1. By its decision 12/COP.6, the Conference of the Parties (COP) encouraged the Joint Liaison Group (JLG) to identify areas for developing joint activities, including facilitation of local-level initiatives.

2. At its meeting in January 2004, the JLG agreed that a paper on options for enhanced cooperation among the three Rio conventions would be prepared jointly by the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

3. Accordingly, the three secretariats jointly prepared such a paper for consideration by the JLG. At its meeting on 5 October 2005, the JLG considered the paper and approved it. The JLG also recommended that the paper should be submitted to the respective COPs of the three conventions for consideration.
4. The paper was circulated at the twenty-first session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice of UNFCCC as annex to document FCCC/SBSTA/2004/INF.19. This UNFCCC document is made available at the seventh session of the COP to enable the COP to consider the options presented in its annex, entitled: “Options for enhanced cooperation among the three Rio Conventions”. The COP may also wish to give further guidance regarding these options to the secretariat and to the Parties, as appropriate.