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Desertification**

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Nairobi, 17 – 28 October 2005  
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

**Provisional agenda and annotations**

Note by the secretariat

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## I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The provisional agenda presented for adoption is as follows:
  1. Election of the President.
  2. Election of other officers:
    - (a) Election of Vice-Presidents and the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology
    - (b) Election of the Chairperson of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.
  3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
  4. Credentials of delegations.
  5. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers.
  6. Programme and budget:
    - (a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007
    - (b) Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005
    - (c) Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2004-2005
    - (d) Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2002-2003 ended 31 December 2003; Report of the United Nations Board of Auditors
    - (e) Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005.
  7. Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention:
    - (a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d) of the Convention, of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it

- (b) Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, including the review referred to in paragraph 4 of decision 1/COP.5.
8. Committee on Science and Technology:
- (a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it
  - (b) Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation of ad hoc panels of experts, as necessary, with their terms of reference and modalities of work.
9. Comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat, as defined in article 23, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the relevant articles of the regional implementation annexes, and in the relevant decisions of the COP.
10. Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies, in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i), of the Convention.
11. Consideration of the follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.
12. Rationale for, modalities for, costs involved in, feasibility of, possible terms of reference of, and institutional and collaborative arrangements for the regional coordination units.
13. Outstanding items:
- (a) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
  - (b) Consideration of procedures 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
  - (c) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention.
14. Consideration of the progress made, *inter alia*, by the Global Mechanism, in mobilizing financial resources to support UNCCD implementation, in particular national action programmes to combat desertification.

15. Consideration of the interim report on the status of preparation of the 2006 International Year of Deserts and Desertification.
16. Consideration of the report on relations between the secretariat and its host country.
17. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions.
18. Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions.
19. Programme of work for the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties.
20. Report of the session.

## II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

### *Venue*

2. Pursuant to provisions contained in decision 30/COP.6, and in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties (COP) (decision 1/COP.1 as contained in ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1), the seventh session of the COP will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 17 to 28 October 2005.

### *Logistic arrangements*

3. A few weeks before the opening of COP 7, the secretariat will distribute an information note detailing registration and security procedures, as well as other logistic arrangements for the session, to be contained in ICCD/COP(7)/INF.1.

### *Participants*

4. In accordance with article 36, paragraph 2 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), for each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Consequently, the Parties as at the opening of COP 7 on 17 October 2005 will be the States and regional economic integration organizations which have deposited their instruments by 19 July 2005. Those which deposit their instruments after 19 July and by 30 July will become Parties during COP 7. Those that do so after 30 July 2005 will not become Parties until after the closure of the session but can participate in the session as observers, together with the United Nations, its specialized agencies, any State member thereof or observers thereto not Party to the Convention, as well as accredited intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Relevant information on the status of ratifications has been made available on the secretariat's Internet web site at the following address: <http://www.unccd.int>.

### *Agenda*

5. By its decision 29/COP.6, the COP decided to include in the agenda for its seventh session standing items on its agenda as defined in 9/COP.1 as well as certain selected items. These have been taken into account in the provisional agenda, in addition to matters arising from other decisions.

### *Documentation*

6. A list of documents for the session and other documents of relevance is provided in annex I. In addition to normal distribution, official documents for the session have been made available on the secretariat's Internet web site at the following address: <http://www.unccd.int>.

### 1. Election of the President

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

### 2. Election of other officers

(a) Election of Vice-Presidents and the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology

8. Pursuant to rule 22 of the rules of procedure (as amended by decision 20/COP.2), nine Vice-Presidents and the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) shall be elected from among the representatives of the Parties in a manner such that every geographical region shall be represented by at least two members. Together with the President and, according to paragraph 4 of the annex to decision 1/COP.5, the Chairperson of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC), they shall serve as the Bureau of the session. One of the Vice-Presidents shall act as Rapporteur. In appointing the Bureau, due regard shall be paid to the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and adequate representation of affected country Parties, particularly those in Africa, while not neglecting affected country Parties in other regions.

(b) Election of the Chairperson of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

9. Rule 31 of the rules of procedure (as amended by decision 20/COP.2) provides for the election by the COP of chairpersons of subsidiary bodies other than the CST, unless the COP decides otherwise.

### 3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

10. The COP will have before it the provisional agenda (see chapter I above) to consider for adoption. A tentative schedule of work for the session, on which the sections below elaborate, is contained in annex II.

#### *Purpose of the session*

11. The Convention provides, in article 22, paragraph 2, the tasks of the COP. The organization of work of the session is designed to facilitate the activities in this respect, while taking account of decisions of the COP on its programme of work, in particular decision 29/COP.6, and other relevant decisions.

*Opening plenary meeting*

12. The COP may wish to consider the following scenario with regard to the structure of the opening plenary meeting. The President of COP 6 would open the session and call for the election of the President of COP 7. The President of COP 7 would make a statement after his or her election. Statements would then be made on behalf of the host country and by the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, to be followed by statements from the representatives of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations and regional and interest groups as well as a representative of non-governmental organizations. The President would then call for the election of Vice-Presidents and the Chairperson of the CST, as well as adoption of the agenda and organization of work. Finally, the COP would discuss accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and admission of observers.

*Establishment of a committee of the whole and allocation of its tasks*

13. The practice followed at the previous sessions of the COP was to establish at the opening plenary meeting a sessional committee of the whole (COW), chaired by a Vice-President of the COP and open to the participation of all Parties. The COP may wish to follow the same practice at its seventh session. The COW would recommend draft decisions for adoption by the COP. Its Chairperson would have the authority to delegate work, as appropriate, to drafting groups. The COP could allocate to the COW the following items: programme and budget; consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention; comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat; review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies; consideration of the follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) relevant to the UNCCD; needs for, modalities for, costs involved in and feasibility and possible terms of reference of the regional coordination units; consideration of the progress made, *inter alia*, by the Global Mechanism, in mobilizing financial resources to support UNCCD implementation; consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure; consideration of the interim report on the status of preparation of the 2006 International Year of Deserts and Desertification; consideration of the report on relations between the secretariat and its host country; programme of work for the eighth session of the COP; and any other matter deemed to be appropriate.

*Committee on Science and Technology*

14. The CST is tentatively scheduled to meet from 18 to 20 October, with a possible extension to 21 October. In accordance with decision 20/COP.6 and other relevant decisions, the secretariat has prepared ICCD/COP(7)/CST/1 containing a provisional agenda for the Committee's work, as well as other documents needed for its deliberations, which are listed in annex I of this document.

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

15. The CRIC is tentatively scheduled to meet from 18 to 21 October. In accordance with decision 1/COP.5 and other relevant decisions, the secretariat has prepared ICCD/CRIC(4)/1

containing a provisional agenda for the Committee's work, as well as other documents needed for its deliberations which are listed in annex I of this document.

*Ad hoc group of experts*

16. It is proposed that the open-ended ad hoc group of experts (AHGE) be reconvened on 26 October, pursuant to decision 22/COP.6.

*Initial segment*

17. It is proposed in the tentative schedule that COP 7 be divided into three segments. During the initial segment from 17 to 21 October, in addition to the CST and CRIC sessions, the COW would initiate its work in accordance with the agenda of the COP.

18. The plenary meeting would meet on 21 October to hear reports from the COW, the CST and the CRIC, to take all necessary decisions on matters before the COP and to review the organization of work for the second week, including providing for further meetings of the COW as appropriate.

*Special segment*

19. During the special segment on 24 and 25 October, Parties would have an opportunity to review, and make statements on, the implementation of the Convention.

*Round table of members of parliament*

20. The sixth round table of members of parliament is planned from 25 to 27 October as requested in decision 27/COP.6. It is anticipated that any outcome from the round table would be communicated to the COP for consideration.

*Concluding segment*

21. During the concluding segment, the Conference will consider all decisions not previously adopted. It will also have before it for adoption the report on credentials to be submitted by the Bureau. It will decide the date and venue of the eighth session of the COP, taking account of:

(a) Article 22, paragraph 4, of the Convention, which provides that, unless otherwise decided by the COP, the second, third and fourth ordinary sessions shall be held yearly; thereafter, ordinary sessions shall be held every two years;

(b) Rule 4, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, which provides that at each ordinary session, the COP shall decide the date and duration of the next ordinary session and that the COP should endeavour not to hold such sessions at a time, which would make the attendance of a significant number of delegations difficult;



(c) Rule 3 of the rules of procedure, which states that the sessions of the COP shall take place at the seat of the secretariat, unless the COP decides otherwise or other appropriate arrangements are made by the secretariat in consultation with the Parties;

(d) Decision 1/COP.2, which provides that the fifth ordinary session of the COP shall take place in the year 2001, and that thereafter, ordinary sessions shall be held every two years; and

(e) Any offer to host the eighth session and meet the additional financial cost.

The COP will also decide the date and venue of the fifth session of the CRIC, taking into account any decision the COP may take on the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and its schedule of meetings.

22. The proposed schedule allows for the concluding plenary meeting on 28 October. Accordingly, all negotiations should be concluded by 27 October.

#### *Times of meetings*

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

#### 4. Credentials of delegations

24. Rule 19 of the rules of procedure states: "The credentials of representatives as well as the names of alternative representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat, if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization." Rule 20 of the rules of procedure states: "The Bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the COP for decision." This report will be contained in ICCD/COP(7)/12. Furthermore, rule 21 states: "Representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the session, pending a decision by the COP to accept their credentials."

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

25. Article 22, paragraph 7, of the Convention states: "The United Nations, its specialized agencies and any State member thereof or observers thereto not Party to the Convention may be represented at sessions of the Conference of the Parties as observers. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention, and which has informed the Permanent Secretariat of its

wish to be represented at a session of the Conference of the Parties as an observer, may be so admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object.” Rules 6 and 7 of the rules of procedure contain provisions to similar effect.

26. Decision 26/COP.1 contains provisions on accrediting non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations to the first and subsequent sessions of the COP. In accordance with these procedures, a list of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations proposed for accreditation at COP 7 is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/11.

## 6. Programme and budget

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

28. A general overview of the programme and budget documents submitted to COP 7 for consideration is provided in ICCD/COP(7)/2.

(a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007

29. By decision 23/COP.6, the Executive Secretary was requested to submit to the COP at its seventh session a programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007. The Executive Secretary was further requested to provide detailed tables and narrative of the proposed expenditures and resource requirements for each subsidiary body under the budget line for substantive support to the COP and its subsidiary bodies. The proposed programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007 is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.1, while ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.2 contains relevant information on the proposed utilization of the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund for the biennium 2006-2007.

(b) Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005

(c) Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2004-2005

(d) Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2002-2003 ended 31 December 2003; Report of the United Nations Board of Auditors

30. By its decision 23/COP.6, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its seventh session on the financial performance of the Convention's funds, and also requested the Executive Secretary, in the performance reports for 2004-2005, to provide detailed tables and narrative of the expenditures implemented for each subsidiary body under the budget line for substantive support to the COP and its subsidiary bodies, specified according to the actual fund utilized. The report on the performance of the Convention's funds in the biennium 2004-2005 is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.3, while ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.4 contains information on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the same biennium. The audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium

2000-2001 and the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors are contained in ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.5.

(e) Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005

31. The COP, by its decision 23/COP.6, requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its seventh session on the status of the trust funds established under the financial rules of the COP. It also requested the Executive Secretary to present a draft indicative scale of assessment. The status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds is presented in ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.6.

7. Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention

32. Pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention, the COP shall review the implementation of the Convention and the functioning of its institutional arrangements.

(a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it

33. By its decision 1/COP.5, the COP decided to establish the CRIC as a subsidiary body of the COP to assist it in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, in order to draw conclusions and to propose to the COP concrete recommendations on further steps in the implementation of the Convention. In the same decision, the COP adopted the terms of reference of the CRIC, which, *inter alia*, define the mandate and functions of the CRIC both at sessions held between ordinary sessions of the COP and at sessions held during the COP.

34. In accordance with decision 1/COP.5, at this session, the Committee will consider the comprehensive report of the third session, which also takes account of information and advice from the Global Mechanism and the CST consistent with their respective mandates, will review the policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, will review the report prepared by the secretariat on the execution of its functions, and will consider report on the collaboration with the Global Environment Facility, with a view to formulating, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

35. Pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, the COP will review reports submitted by its subsidiary bodies and provide guidance to them. According to decision 1/COP.5, the CRIC will report on its work at each ordinary session of the COP. This report will be submitted to the COP for its consideration and any decision the COP may wish to take on the implementation of the Convention. Following the same decision, the COP may also wish to approve the programme of work of the CRIC, including estimates regarding financial implications.

(b) Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, including the review referred to in paragraph 4 of decision 1/COP.5

36. By its decision 1/COP.5, the COP decided that the mandate and functions of the CRIC, as contained in paragraph 1(b) of the terms of reference, shall be subject to renewal at the seventh session of the COP, in the light of lessons learned during the overall review of the Committee. The COP furthermore decided that it shall, no later than at its seventh ordinary session, review the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and its schedule of meetings, with a view to making any necessary modification, including reconsidering the need for and modalities of the CRIC as a subsidiary body. Criteria against which the CRIC will be reviewed were determined in decision 7/COP.6, following the submission to the secretariat of written proposals by the Parties, compiled and summarized in ICCD/COP(6)/3. By its decision 7/COP.6, the COP invited Parties to submit their views on the review before 1 January 2005, but not later than six months before COP 7; such views are compiled and summarized in ICCD/COP(7)/3.

#### 8. Committee on Science and Technology

(a) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it

37. By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided that the review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the CST, including its recommendations to the COP and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it, constitutes a standing item on its agenda. By its decision 20/COP.6, the COP decided that the priority issue addressed by the CST at its sixth session, "Land degradation, vulnerability and rehabilitation: an integrated approach", should be further discussed at the seventh session.

38. The CST will transmit to the COP draft decisions resulting from the deliberations at its seventh session. The report of the CST will also include the proposed CST programme of work for the period after COP 7. The COP may wish to discuss the programme of work, make suggestions for its revision and provide any necessary guidance to the CST.

(b) Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation of ad hoc panels of experts, as necessary, with their terms of reference and modalities of work

39. The Convention, in article 24, paragraph 2, provides that the COP shall establish and maintain a roster of independent experts with expertise and experience in the relevant fields. The COP in its decision 18/COP.1 adopted procedures relating to the establishment and maintenance of a roster of independent experts. By its decision 13/COP.6, the COP made further recommendations on the maintenance and use of the roster. The report on the use made of the roster is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/10. By the same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to ensure that an updated roster of experts is made available in electronic form, which is possible by making use of the secretariat's web site at: <http://www.unccd.int/cop/cst/experts/search.php>.

40. Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Convention provides for the creation of ad hoc panels, as necessary, by the COP in order to provide it, through the CST, with information and advice on specific issues regarding the state of the art in the fields of science and technology relevant to combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought. After considering the report of the CST, the COP may wish to consider appointing ad hoc panels, as necessary, and defining their terms of reference and modalities of work, in accordance with the procedures contained in decision 17/COP.1 for the establishment of ad hoc panels.

9. Comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat, as defined in article 23, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the relevant articles of the regional implementation annexes, and in the relevant decisions of the COP

41. In its decision 23/COP.6, the COP decided that a comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat, as defined in article 23, paragraph 2, of the Convention, in the relevant articles of the regional implementation annexes, and in the relevant decisions of the COP, will take place at the seventh session of the COP. In order to assist this process, the COP requested the Bureau of COP 6 to develop terms of reference, by 1 June 2004, for the comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat to be undertaken by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations. In paragraph 19 of the same decision, the COP determined on what these terms of reference should be based. Decision 29/COP.6 included this item in the programme of work of the COP at its seventh session. Document ICCD/COP(7)/4 contains the report of the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations.

10. Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies, in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i), of the Convention

42. In accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i), of the Convention, and pursuant to decision 12/COP.6, the COP will review activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies. The report on this matter is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/5. This document also contains the relevant information in the context of decision 15/COP.6.

11. Consideration of the follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

43. By its decision 2/COP.6, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to participate actively in the follow-up to the outcome of the WSSD, including through relevant sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, and to report to the COP accordingly. The Executive Secretary's report on this matter is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/6.

12. Rationale for, modalities for, costs involved in, feasibility of, possible terms of reference of, and institutional and collaborative arrangements for the regional coordination units

44. In its decision 11/COP.6, the COP invited the Parties, the existing regional coordination units, the Global Mechanism and any other relevant regional and subregional entities to submit their views in writing, no later than 1 January 2004, on the best arrangements for strengthening regional coordination, including views on the rationale for, modalities for, costs involved in, feasibility of, possible terms of reference of, and institutional and collaborative arrangements for the regional coordination units. It requested the secretariat to facilitate a costed feasibility study on the possible functions, institutional arrangements, modalities and collaborative arrangements of options for cost-effective and efficient regional coordination, and in particular on how to make best use of the existing regional coordination units and other relevant regional and subregional entities, taking into consideration the submissions mentioned above. The secretariat circulated the study to the Parties on 1 August 2004, as requested. The COP also requested the Bureau of COP 6, with the assistance of the secretariat, to initiate, on the basis of the feasibility study, consultations among and between the regional groups, so as to facilitate the decision-making process, and requested the secretariat to report on these consultations at COP 7. The report on this matter is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/7. The COP is invited by COP 6, taking into account the outcome of the feasibility study and associated consultations, to take a decision on the role of, and institutional and budgetary arrangements relating to, the regional coordination units.

13. Outstanding items

(a) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure

45. Article 22, paragraph 2(e), of the Convention provides that the COP shall “agree upon and adopt, by consensus, rules of procedure (...) for itself and any subsidiary bodies”. At its first session, by decision 1/COP.1, the COP adopted its rules of procedure, with the exception of some paragraphs contained in rules 22, 31 and 47. The texts of rules 22 and 31 were amended by decision 20/COP.2. By decision 21/COP.2, the COP decided also to give further consideration to paragraph 1 of rule 47 of the rules of procedure, not yet agreed upon, and the text resulting from this decision was provided in the annex to ICCD/COP(3)/13.

46. Having taken note of the report by the secretariat contained in ICCD/COP(6)/6, the COP requested the secretariat, in its decision 21/COP.6, to include consideration of this outstanding rule of procedure in the agenda of its seventh session. The information relevant to this item is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/8.

(b) Consideration of procedures 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

(c) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention

47. By its decision 20/COP.3, the COP decided, in accordance with articles 27 and 28 of the Convention, to convene during its fourth session an open-ended AHGE to examine procedures for the resolution of questions of implementation and annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures, and to make recommendations thereon, taking into account the report prepared by the secretariat and in the light of the progress of negotiations on the same matters in other environmental conventions. By its decisions 20/COP.4 and 21/COP.5, the COP decided to reconvene the open-ended AHGE during its fifth and sixth sessions, respectively.

48. At its sixth session, by its decision 22/COP.6, the COP decided to reconvene this group during its seventh session and decided further that the group should take as the basis of its work a new working document prepared by the secretariat in the light of ICCD/COP(4)/8, ICCD/COP(5)/8 and ICCD/COP(6)/7, as well as an updated version of the annexes contained in ICCD/COP(4)/8.

49. The COP also invited any Parties wishing to communicate their views on these articles to do so, in writing to the secretariat, by 31 January 2005, and requested the secretariat to include such views in this new working document. This is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/9.

14. Consideration of the progress made, *inter alia*, by the Global Mechanism, in mobilizing financial resources to support UNCCD implementation, in particular national action programmes to combat desertification

50. By its decision 29/COP.6, the COP decided to consider at its seventh session the progress made, *inter alia*, by the Global Mechanism, in mobilizing financial resources to support UNCCD implementation, in particular national action programmes to combat desertification. The information pertaining to this matter is provided in document ICCD/CRIC(4)/4, which contains the report by the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism on its activities, prepared pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention.

15. Consideration of the interim report on the status of preparation of the 2006 International Year of Deserts and Desertification

51. At its 58th ordinary session, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/58/211 which declares 2006 the "International Year of Deserts and Desertification". This resolution designated the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD as focal point of the year, in conjunction with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and other relevant bodies of the United Nations. The plan of activities to be undertaken, as well as other information relating to this International Year is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/13.

16. Consideration of the report on relations between the secretariat and its host country

52. In consideration of an increasing number of activities undertaken by the secretariat in cooperation with the Government of the country hosting it, the Executive Secretary prepared a report including, *inter alia*, on implementation of the Headquarters Agreement. This report is contained in ICCD/COP(7)/14 and is submitted for consideration by the COP and any decision it may wish to take on this matter.

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

53. By its decision 27/COP.1, the COP requested that open dialogue sessions organized by non-governmental organizations be included within the official programme of work of the sessions of the COP, and that the secretariat make all efforts to facilitate inclusion of at least two such half-day sessions within the official programme of work. Such sessions would be organized in consultation with the secretariat and the Bureau of the COP through its President. Decision 29/COP.6 reiterated this request. Half-day sessions have been tentatively scheduled for the mornings of 21 and 27 October.

18. Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions

54. Following decision 29/COP.6, the programme of work of the COP at its seventh session will include interactive dialogue sessions during the special segment on the implementation of the Convention.

19. Programme of work for the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties

55. By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided to include the following standing items on its agenda:

(a) Review of the implementation of the Convention, and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention;

(b) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;

(c) Review, pursuant to the same article, of the report of the Global Mechanism on its activities, and the provision of guidance to it;

(d) 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; and

(e) Adoption or adjustment of the programme and budget.

56. In accordance with this decision, and following decision 29/COP.6 on the programme of work of the COP, and any decision the COP may take on the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and its schedule of meetings, the COP may wish to review its programme of work for the next session, as appropriate.



20. Report of the session

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

Annex I

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

**Documents available at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties:**

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(7)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(7)/2	Programme and budget
ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.1	Programme and budget - Addendum - Programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007
ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.2	Programme and budget - Addendum - Programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007 (Supplementary Fund and Special Fund)
ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.3	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005
ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.4	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2004-2005
ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.5	Programme and budget - Addendum - Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2002-2003 ended 31 December 2003; Report of the United Nations Board of Auditors
ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.6	Programme and budget - Addendum - Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005
ICCD/COP(7)/3	Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention - Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, including the review referred to in paragraph 4 of decision 1/COP.5
ICCD/COP(7)/4	Comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat, as defined in article 23, paragraph 2 of the Convention, the relevant articles of the regional implementation annexes, and in the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(7)/5	Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies, in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i) of the Convention
ICCD/COP(7)/6	Consideration of the follow-up to the outcome of the WSSD relevant to the UNCCD
ICCD/COP(7)/7	Rationale for, modalities for, costs involved in, feasibility of, possible terms of reference of, and institutional and collaborative arrangements for the regional coordination units
ICCD/COP(7)/8	Outstanding items - Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(7)/9	Outstanding items - Consideration of procedures 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(7)/10	Committee on Science and Technology - Maintenance of the roster of experts
ICCD/COP(7)/11	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers
ICCD/COP(7)/12	Credentials of delegations: Report of the Bureau to the COP
ICCD/COP(7)/13	Interim report on the status of preparation of the 2006 International Year of Deserts and Desertification
ICCD/COP(7)/14	Report on the relations between the secretariat and its host country
ICCD/COP(7)/INF.1	Arrangements for the seventh session of the COP - Preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(7)/INF.2	Status of ratification of the UNCCD
ICCD/COP(7)/INF.3	Directory of focal points for the UNCCD

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(7)/INF.4	Consideration of the role of private sector in the implementation of the UNCCD

**Documents available at the fourth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention:**

ICCD/CRIC(4)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/CRIC(4)/2	Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention - Overall review of the activities of the secretariat and of the progress made by affected country Parties in implementation of the Convention
ICCD/CRIC(4)/3	Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention - Review of the report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention
ICCD/CRIC(4)/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/CRIC(4)/5	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, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention

**Documents available at the seventh session of the Committee on Science and Technology:**

ICCD/COP(7)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work - Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/2	Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology - Synthesis of reports submitted by Parties on case studies illustrating best practices and innovative research relating to land degradation, vulnerability and rehabilitation: an integrated approach
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/3	Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology - Interim report of the Group of Experts

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/3/Add.1	Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology - Analysis by the Group of Experts of the reports submitted by Parties to CRIC 3
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/4	Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology - Report of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/5	Traditional knowledge
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/6	Benchmarks and indicators
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/7	Early warning systems - Pilot studies on early warning systems
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/8	Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/9	The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/10	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/INF.1	UNCCD Fellowship Programme
ICCD/COP(7)/CST/INF.2	Consideration of ways and means of promoting know-how and technology transfer for combating desertification and/or mitigating the effects of drought, as well as of promoting experience sharing and information exchange among Parties and interested institutions and organizations

**Other documents:**

**Third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**

ICCD/CRIC(3)/9	Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its third session
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**Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties**

ICCD/COP(6)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: Proceedings
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<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(6)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: Action taken

**First session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**

ICCD/CRIC(1)/10	Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its first session
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**Previous sessions of the Conference of the Parties**

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(4)/AHWG/6	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(3)/20/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its third session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session: Action taken

Annex II

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF WORK**

<b>Monday, 17 October 2005</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
P L E N A R Y	<i>Informal consultations</i>	<p><i>Opening of the session by the President of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Election of the President</li> </ul> <p><i>Statement by the President of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties</i>  <i>Statement on behalf of the host country</i>  <i>Statement by the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD</i></p> <p><i>Statements by the representatives of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations</i></p> <p><i>Statements by the representatives of regional and interest groups</i></p> <p><i>Statement by a representative of non-governmental organizations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Election of other officers               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Election of Vice-Presidents and the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/1</i>)</li> <li>• Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/11</i>)</li> </ul>
C O W	---	---
C R I C	---	---

<b>Monday, 17 October 2005, cont'd</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
C S T	---	---
A H G E	---	---



Tuesday, 18 October 2005		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	---	---
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme and budget (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/2</i>)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programme and budget for the biennium 2006-2007 (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.1 and Add.2</i>)</li> <li>- Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005 (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.3</i>)</li> <li>- Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities in the biennium 2004-2005 (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.4</i>)</li> <li>- Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2002-2003 ended 31 December 2003; Report of the United Nations Board of Auditors (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.5</i>)</li> <li>- Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2004-2005 (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/2/Add.6</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rationale for, modalities for, costs involved in, feasibility of, possible terms of reference of, and institutional and collaborative arrangements for the regional coordination units (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/7</i>)</li> </ul>	---

<b>Tuesday, 18 October 2005, cont'd</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
C R I C	---	<p><i>Opening of the session by the Chairperson of the CRIC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (<i>ICCD/CRIC(4)/1</i>)</li> <li>• Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consideration of the report of the Committee on its third session (<i>ICCD/CRIC(3)/9</i>)</li> <li>- Overall review of the activities of the secretariat and of the progress made by affected country Parties in implementation of the Convention (<i>ICCD/CRIC(4)/2</i>)</li> <li>- Review of the report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention (<i>ICCD/CRIC(4)/3</i>)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
C S T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening of the session</li> <li>• Election of Vice-Chairpersons</li> <li>• Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/1</i>)</li> <li>• Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interim report of the Group of Experts (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/3 and Add.1</i>)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/10</i>)</li> <li>• Roster of independent experts (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/10</i>)</li> <li>• Traditional knowledge (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/5</i>)</li> <li>• Benchmarks and indicators (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/6</i>)</li> <li>• Early warning systems - Pilot studies on early warning systems (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/7</i>)</li> </ul>
A H G E	---	---

Wednesday, 19 October 2005		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	---	---
C O W	---	---
C R I C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 (<i>ICCD/CRIC(4)/4</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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 (<i>ICCD/CRIC(4)/5</i>)</li> </ul>
C S T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology - - Synthesis of reports submitted by Parties on case studies illustrating best practices and innovative research relating to land degradation, vulnerability and rehabilitation: an integrated approach (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/2</i>)</li> <li>- Report of the Bureau of the CST (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/4</i>)</li> <li>• Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/8</i>)</li> <li>• The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/9</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaison with international organizations and the scientific community (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/5</i>)</li> <li>• Other matters - UNCCD Fellowship Programme (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/INF.1</i>)</li> <li>- Consideration of ways and means of promoting know-how and technology transfer for combating desertification and/or mitigating the effects of drought, as well as of promoting experiencing sharing and information exchange among Parties and interested institutions and organizations (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/CST/INF.2</i>)</li> </ul>
A H G E	---	---

<b>Thursday, 20 October 2005</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
P L E N A R Y	---	---
C O W	---	---
C R I C	<i>Formulation of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i>	<i>Formulation of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i>
C S T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology</li> <li>• Creation of ad hoc panels of experts, as necessary, with their terms of reference and modalities of work</li> <li>• Report of the session</li> </ul> <i>Adoption of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i>	<i>Adoption of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i>
A H G E	---	---

<b>Friday, 21 October 2005</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session</li> </ul>	<p><i>Consideration of the preliminary report of the COW</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Election of other officers               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Election of the Chairperson of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Committee on Science and Technology               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it</li> <li>- Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation of ad hoc panels of experts, as necessary, with their terms of reference and modalities of work (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/10</i>)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Friday, 21 October 2005, cont'd</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
C O W	---	<i>To be determined</i>
C R I C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme of work for the fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention</li> <li>• Adoption of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</li> <li>• Election of officers other than the Chairperson of the Committee</li> </ul> <p><i>Closing of the session</i></p>	---
C S T	---	---
A H G E	---	---

Monday, 24 October 2005		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions</li> </ul>
C O W	---	---
C R I C	---	---
C S T	---	---
A H G E	---	---

<b>Tuesday, 25 October 2005</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions</li> </ul>
C O W	---	---
C R I C	---	---
C S T	---	---
A H G E	---	---



Wednesday, 26 October 2005		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	---	---
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention</li> <li>- Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, including the review referred to in paragraph 4 of decision 1/COP.5 (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/3</i>)</li> <li>• Comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat, as defined in article 23, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the relevant articles of the regional implementation annexes, and in the relevant decisions of the COP (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/4</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies, in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i), of the Convention (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/5</i>)</li> <li>• Consideration of the follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) relevant to the UNCCD (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/6</i>)</li> <li>• Consideration of the progress made, <i>inter alia</i>, by the Global Mechanism, in mobilizing financial resources to support the UNCCD implementation, in particular national action programmes to combat desertification (<i>ICCD/CRIC(4)/4</i>)</li> </ul>
C R I C	---	---
C S T	---	---
A H G E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outstanding items</li> <li>- Consideration of procedures 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 (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/9</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outstanding items</li> <li>- Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/9</i>)</li> </ul> <p><i>Adoption of the report to the Conference of the Parties</i></p>

<b>Thursday, 27 October 2005</b>		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session</li> </ul>	<i>To be determined</i>
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outstanding items                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/8</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Consideration of the interim report on the status of preparation of the 2006 International Year of Deserts and Desertification (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/13</i>)</li> <li>• Consideration of the report on relations between the secretariat and its host country (<i>ICCD/COP(7)/14</i>)</li> <li>• Programme of work for the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties</li> </ul> <p><i>Adoption of the report to the Conference of the Parties</i></p>	<i>To be determined</i>
C R I C	---	---
C S T	---	---
A H G E	---	---

Friday, 28 October 2005		
	<b>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</b>	<b>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</b>
P L E N A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credentials of delegations (ICCD/COP(7)/12)</li> </ul> <p><i>Consideration of the report of the Committee of the Whole</i></p> <p><i>Consideration of the report of the ad hoc group of experts</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report of the session</li> </ul>
C O W	---	---
C R I C	---	---
C S T	---	---
A H G E	---	---

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