



**UNITED
NATIONS**



**Convention to Combat
Desertification**

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/COP(7)/15
28 October 2005

ENGLISH ONLY

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Seventh session
Nairobi, 17–28 October 2005
Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**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**

**Designation of a Convention secretariat and arrangements for its functioning:
administrative and support arrangements**

Note by the secretariat

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. By its decision 3/COP.1 on the designation of a Convention Secretariat and arrangements for its functioning, the Conference of the Parties (COP) recalled that in accordance with article 23, paragraph 3 of the Convention, it shall, at its first session, designate a Convention Secretariat and make arrangement for its functioning. The COP “[noted] with appreciation the advice of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on this matter, as contained in document A/AC.241/44, as amended in paragraph 4 of document A/AC.241/55, as well as the clarifications in document A/AC.241/64 and related comments made in Working Group I of the Committee”.
2. By the same decision, the COP accepted the offer of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, contained in documents A/AC.241/44 and A/AC.241/55, for the United Nations to provide the administrative and support arrangements for the Convention Secretariat, and requested the Secretary-General to provide such administrative and support arrangements for the secretariat of the Convention.
3. By its resolution 52/198 adopted on 18 December 1997, the General Assembly approved “the institutional linkage between the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification of those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, and the United Nations, in accordance with the offer made by the Secretary-General and as accepted by the Conference of the Parties at its first session”.

4. In its resolution 56/196 adopted on 21 December 2001, the General Assembly approved “the continuation of the current institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements between the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Convention for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties not later than 31 December 2006”.

II. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6. As the next session of the COP will take place in 2007 and the present arrangement ends in December 2006, the COP needs to take action at its seventh session to ensure the continuation of the institutional linkage, which so far has proven effective and cost-effective.

7. The COP may wish to invite the General Assembly to approve the continuation of the current institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements between the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Convention for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties no later than 31 December 2011.
