1	Final report on the e-survey to support the assessment of how to organize international, interdisciplinary scientific advice. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.2	Organization of international, interdisciplinary scientific advice to support the Convention process. Report by the ad hoc working group to further discuss the options for the provision of scientific advice focusing on desertification/land degradation and drought issues. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.3	Final outcome of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.3/ Corr.1	Final outcome of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference. Note by the secretariat. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.4	Progress report on the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/INF.5	Assessment of the organization of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(11)/CST/CRP.1	Contribution of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services process

### **Other documents available at the session**

<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
ICCD/CST(S-3)/7	Report of the third special session of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat
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



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<i>Document symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
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

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