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Convention to Combat  
Desertification

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
ON ITS FIFTH SESSION, HELD IN GENEVA  
FROM 1 TO 12 OCTOBER 2001

PART ONE: PROCEEDINGS

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## I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

### A. Welcoming ceremony

1. On 1 October 2001, the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Mr. Hama Arba Diallo, welcomed participants to the Conference of the Parties (COP) and made a statement.

2. Welcoming addresses were also made by Mr. Zamba Batjargal, President of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties, and H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland.

3. The Conference of the Parties observed a minute's silence as an expression of sympathy to the Government and people of the United States of America following the recent tragic events in New York and Washington DC, as well as to the Government and people of Switzerland following the tragedy in Zug.

4. Summaries of the statements made during the welcoming ceremony are to be found in annex I.

### B. Official opening

5. The fifth session of the Conference of the Parties, convened pursuant to article 22 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, was officially opened on 1 October 2001 in Geneva, Switzerland, by Mr. Zamba Batjargal, President of the fourth Conference of the Parties.

### C. Election of the President

(Agenda item 1)

6. At its 1<sup>st</sup> plenary meeting, on 1 October, the Conference elected Mr. Charles Bassett, Head of the Delegation of Canada, as President of its fifth session by acclamation. Mr. Bassett made a short statement.

### D. Opening and general statements

7. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> plenary meeting, on 2 October, the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification made a statement.

8. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United Nations Environment Programme.

9. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), Benin (on behalf of the African Group), the Syrian Arab Republic (on behalf of the Asian Group) and Haiti (on behalf of the Latin American and the Caribbean Group).

10. The representative of the Uganda Tree Planting Movement made a statement on behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations.

11. Summaries of the opening and general statements referred to in paragraphs 7 to 10 are to be found in annex II.

## II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

### A. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 3)

12. At its 1<sup>st</sup> plenary meeting, on 1 October, following the statements by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Benin (on behalf of the African Group), and Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), the Conference adopted the agenda as contained in documents ICCD/COP(5)/1 and Corr.1, as orally amended by the President of the fifth Conference of the Parties.

### B. Election of other officers

(Agenda item 2)

13. At its 1<sup>st</sup> plenary meeting, on 1 October, the Conference elected by acclamation the following officers to serve as Vice-Presidents of the Bureau for the fifth session, in addition to the President, and the Chairpersons of the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee of the Whole:

Mr. Ashot Vardevanyan (Armenia)  
Mr. Etienne Kayengeyenge (Burundi)  
Mr. Guido Soto (Chile)  
Ms. Dagmar Kubinova (Czech Republic)  
Mr. Aboubaker Doualé Waïs (Djibouti)  
Mr. Markku Aho (Finland)  
Mr. Zamba Batjargal (Mongolia)  
Ms. Carmen Farías (Venezuela)

The Conference also designated Ms. Dagmar Kubinova (Czech Republic) as Rapporteur.

14. The Conference elected Mr. Philbert Brown (Jamaica) as Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology.

C. Organization of work

(Agenda item 3)

15. At its 1<sup>st</sup> plenary meeting and following the statements by the representatives of the United States of America, Benin (on behalf of the African Group) and Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), the Conference approved its organization of work for the session as contained in annex II to document ICCD/COP(5)/1 and Corr.1, as orally amended by the President of the fifth Conference of the Parties.

D. Establishment of the Committee of the Whole

(Agenda item 3)

16. At its 1<sup>st</sup> plenary meeting, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole at its fifth session to consider outstanding issues for adoption by the Conference.

17. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the President, the Conference designated Mr. Mohammad Reza Jabbari (Islamic Republic of Iran) as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.

18. At its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, on 3 October, the Committee established the contact group on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and designated Mr. Franklin Moore (United States of America) as Chairperson of the group.

19. At the same meeting, the Committee established the contact group on Programme and Budget matters and designated Mr. Mohammad Reza Jabbari (Islamic Republic of Iran) as Chairperson of the group.

E. Establishment of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts

(Agenda item 3)

20. At its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 2 October, the Committee designated Mr. Patrick Széll (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts.

21. The Chairperson's summary of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts is to be found in annex VI.

F. Committee on Science and Technology

22. The Committee on Science and Technology was convened under the chairpersonship of Mr. Philbert Brown (Jamaica). The Committee held seven meetings, from 2 to 5 October 2001.

23. At its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, on 2 October, the Committee elected by acclamation Dr. Moussa Hassane (Niger), Mr. Abdel-Majid Khabour (Jordan), Ms. Marija Vihovanec (Croatia) and Mr. Helmut Wöhl (Germany) as Vice-Chairpersons.

24. At its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 2 October, the Committee elected Mr. Helmut Wöhl (Germany), to serve as Rapporteur, in addition to serving as Vice-Chairperson.

25. The Committee on Science and Technology submitted a number of recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, which took action on them at its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October 2001.

G. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers

(Agenda item 5)

26. At its 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings, on 2 and 5 October, the Conference decided to accredit the non-governmental organizations listed in annex I to document ICCD/COP(5)/9 and in the annex to document ICCD/COP(5)/9/Add.1.

H. Attendance

27. The fifth session of the Conference of the Parties was attended by representatives of the following 138 Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

Albania	Chile	Georgia
Algeria	China	Germany
Argentina	Colombia	Ghana
Armenia	Congo	Greece
Australia	Costa Rica	Grenada
Austria	Côte d'Ivoire	Guatemala
Azerbaijan	Croatia	Guinea
Bahamas	Cuba	Guinea-Bissau
Bahrain	Cyprus	Haiti
Bangladesh	Czech Republic	Honduras
Belgium	Democratic Republic	Iceland
Benin	of the Congo	India
Bolivia	Denmark	Indonesia
Botswana	Djibouti	Iran (Islamic
Brazil	Dominican Republic	Republic of)
Bulgaria	Egypt	Ireland
Burkina Faso	El Salvador	Israel
Burundi	Eritrea	Italy
Cambodia	Ethiopia	Jamaica
Cameroon	European Community	Japan
Canada	Fiji	Jordan
Cape Verde	Finland	Kazakhstan
Central African	France	Kenya
Republic	Gabon	Kuwait
Chad	Gambia	Kyrgyzstan

Lao People's Democratic Republic	Oman	Trinidad and Tobago
Lebanon	Pakistan	Tunisia
Lesotho	Paraguay	Turkey
Liberia	Peru	Syrian Arab Republic
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Philippines	Tajikistan
Madagascar	Portugal	Thailand
Malawi	Qatar	Togo
Mali	Republic of Korea	Uganda
Mauritania	Republic of Moldova	United Arab Emirates
Mexico	Rwanda	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Monaco	Saint Kitts and Nevis	United Republic of Tanzania
Mongolia	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	United States of America
Morocco	Samoa	Uruguay
Mozambique	Sao Tome and Principe	Uzbekistan
Myanmar	Saudi Arabia	Venezuela
Namibia	Senegal	Viet Nam
Nepal	Sierra Leone	Yemen
Netherlands	Slovenia	Zambia
New Zealand	Solomon Islands	Zimbabwe
Nicaragua	South Africa	
Niger	Spain	
Nigeria	Swaziland	
Norway	Sweden	
	Switzerland	

28. The session was also attended by observers from the following seven States not Parties to the Convention:

Belarus	Poland	Slovak Republic
Holy See	Russian Federation	Ukraine
Iraq		

An observer from Palestine also attended the session.

29. The following United Nations organizations, offices and specialized agencies were represented:

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)  
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
 Global Environment Facility (GEF)  
 International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
 International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)  
 Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)  
 Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  
 (UNFCCC)  
 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)  
World Bank  
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

I. Documentation

30. The documents submitted for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session are listed in annex VIII.

**III. SPECIAL SEGMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

(Agenda item 3)

31. The Conference held a special segment on the implementation of the Convention at its 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings, from 8 to 10 October 2001. A list of speakers is to be found in annex III.

32. The President's summary of statements made during the special segment is to be found in annex IV.

33. The Conference held two interactive dialogue sessions, on 8 October 2001 and at its 7<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting on 9 October 2001.

34. The President's summary of the interactive dialogue sessions is to be found in the annex to decision 8/COP.5 in document ICCD/COP(5)/11/Add.1.

**IV. INCLUSION OF ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN  
THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE  
PARTIES: OPEN DIALOGUE SESSIONS**

(Agenda item 11)

35. The Conference held two open dialogue sessions to include the activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties, at its 3<sup>rd</sup> plenary meeting on 5 October 2001 and at its 10<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting on 10 October.

36. The President's summary of statements made during the open dialogue sessions is to be found in annex V.

**V. DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

A. Decision taken directly in the plenary meeting

37. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 10 October, following the introduction by the Chairman of the Round Table of Parliamentarians, the Conference took the following decision:

23/COP.5 Report on the fourth Round Table of Parliamentarians



B. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the President  
of the Conference of the Parties

38. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference took the following decisions at the recommendation of the President of the Conference of the Parties:

- 2/COP.5 Date and venue of the first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
- 8/COP.5 World Summit on Sustainable Development
- 25/COP.5 Date and venue of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties

C. Decision taken at the recommendation of the Bureau

39. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference took the following decision at the recommendation of the Bureau:

- 24/COP.5 Credentials of representatives of Parties to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

D. Decisions taken at the recommendation of  
the Committee of the Whole

40. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference took the following decisions at the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole:

- 1/COP.5 Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to review the implementation of the Convention
- 3/COP.5 Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the in-depth review and analysis of reports submitted at the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties
- 4/COP.5 Programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003
- 5/COP.5 Programme of work of the Conference of the Parties
- 6/COP.5 Consideration of the "Regional Coordination Units" initiative
- 7/COP.5 Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies
- 9/COP.5 Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility
- 20/COP.5 Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
- 22/COP.5 World Day to Combat Desertification

Decision 4/COP.5 was taken with the reservation of the representative of Brazil.

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

41. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference took the following decisions at the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology:

- 10/COP.5 Review and implementation of scientific and technological aspects of national reports
- 11/COP.5 Benchmarks and indicators
- 12/COP.5 Traditional knowledge
- 13/COP.5 Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
- 14/COP.5 Early warning systems
- 15/COP.5 Roster of independent experts
- 16/COP.5 Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology
- 17/COP.5 Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology
- 18/COP.5 Programme of work of the group of experts
- 19/COP.5 Dryland degradation assessment and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

F. Decision taken at the recommendation of the  
Ad Hoc Group of Experts

42. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference took the following decision at the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts:

- 21/COP.5 Resolution of questions on implementation, arbitration and conciliation procedures

G. Programme and budget: Report on the status  
of the trust funds in 2000-2001

(Agenda item 6(e))

43. At its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 2 October, the Committee of the Whole took note of the report of the secretariat on the status of the trust funds in 2000-2001.

**VI. CONCLUSION OF THE SESSION**

A. Adoption of the report on credentials

(Agenda item 4)

44. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference, having considered the report on credentials of the Bureau of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties (ICCD/COP(5)/10) and the recommendation contained therein, approved the report on credentials.

B. Date and venue of the sixth session of the  
Conference of the Parties

45. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference adopted decision 25/COP.5 on the date and venue of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, the text of which is contained in part two of this report.

C. Adoption of the report of the Conference  
of the Parties on its fifth session

(Agenda item 14)

46. At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 October, the Conference adopted the draft report on its fifth session (ICCD/COP(5)/L.14). The Conference of the Parties authorized the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete this report, as appropriate.

D. Closure of the session

47. Statements made at the closing session are summarized in annex VII.

Annex I**SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE WELCOMING CEREMONY**

1. At the welcoming ceremony of COP 5 on 1 October 2001, Mr. Hama Arba Diallo, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD secretariat, stressed that the Conference was taking place at a time when fundamental human values were under threat. He expressed his conviction that the United Nations could contribute to a more stable and more just world. The UNCCD was a real instrument of development, since it was serving the poor who felt marginalized and who needed to be given hope.

2. He emphasized that the UNCCD was approaching an age of maturity; the number of countries that have deposited their instruments of ratification and of those that had prepared their reports on combating desertification indicated the dedication of country Parties to the goals set by this Convention and to sustainable development in general. He added that this was also the moment to assess the major achievements and strengths of the UNCCD, as well as its weaknesses and the obstacles that have still to be surmounted.

3. He reiterated the moral obligation towards those living in affected areas, who needed to be provided with a reliable and credible source of finance. Classical development aid was not a sufficient and appropriate response to the multi-faceted nature of problems in combating desertification. More integrated approaches and synergies between conventions should be favoured. The COP should therefore serve to consolidate these approaches and to anchor this Convention definitively among the multilateral instruments in the area of sustainable development and the fight against poverty. In the light of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the UNCCD was going to take all necessary measures to prepare well for this very important meeting.

4. The President of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties, Mr. Zamba Batjargal, reminded participants that this Convention was dealing not only with desertification and drought, but also with combating poverty and eradicating conflict. Increased effort was therefore needed, in particular through the cooperation and partnership of intergovernmental organizations and country Parties. He emphasized several recent positive developments, among them the recommendation of the GEF Council to designate land degradation and deforestation as a new focal area of the GEF.

5. H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, affirmed that the UNCCD had an important role to play since it represented one of the most concrete instruments to have resulted from the Rio conference in 1992. The number of country Parties also indicated the great importance of the UNCCD, which could be considered to be a model instrument for sustainable development, with a significant potential in the fight against poverty. He called for a "global deal", which would take account of problems faced by all parts of the world and offer multiple solutions. In the light of the interdependence between the different elements of sustainable development, Mr. Deiss called for a more importance to be given to the contribution of research, which should serve to ensure better understanding of the process of desertification and to offer new methods of combating its effects.

Annex II**SUMMARY OF OPENING AND GENERAL STATEMENTS**

1. Mr. Hama Arba Diallo, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD secretariat, summarized the most important activities of the secretariat which had taken place since COP 4. He stated that the last year had been most fruitful for the UNCCD process; it had involved many important decisions as well as numerous activities, such as assisting in the formulation of national action programmes (NAPs), the organization of national forums on synergies, the facilitation of consultations in those countries to have already adopted their NAPs, support to affected countries, and involvement in subregional and regional activities, working in close cooperation with bilateral and multilateral partners.

2. He described the current position with regard to national, subregional and regional activities in combating desertification and implementing the Convention in all geographic regions. Mr. Diallo also discussed the involvement in these processes of civil society and non-governmental organizations.

3. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran commended the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG), which had been useful for exploring best practices; he stressed, however, that such reviews should be pursued on a regular basis, and thus supported the establishment of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC). He welcomed the recent decision of the GEF Council which should make the financial framework stable and predictable, warning at the same time against considering the GEF as a panacea, thus affirming that the Global Mechanism (GM) still had an important role to play. He also called on the Parties to work together to ensure that the secretariat was endowed with adequate financial and human resources.

4. On behalf of the European Union (EU), the representative of Belgium stated that the EU attached great importance to COP 5 and the implementation of the Convention. He said that the first phase of mobilization and awareness raising was now over and that a new phase is beginning in which ongoing activities on the ground should be linked with new instruments at policy level. He called for fuller integration of desertification issues into the development plans of affected countries and intergovernmental organizations, as well as elaboration of national strategies for sustainable development and poverty reduction. He explained the EU's position in this respect, since it considered itself to be both an affected region and a major donor. He also called for a detailed study of the results of the work of the AHWG.

5. On behalf of the African group, the representative of Benin reviewed activities since the last COP in combating desertification and implementing the Convention in Africa. He specifically pointed out the obstacles to these processes, such as poor mobilization of financial resources, ignorance of the existence of the UNCCD on the part of a number of key actors, and poor momentum in concluding partnership agreements.

6. The representative of Viet Nam described the efforts of his Government in combating desertification and land degradation.

7. On behalf of the Asian Group, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic presented the efforts of Asian countries in implementing the Convention. He emphasized the increase in the number of reports prepared by these countries, and stated that this COP should provide an opportunity to assess both what had been achieved and what were the further needs.

8. The representative of UNEP stated that, while much progress had been made, more determined efforts were required to raise awareness of the urgent problems that needed to be dealt with. Innovative policies and stronger global environmental governance would be needed in order to grasp potential benefits, as well as a stronger awareness of linkages between trade, land degradation and development amongst all stakeholders. Participation of local communities should be fostered. Finally, he described the activities of UNEP in supporting efforts to combat desertification.

9. On behalf of the Latin America and the Caribbean Group, the representative of Haiti described this COP as a turning point in implementation of the UNCCD and called for a more rational and streamlined dynamic process towards such implementation.

10. On behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the representative of the Uganda Tree Planting Movement stated that the NGOs were closely following the process of implementation of the UNCCD and noted both the progress and the shortcomings. Such shortcomings were: Absence of meaningful participation on the part of NGOs, lack of readiness for true implementation beyond the preparation of reports, lack of implementation at the community level, reluctance of governments and agencies to engage civil society, lack of an appreciation of the value of traditional knowledge, lack of appropriate indicators concerning the involvement of civil society, and lack of support from intergovernmental organizations for capacity-building. She also added that socio-economic issues were not sufficiently fostered in implementation and that bottom-up approaches should move from theory to practice.

11. An address by H.E. Dolores Arsenova, Minister of Environment and Water of Bulgaria, was made available to participants in written form.

Annex III

**LIST OF SPEAKERS AT THE SPECIAL SEGMENT**

Mr. Hama Arba Diallo

Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

H.E. Hon. Mr. Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires

President of Cape Verde

H.E. Hon. Mr. Hugo Chavez Frias

President of Venezuela

H.E. Mr. Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi

Prime Minister of Mozambique

H.E. Hon. Mr. Hama Amadou

Prime Minister of Niger

H.E. Mr. Bruno Amousou

Prime Minister of Benin

H.E. Mr. Dah Ould Abdeljelil

Minister for Rural Development and Environment of Mauritania

H.E. Ms. Sigrun Mogedal

State Secretary of Norway

Mr. Lennart Bage

President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Mr. Zephirin Diabre

Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mr. Michael Zammit-Cutajar

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

Mr. Michel Jarraud

Deputy Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Mr. Herbert K. Acquay

Team Leader, Land and Water Resources of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

H.E. Mr. Jean-Marie Noirfalisse

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations Office in Geneva (on behalf of the European Union)



Mr. Uwe Werblow  
Head of Division, Environment and Rural Development, DG Development  
(on behalf of the Commissioner for Development of the European Commission)

H.E. Dr. Uschi Eid  
Parliamentary State Secretary, Ministry for Economic Cooperation and  
Development of Germany

H.E. Ms. Gun-Britt Andersson  
State Secretary of Sweden

H.E. Mr. Yucai Li  
Vice-Minister of the State Forestry Administration of China

H.E. Mr. Ali A. Mojtahed Shabestari  
Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
to the United Nations Office in Geneva (on behalf of the Group of 77 and  
China)

H.E. Bozo Kovacevic  
Minister of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning of Croatia

H.E. Mr. Walter Fust  
State Secretary of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

H.E. Ms. Maria Minna  
Minister for International Cooperation of Canada

H.E. Mr. Francis Nhema  
Minister of Environment and Tourism of Zimbabwe

H.E. Dr. Mukti N. Shrestha  
Secretary of the Ministry of Population and Environment of Nepal

H.E. Mr. A. Ntangazwa  
Minister of State of the Vice-President's Office of the United Republic of  
Tanzania

H.E. Mr. Soumaila Cisse  
Minister for the Environment of Mali

H.E. Dr. Abdal-Razaq-Tubaishat  
Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment of Jordan

H.E. Mr. A. Bolat  
Vice-Minister of Nature and Environment of Mongolia

H.E. Ms. Martina Motlova  
Deputy Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic

Mr. Peter Bridgewater  
Director, Division of Ecological Sciences and Secretary of the  
International Coordinating Council for Man and the Biosphere (MAB)  
Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
Organization (UNESCO)

H.E. Mr. Noah Katana Ngala  
Minister for the Environment of Kenya

Mr. José Antonio Rodríguez Oruña  
Member of Parliament of Cuba

H.E. Dr. Hien Fidele  
Minister of Environment and Water of Burkina Faso

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Said Kabir  
Hon. Minister of Environment of Nigeria

H.E. Mr. Hassan Maaouni  
Minister in charge of Waters and Forests of Morocco

H.E. Mr. Mohammad Samadi  
Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Head of Forest and Range Organization  
of the Islamic Republic of Iran

H.E. Ms. Anna Nyanmekye  
Deputy Minister for Environment, Science and Technology, Member of  
Parliament of Ghana

H.E. Mr. Ali Abadallah  
Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon

H.E. Mr. Alphonse  
Minister for Environment of Madagascar

H.E. Mr. Arefaine Berhe  
Minister of Agriculture of Eritrea

H.E. Ms. Mathabiso Lepono  
Minister of Environment, Gender and Youth Affairs of Lesotho

H.E. Dr. Alfred B. Sesay  
Minister of the Environment of Sierra Leone

H.E. Ms. Mary Mugenyi  
Minister of State for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of Uganda

H.E. Mr. Roy Fanourakis  
Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Swaziland

H.E. Mr. Ali Ben Saad Al-Tokhais  
Deputy Minister for Water Affairs of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water  
of Saudi Arabia

H.E. Mr. Bernard Fautrier  
Minister Plenipotentiary in charge of International Cooperation for  
Environment and Development of Monaco

H.E. Ms. Rejoice Mabudafhasi  
Deputy Minister of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of  
South Africa

H.E. Mr. Murat Mussatayev  
Vice Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of  
Kazakhstan

H.E. Mr. B. T. Koshmatov  
Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry of  
Kyrgyzstan

H.E. Mr. Belgacem Henchi  
Vice-Minister of Environment of Tunisia

H.E. Mr. Dan Nielsen  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

H.E. Mr. Philippe Petit  
Head of French Delegation

Mr. Toshiyuki Taga  
Minister, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations Office in Geneva

Mr. Alberto I. Glender Rivas  
Directorate-General for Multilateral Issues of the Ministerial Secretariat  
of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico

Mr. Hernan Cabrera Francisdakis  
Vice Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forest  
Development of Bolivia

Mr. Dore Abdoulaye  
Director of Office for Economic Relations of the Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs and Cooperation of Guinea

Ms. Kristalina Georgieva  
Director of the Environment Department of the World Bank

Mr. Arnulf Muller-Helmbrecht  
Executive Secretary of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory  
Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

Mr. Musa M'Benga  
Executive Secretary of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought  
Control in the Sahel (CILSS)

Mr. Amamou Mohamed  
Secretary-General of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)

Mr. Souley Yacouba Maiga  
Groupement des aides privées (Focal point RIOD, Niger)

Ms. Fatou Alamine Lô  
Second Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations  
Office in Geneva

Mr. Fared Mugwer  
Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Yemen

Ms. Sushma Choudhary  
Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forest of India

H.E. Mr. U. Mya Than  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations  
Office in Geneva

H.E. Dr. Toufik Salloum  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the  
United Nations Office in Geneva

H.E. Ambassador Franco Micieli de Biase  
Head of Italian Delegation

Mr. Salvano Briceno  
Director of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster  
Reduction (UNISDR)

Mr. Hassen Seoud  
Director-General of the Arab Centre for Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands  
(ACSAD) (on behalf of the League of Arab States)

Mr. El Mostafa Darfaoui  
Deputy Director of Technical and Scientific Cooperation of the Arab  
Organization of Agricultural Development

H.E. Hon. Pelokgale K. Seloma  
Assistant Minister of Agriculture of Botswana

H.E. Mr. Essy Amara  
Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

Mr. Tiega Anada

Regional Coordinator for Africa of the Ramsar Convention

Mr. Issa Al Baradeiya

Director General of Environmental Resources of the Ministry of the Environment of Palestine

Mr. Abdel El-Bettagy

Director General of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

Mr. Getachew Eshete

Head, Ecosystem Department of the Environmental Protection Authority of Ethiopia

H.E. Ms. Norma Nascimbene de Dumont

Minister, Deputy Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations Office in Geneva

Mr. Sylvèstre Zidona

*Chef de Cabinet* of the Second Vice-President of Burundi

Mr. David Soolalo Fong

Assistant Director for the Department of Lands, Surveys and Environment of Samoa

Mr. Peniasi Kunatuba

Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests of Fiji

Mr. Michael Constantinides

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of Cyprus

Ms. Patricia Hajabakiga

Secretary General of the Ministry of Lands, Human Resettlement and Environmental Protection of Rwanda

Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad

Project Co-manager, Ministry of the Environment, Local Government and Rural Development of Pakistan

H.E. Mr. Jae-Gil Lee

Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office in Geneva

H.E. Ms. Maria Madalena Neves Brito

Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of Cape Verde

Dr. I. Nyoman Yuliarsana

Director for Watershed Management and Land Rehabilitation of the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia

Mr. Abdel-Moneim Hagazi

Director of the Desert Research Centre of Egypt

H.E. Mr. Koum Saron

Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia

Mr. O. G. Sallah

Permanent Secretary of the Department of State for Fisheries, Natural Resources and Environment of the Gambia

Mr. Mustapha Goussanem

Director for Studies and International Cooperation, Directorate-General of Forests, Ministry of Agriculture of Algeria

H.E. Mr. Toufiq Ali

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Office in Geneva

Mr. Mordechai Yedid

Deputy Director-General in charge of United Nations and International Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel

Annex IV**PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE SPECIAL SEGMENT**

1. The number and the high rank of the speakers during the special segment, which took place between 8 and 10 October 2001, have indicated the growing interest and importance attributed to the Convention and to combating desertification in general. These deliberations have helped to enhance the momentum needed to invigorate efforts towards facilitating UNCCD implementation and to enhance international cooperation in this respect.

2. Country Parties have used this opportunity to describe their efforts in implementing the UNCCD and related policies, and in carrying out programmes and projects to combat desertification, redress land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought. It has been stressed that UNCCD implementation had to become an integral part of overall policy aimed at promoting sustainable development and environmental protection. Synergies should be pursued with other related environmental conventions and their implementation. The importance of incorporating the UNCCD into national poverty reduction strategies has also often been emphasized.

3. The importance of further involving NGOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) in UNCCD/NAP implementation is recognized. Reaching out to the members of civil society in rural communities has been highlighted as one of the main challenges in this respect. Forging and strengthening the networking of NGOs and CBOs is considered to be another important task. Farmers, women and marginalized groups required special attention in that regard.

4. The need to enhance subregional and regional collaboration was reiterated, in particular in the light of the fact that desertification, land degradation and drought were transboundary phenomena and concerted actions were required at the subregional and national levels. Subregional action programmes as well as regional thematic programme networks provided useful frameworks for harnessing such subregional and regional collaboration.

5. Ensuring proper financial support to enable the UNCCD secretariat and the GM to perform their required functions is considered to be crucial, and hope has been expressed for an increase in funding for both the UNCCD secretariat and the GM. Country Parties have also referred to the role that had been played by the regional coordination units in supporting UNCCD implementation in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, and have expressed their hope that a proper budgetary arrangement will be made to enable regional coordination units to continue to perform their functions.

6. Support has been voiced for enhancement of the existing mechanisms for reviewing the implementation of the Convention in order to help to improve the effectiveness of measures for combating desertification and to foster the partnership to support UNCCD implementation.

7. A recent development has been welcomed, in which the GEF has taken a number of steps to increase its support for UNCCD implementation. Hope has been expressed that such steps will be undertaken expeditiously in order to enable the GEF to increase its catalytic funding to support activities to combat desertification and land degradation.

8. Mention was made of a number of successful projects and programmes in the developing countries which had been supported by their development partner countries and agencies. The developed countries and aid agencies have also reaffirmed their commitment to supporting developing countries in combating desertification and land degradation. It has been stressed that the UNCCD secretariat and the GM should continue to play an instrumental role in this respect.

9. In the light of the fact that desertification was one of the most significant threats to the global environment, and that combating desertification was one of the major challenges in promoting sustainable development, it has been reiterated that these topics should be highlighted in the process of preparation for the forthcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).



Annex V**PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY OF THE OPEN DIALOGUE SESSIONS**

1. The two open dialogue sessions, held on 5 and 10 October 2001, brought together NGO representatives and government delegations to discuss key issues relating to desertification and sustainable development. The sessions were planned by the NGO community in order to share experience on the effective implementation of the UNCCD and to consider critical issues in the light of the forthcoming WSSD.

2. Overall the sessions have been felt to be successful, with keynote presentations made by various prominent dryland advocates and active engagement from more than 20 delegates and several NGO representatives.

3. One of the major lessons drawn from ten years of work with the Convention is the importance of civil society participation in the implementation of the Convention. In many countries, NGOs are now recognized as indispensable partners, compared to ten years ago, when there was little or no contact between these bodies and governments. Nevertheless, the need for greater cooperation and coordination between all players at all levels, particularly at the local level, has been emphasized. The need for greater communication between governments and civil society has also been stressed.

4. It has been highlighted in this respect that earmarking of funds for combating desertification, particularly for implementation at the local level, in partnership with NGOs and civil society, is an effective and efficient programming approach, and that partnership among all stakeholders must be promoted, clearly outlining the respective roles and responsibilities. The establishment of an institutional framework would allow stakeholders to fulfil these roles in the context of NAP implementation. UNCCD projects should include civil society as well as governments in both project design and delivery. It is important to encourage partnership between civil society and governments.

5. Opportunities for strengthening and building on synergies between local and national levels, and northern and southern NGOs, as well as among conventions, have been considered. NGOs can play a critical role at each of these levels. Such cross-fertilization can greatly enrich activities under all the multilateral environmental agreements and bring about more successful and sustainable development. It should be accompanied by targeted capacity-building for NGOs, communities and community-based organizations. Northern NGOs have been encouraged to integrate their programming with the UNCCD.

6. It has been recalled that capacity-building within non-governmental and community-based organizations will ensure that civil society effectively participates in, and contributes to, implementation processes. By applying multiple coping strategies, those active at the grassroots level address land degradation in synergetic ways. All stakeholders should draw from these experiences and incorporate them into policies and strategies at the national level and thereby enhance synergy and the efficient use of funds. Northern NGOs require support in order to link their programming more closely with the goals of the UNCCD. This support could be enhanced through a common awareness campaign drawing the connection between land degradation and poverty, with special emphasis on desertification.

7. The role of women and their influence in working towards sustainable development has been emphasized. The lack of equitable treatment of women in terms of land tenure, access to credit and related constraints have limited the potential impact of the Rio conventions. In the community development context, empowerment and access to land and other natural resources are critical in ensuring useful participation and sustainable programming. In addition, the required emphasis on the interrelationship and interdependence between the environment and social and economic progress has been noted.

8. Investments in activities targeting poverty reduction and empowering civil society will create a positive environment for effective UNCCD programming. It was recommended that UNCCD programming should encourage women's participation and target their needs.

9. Decentralization and ongoing consultations between different sectors of society will ensure that community priorities are understood and addressed. Lessons learned indicate that consultation is not a one-time event, but rather a continuous process that will lead to stronger and more informed partnerships. The importance of monitoring the process of civil society involvement in NAP implementation has also been highlighted. Qualitative and quantitative indicators reflecting the positive contributions of civil society will enhance credibility and should lead to increased funding opportunities.

10. The development of monitoring mechanisms, specifically quantitative and qualitative indicators for civil society participation, as recommended by the CST, is required. Quantitative indicators such as the number of NGOs to have participated in the development of the NAPs, and the degree to which these NGOs have remained engaged during the implementation phase, would provide powerful information on local ownership of the process. Donors and affected countries should consider supporting the development of monitoring mechanisms in order to enable a close follow-up of the progress and outcome of NAP activities at all levels.

11. In conclusion, it has become clear that desertification cannot be addressed in isolation from major social and economic concerns. NGOs and civil society play a vital role in ensuring the success of implementation of the UNCCD and other conventions. Their skills and their commitment to cooperation and participation contribute to the local ownership that is essential for programme sustainability. Increased funding, capacity-building and productive consultation will contribute to progress in UNCCD implementation.

Annex VI

**CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS**

1. At the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties, the open-ended Ad Hoc Group of Experts (AHGE) has met three times between 1 and 5 October 2001. It has considered, in a preliminary manner, the issues arising under articles 27 and 28 of the Convention and the documentation prepared by the secretariat (ICCD/COP(5)/8).

2. It has been agreed, first, that any procedure and institutional mechanism to resolve questions on implementation should be facilitative and non-confrontational in character. Such procedures and institutional mechanisms should assist the Parties to achieve compliance with their obligations under the Convention.

3. It was noted that further consideration would be required of the scope of article 27, which could be understood as relating either to problems of implementation faced by the Parties to the Convention as a whole, or to difficulties experienced by individual Parties in fulfilling their obligations.

4. It was also recognized that the relationship between articles 22.2, 26, 27 and 28, and especially the relationship between articles 22 and 27, would require further consideration by the COP, *inter alia*, to avoid duplication in their implementation. In this regard, Parties agreed that it would be useful to have a fuller understanding of actions taken under article 22.2 when pursuing consideration of article 27.

5. With regard to the development of arbitration and conciliation procedures, the AHGE concluded that the design and content of arbitration and conciliation procedures under multilateral environmental agreements were well precedented and uncontroversial; the task of developing such procedures was essentially a technical one.

6. Due to the complex nature of the issues at hand, as well as time constraints, it was recommended to resume discussion on these matters at the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex VII**SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE CLOSING SESSION**

1. In his written statement on the occasion of the closing of the fifth Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD, the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the UNCCD, Mr. Hama Arba Diallo, congratulated the Parties and regional groups on the consensus reached on issues that would enhance the implementation of the Convention and foster sustainable development in affected country Parties.

2. Mr. Diallo welcomed the fact that the Conference had taken very important decisions in areas such as the review of the implementation of the Convention, the financing of the Convention through collaboration with the GEF, ways of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the CST and the promotion of synergies between the UNCCD and other conventions. Also important was the decision which should ensure that the goals and objectives of the Convention were fully taken into account in the agenda of the forthcoming WSSD.

3. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) called this Conference a pivotal meeting, since it produced decisions crucial for the future of the process. He especially welcomed the decision on the establishment of CRIC, stressing at the same time that the level of financial resources was far from satisfactory. He also emphasized the fundamental importance of the work of the CST and the newly established group of experts.

4. The President of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties, Mr. Charles Bassett, reminded the delegates that both the Convention and the WSSD, were mobilized by the same "economic, social and environmental challenges" as those stated in the explanation by the Nobel Prize Committee for the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the United Nations and its Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan.

5. Mr. Bassett thanked delegates for the considerable progress achieved and their hard work. He emphasized the role of the interactive dialogue and open dialogue with the NGOs in sharing experiences on implementation of the UNCCD and lessons learned. He also offered suggestions for improvements in the negotiation processes for the inter-session period and future conferences of the Parties.

6. France (on behalf of the European Union) welcomed the significant progress made at the Conference and expressed its particular appreciation of the organization of the Special Segment, which gave an opportunity to the Ministers and other officials of the EU Member States to take part in a constructive dialogue on poverty and land degradation. At the same time, he expressed his conviction that the results of this session would form an important contribution to debates at the WSSD.

7. The representative of Switzerland thanked all those who expressed their gratitude to the Government of Switzerland for assisting in organizing the Conference of the Parties.

8. The Chairman of the closing session, Mr. Philbert Brown, called for the strong collaboration of all Parties in the implementation of the Convention and extended his gratitude to the country Parties which had participated in and provided input for the Conference. He also thanked the Government of Switzerland, as well as the Executive Secretary and his staff. He then closed the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD.

Annex VIII**DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS FIFTH SESSION**

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(5)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(5)/1/Corr.1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations - Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(5)/2	Programme and budget
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.1	Programme and budget - Addendum - Programme and Budget for the biennium 2002-2003
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.2	Programme and budget - Addendum - Programme and Budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (Supplementary Fund and Special Fund)
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.3	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds for 2000-2001
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.4	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the Trust Fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2000-2001 as at 30 June 2001
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.5	Programme and budget - Addendum - Need for, modalities for, costs involved and feasibility of the regional coordination units
ICCD/COP(5)/2/Add.6	Programme and Budget - Addendum - Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2000-2001 as at 30 September 2001
ICCD/COP(5)/3	Implementation of the Convention - Review of the report of the secretariat on progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.1	Implementation of the Convention - Addendum - Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.2	Implementation of the Convention - Addendum - Synthesis of the report on ways of improving the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/COP(5)/3/Add.3	Implementation of the Convention - Addendum - Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention
ICCD/COP(5)/4	Global Mechanism - Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention, of the report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it
ICCD/COP(5)/5	Maintenance of the roster of experts
ICCD/COP(5)/5/Add.1	Maintenance of the roster of experts - Addendum
ICCD/COP(5)/6	Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies
ICCD/COP(5)/7	Outstanding items - Consideration of rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
ICCD/COP(5)/8	Outstanding items - Consideration of procedure and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention, with a view to deciding how to take this matter forward - Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention
ICCD/COP(5)/9	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers
ICCD/COP(5)/9/Add.1	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers - Addendum



<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(5)/10	Credentials of delegations: Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.1	Arrangements for the fifth session of the Conference of the parties - Preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.2	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.3	Directory of focal points for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.4	List of participants
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.5	Reducing Poverty Through Timely and Effective Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.6	Report of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.7	Assessment on the status of land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas - Land Degradation Assessment and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.8	African regional conference in preparation for the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.9	Asian regional and subregional activities in preparation for the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.10	Latin American and the Caribbean regional meeting in preparation for the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.11	Proceedings of the Third Asia-Africa Forum on Combating Desertification and Mitigating Drought

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(5)/CRP.1	Report of the meeting of Commonwealth representatives at the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Bonn, 14 December 2000
ICCD/COP(5)/CRP.2	Interactive dialogue on reducing poverty through timely and effective implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification - EU contribution for the Interactive Dialogue, Monday, 8 October 2001, 13:00-15:00h: Desertification and Land Use
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/1/Corr.1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: Provisional agenda and annotations - Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/2	Traditional knowledge - Proposal of the Government of Italy for the realization of a pilot project for a network of institutions, bodies and experts on traditional knowledge
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/3	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/4	Early Warning Systems - Report of the ad hoc panel
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/5	Proposals on how to revise the UNCCD National Reports Help Guide, with the aim of providing guidance to Parties to ensure that the activities of the scientific communities and institutions are better reflected in their national reports
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/6	Strategies for the communication of information and its use to generate best practices for combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought
ICCD/COP(5)/CST/7	Benchmarks and indicators - Report of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) on their initiative on the development of benchmarks and indicators

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