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NATIONS**



**Convention to Combat  
Desertification**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

**Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session,  
held in Madrid from 3 to 14 September 2007**

**Part one: proceedings**

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. OPENING OF THE SESSION .....	1–11	3
A. Welcoming ceremony .....	1–4	3
B. Official opening .....	5	3
C. Election of the President .....	6–7	3
D. Opening and general statements .....	8–11	3
II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS.....	12–35	4
A. Adoption of the agenda.....	12	4
B. Election of other officers .....	13	5
C. Organization of work .....	14–16	6
D. Committee on Science and Technology .....	17–19	6
E. Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.....	20–22	7
F. Committee of the Whole.....	23–24	7
G. Ad Hoc Group of Experts .....	25–27	7
H. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers .....	28–29	7
I. Attendance .....	30–34	8
J. Documentation.....	35	10

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
III. SPECIAL SEGMENT .....	36–38	10
IV. SEVENTH ROUND TABLE OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT .....	39	10
V. INCLUSION OF ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES: OPEN DIALOGUE SESSIONS .....	40	10
VI. DECISIONS AND RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES .....	41–48	10
A. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the President of the Conference of the Parties .....	41	10
B. Decision taken at the recommendation of the Bureau .....	42	11
C. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole .....	43–44	11
D. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention .....	45	12
E. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology .....	46	12
F. Decisions taken at the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts .....	47	12
G. Resolution .....	48	12
VII. CONCLUSION OF THE SESSION .....	49–54	13
A. Adoption of the report on credentials .....	49	13
B. Date and venue of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties .....	50	13
C. Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session .....	51	13
D. Closure of the session .....	52–54	13

#### Annexes

I. Madrid Declaration .....	14
II. Participants in the High-Level Round Table Discussion on “Desertification and adaptation to climate change” .....	16
III. List of speakers at the special segment .....	17
IV. Declaration by Members of Parliament .....	23
V. Declaration by non-governmental organizations .....	29
VI. Chairperson’s summary of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts .....	31
VII. Documents before the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session .....	32

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

### **A. Welcoming ceremony**

1. On 3 September 2007, the Officer-in-Charge of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) made a statement.
2. The President of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), H.E. Mr. David Mwiraria (Kenya) also made a statement.
3. Statements were also made by the Mayor of Madrid, H.E. Mr. Alberto Ruiz Gallardón, and the Minister for the Environment of Spain, H.E. Ms. Cristina Narbona.
4. His Royal Highness Felipe de Borbón, the Prince of Asturias, addressed the Conference.

### **B. Official opening**

5. The eighth session of the COP, convened pursuant to article 22 of the UNCCD, was officially opened by H.E. Mr. David Mwiraria (Kenya), President of the seventh session of the COP, on 3 September 2007.

### **C. Election of the President**

(Agenda item 1)

6. The Conference elected by acclamation H.E. Ms. Cristina Narbona, Minister for the Environment of Spain, as President of its eighth session. The incoming President made a statement.
7. The Officer-in-charge of the secretariat of the UNCCD made an opening statement.

### **D. Opening and general statements**

8. Statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Portugal (on behalf of the European Union, Turkey and Croatia), Belarus (on behalf of the regional implementation annex for Central and Eastern Europe), Uganda (on behalf of the African States Group), Paraguay (on behalf of the Latin American and the Caribbean States Group), Myanmar (on behalf of the Asian States Group) and Canada.
9. Statements were also made by the representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.
10. The representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, as well as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, made statements.
11. The representative of Fundación IPADE also made a statement on behalf of the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) attending the Conference.

## **II. Organizational matters**

### **A. Adoption of the agenda**

(Agenda item 2)

12. At its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the COP adopted the agenda as contained in document ICCD/COP(8)/1 and Corr.1, as follows:

1. Election of the President.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Election of officers other than the President:
  - (a) Election of Vice-Presidents;
  - (b) Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology;
  - (c) Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.
4. Credentials of delegations.
5. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers.
6. Programme and budget.
7. Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements:
  - (a) Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention;
  - (b) Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention.
8. Committee on Science and Technology:
  - (a) Report of the Committee on Science and Technology;
  - (b) Maintenance of the roster of independent experts and creation, as necessary, of ad hoc panels of experts.
9. Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and strategy development to foster the implementation of the Convention.
10. Rationale for, modalities for, costs involved in, feasibility of, possible terms of reference of, and institutional and collaborative arrangements for the regional coordination units.

11. Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies.
12. Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the Convention and preparation of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development.
13. Outstanding items:
  - (a) Rule 47 of the rules of procedure;
  - (b) Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation;
  - (c) Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures.
14. Outcome of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification.
  - (a) Decade of deserts and combating desertification, 2010–2020.
15. Relations between the secretariat and its host country.
16. Inclusion of activities of non-governmental organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions.
17. Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions.
18. Programme of work for the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties.
19. Report on the session.

### **B. Election of other officers**

(Agenda item 3)

13. At its 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> meetings, the COP elected the following officers for its eighth session:

#### *Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. Jiří Hlaváček (Czech Republic)  
Mr. Siddharth Behura (India)  
Mr. Sem Shikongo (Namibia)  
Mr. Khaled al-Sharaa (Syrian Arab Republic)  
Mr. Hamda Aloui (Tunisia)  
Mr. Yuriy Kolmaz (Ukraine)  
Ms. Mary Rowen (United States of America)  
H.E. Mr. Ariel Rusiñol (Uruguay)

*Vice-President-cum-Rapporteur:*

Mr. Kenneth Roach (Trinidad and Tobago)

*Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology:*

Mr. William D. Dar (Philippines)

*Chairperson of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention for its seventh and eighth sessions:*

Mr. Israel Torres (Panama)

### **C. Organization of work** (Agenda item 2)

14. At its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the COP approved its organization of work for the session as contained in document ICCD/COP(8)/1 and Corr.1, as orally amended.

*Establishment of a Committee of the Whole and designation of its Chairperson*

15. At its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the COP decided to establish a Committee of the Whole at its eighth session to consider items on the agenda allocated to it by the COP and to submit recommendations thereon to the COP.

16. At its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, at the proposal of the President, the COP designated as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole Mr. Ositadinma Anaedu (Nigeria), who would also act as *ex officio* member of the Bureau.

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

17. The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) was convened under the chairpersonship of Mr. William D. Dar (Philippines). The Committee held seven meetings, from 4 to 7 September 2007.

18. At its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Committee elected by acclamation Mr. Uladzimir Sauchanka (Belarus), Mr. Michel P. Sedogo (Burkina Faso) and Mr. Richard Escadafal (France) as Vice-Chairpersons, and Ms. Maria Nery Urquiza Rodriguez (Cuba) as Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

19. The CST submitted a number of recommendations to the COP, which took action on them at its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

### **E. Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**

20. The Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) was convened under the chairpersonship of Mr. Franklin Moore (United States of America). The Committee held seven meetings, from 5 to 14 September 2007.

21. At its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee elected by acclamation Mr. Ogtay Jafarov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Markku Aho (Finland), Mr. Hussein Nasrallah (Lebanon) and Mr. Stephen Muwaya (Uganda) as Vice-Chairpersons of its seventh and eighth sessions.

22. The CRIC submitted a number of recommendations to the COP, which took action on them at its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **F. Committee of the Whole**

23. The Committee of the Whole was convened under the chairpersonship of Mr. Ositadinma Anaedu (Nigeria). The Committee held eight meetings, from 4 to 14 September 2007.

24. The Committee submitted a number of recommendations to the COP, which took action on them at its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **G. Ad Hoc Group of Experts**

25. The Ad Hoc Group of Experts (AHGE) was convened under the chairpersonship of Mr. Stephen Randall (Canada). The Group held one meeting, on 10 September 2007.

26. The AHGE submitted two recommendations to the COP, which took action on them at its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

27. The Chairperson's summary of the work of the AHGE is to be found in annex VI.

### **H. Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers (Agenda item 5)**

#### *Accreditation of national, international, governmental or intergovernmental organizations*

28. At its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the COP decided to accord observer status to the national, international, governmental or intergovernmental organizations listed in annex II to document ICCD/COP(8)/14 and annex I to document ICCD/COP(8)/14/Add.1.

#### *Accreditation of non-governmental organizations*

29. At its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Conference decided to accredit the NGOs listed in the annexes to documents ICCD/COP(8)/14 and Add.1.

## I. Attendance

30. The eighth session of the COP was attended by representatives of the following 165 Parties to the UNCCD:

Afghanistan	Czech Republic	Kiribati
Albania	Democratic Republic of	Kuwait
Algeria	the Congo	Kyrgyzstan
Andorra	Denmark	Lao People's Democratic
Angola	Djibouti	Republic
Argentina	Dominica	Latvia
Armenia	Dominican Republic	Lebanon
Australia	Ecuador	Lesotho
Austria	Egypt	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Azerbaijan	El Salvador	Madagascar
Bahamas	Equatorial Guinea	Malawi
Bahrain	Eritrea	Mali
Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Mauritania
Barbados	European Community	Mauritius
Belarus	Fiji	Mexico
Belgium	Finland	Micronesia (Federated
Belize	France	States of)
Benin	Gabon	Moldova
Bhutan	Gambia	Monaco
Bolivia	Georgia	Mongolia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Morocco
Botswana	Ghana	Mozambique
Brazil	Greece	Myanmar
Bulgaria	Grenada	Namibia
Burkina Faso	Guatemala	Nepal
Burundi	Guinea	Netherlands
Cambodia	Guinea-Bissau	Niger
Cameroon	Guyana	Nigeria
Canada	Haiti	Norway
Cape Verde	Honduras	Pakistan
Central African Republic	Hungary	Panama
Chad	Iceland	Paraguay
Chile	India	Peru
China	Indonesia	Philippines
Colombia	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Poland
Comoros	Ireland	Portugal
Congo	Israel	Qatar
Costa Rica	Italy	Republic of Korea
Côte d'Ivoire	Jamaica	Romania
Croatia	Japan	Russian Federation
Cuba	Jordan	Rwanda
Cyprus	Kenya	Saint Kitts and Nevis



Saint Lucia	Swaziland	United Arab Emirates
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Sweden	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Samoa	Switzerland	Ireland
Sao Tome and Principe	Syrian Arab Republic	United Republic of Tanzania
Saudi Arabia	Tajikistan	United States of America
Senegal	Thailand	Uruguay
Seychelles	Timor-Leste	Uzbekistan
Slovakia	Togo	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Slovenia	Tonga	Viet Nam
Solomon Islands	Trinidad and Tobago	Yemen
Somalia	Tunisia	Zambia
South Africa	Turkey	Zimbabwe
Spain	Turkmenistan	
Sri Lanka	Tuvalu	
Sudan	Uganda	
	Ukraine	

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

Holy See

32. Observers from Palestine also attended the session.

33. The following United Nations organs, organizations and programmes, 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)  
 International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR)  
 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)  
 Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)  
 Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)  
 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
 United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
 United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
 United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)  
 United Nations Headquarters (UNHQ)  
 United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)  
 United Nations University (UNU)  
 World Bank  
 World Food Programme (WFP)  
 World Health Organization (WHO)  
 World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

34. Twenty-two intergovernmental and 73 non-governmental organizations were also represented.

#### **J. Documentation**

35. The documents submitted for consideration by the COP at its eighth session are listed in annex VII.

### **III. Special segment**

(Agenda item 17)

36. The COP held a special segment at its 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> meetings. The special segment comprised a round-table discussion on the topic “desertification and adaptation to climate change” and a global interactive dialogue, which were held on 12 and 13 September respectively.

37. The text of the Madrid declaration and the list of high-level panellists for the round table discussion are to be found in annex I and II, respectively.

38. A list of speakers during the global interactive dialogue is to be found in annex III.

### **IV. Seventh Round Table of Members of Parliament**

39. The seventh Round Table of Members of Parliament took place on 12 and 13 September at the House of Parliament in Madrid. The outcome of the round-table discussion is to be found in annex IV.

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

40. At its 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> meetings, on 11 September 2007, the Conference held two open dialogue sessions on the inclusion of activities of NGOs within the official programme of work of the COP. A declaration by the NGOs participating in the eighth session of the COP is to be found in annex V.

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

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

41. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP took the following decisions at the recommendation of the President of the COP:

- 9/COP.8 Programme of work of the seventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
- 10/COP.8 Date and venue of the seventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
- 24/COP.8 Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions
- 25/COP.8 Report on the seventh Round Table of Members of Parliament
- 26/COP.8 Declaration of non-governmental organizations participating in the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties
- 28/COP.8 Date and venue of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties
- Draft report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session

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

42. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP took the following decision at the recommendation of the Bureau of the COP:

- 23/COP.8 Credentials of delegations

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

43. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP took the following decisions at the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole (COW):

- 2/COP.8 Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the Convention and preparation for the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development
- 3/COP.8 The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018)
- 4/COP.8 Activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships and synergies with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies
- 7/COP.8 Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention
- 19/COP.8 Rule 47 of the rules of procedure
- 22/COP.8 Relations between the secretariat and its host country
- 27/COP.8 Programme of work for the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties

44. The Conference did not conclude its consideration of agenda item 6 and deferred action on draft decision ICCD/COP(8)/L.27. The Conference thus decided, at the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, to convene an extraordinary session of the Conference of the Parties in New York before the end of 2007, at a date to be determined by the secretariat in consultation with the President of the Conference. The extraordinary session of the COP shall agree upon the level of increase in the Convention's budget for the biennium 2008-2009, with the proviso that negotiations on the rest of the text of that draft decision, on which consensus was reached, shall not be reopened.

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

45. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP took the following decisions at the recommendation of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention:

- 1/COP.8 Strengthening the implementation of the Convention in all regions
- 5/COP.8 Mobilization of resources for the implementation of the Convention
- 6/COP.8 Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility
- 8/COP.8 Improving the procedures for communication of information, as well as the quality and format of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties

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

46. At its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the COP took the following decisions at the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology:

- 11/COP.8 Roster of independent experts
- 12/COP.8 Functioning of the Committee on Science and Technology
- 13/COP.8 Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Intersessional Working Group 10-year Strategic Plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018)
- 14/COP.8 Networking of institutions, agencies and bodies
- 15/COP.8 Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands
- 16/COP.8 United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification fellowship programme
- 17/COP.8 Final report of the Group of Experts
- 18/COP.8 Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology

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

47. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP took the following decisions at the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts:

- 20/COP.8 Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation
- 21/COP.8 Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures

**G. Resolution**

48. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP adopted the following resolution at the recommendation of the Officer-in-Charge of the secretariat of the UNCCD:

- 1/COP.8 Expression of gratitude to the Government and people of Spain

## **VII. Conclusion of the session**

### **A. Adoption of the report on credentials**

(Agenda item 4)

49. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, having considered the report on credentials submitted by the Bureau of the COP (ICCD/COP(8)/15) and the recommendation contained therein, the COP approved the report on credentials.

### **B. Date and venue of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties**

50. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP adopted decision 28/COP.8 on the date and venue of the ninth session of the COP.

### **C. Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session**

(Agenda item 20)

51. At its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the COP adopted the draft report on its eighth session (ICCD/COP(8)/L.28) and authorized the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete this report, as appropriate.

### **D. Closure of the session**

52. Following a statement by Ms. Mary Rowen, Vice-President chairing the meeting, the Officer-in-Charge of the secretariat made a statement.

53. A statement was also made by the representative of Spain.

54. The Vice-President declared the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification closed.

Annex I**Madrid Declaration****submitted by the Minister for the Environment of Spain acting as the  
President of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session**

1. Desertification and drought affect 70 per cent of drylands, which account for one quarter of the Earth's surface and approximately one sixth of the world's population. They exact a heavy toll on human livelihoods and natural resources, with grave social consequences including economic losses and forced migration. As ever, it is the poorest and most vulnerable who are most at risk. Securing their basic rights - right to water, right to food - demands the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). Moreover, desertification must be regarded as a global problem directly or indirectly affecting the whole of humankind.
2. "Desertification and adaptation to climate change" was the main focus of the ministerial segment that took place in Madrid during the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to UNCCD. It is acknowledged that the living conditions of millions of people affected by desertification are very sensitive to climate variability and climate change. The drylands represent the ultimate frontier where the battle for sustainable land and water management must be won.
3. Faced with evolving patterns of climate change, modern society has yet to prove convincingly that it can wisely use its comparative advantage over other earlier civilizations that collapsed from shortages of natural resources. We have the means, the science, the technology and, through the adoption of the UNCCD, the expression, as well, of the resolve of 191 nations to cooperate through multilateral solidarity.
4. The strategic orientation of the UNCCD, which has now been consolidated in Madrid, reaffirms our common political commitment to the implementation of the Convention and promises to provide a more specific response to this question. We can fulfil our commitments and we must do so. All that is needed is stronger political will.
5. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment confirmed that the extent of and trends in desertification, the links between desertification and climate change, and local, regional and national interactions, must be better understood. The reformed subsidiary bodies of the UNCCD can combine their efforts to meet this objective.
6. Integrated drylands management should foster initiatives for alternative means of livelihood in vulnerable areas and sustainable farming and livestock programmes that provide incomes and guarantee the right to food security. Renewed support through action programmes can spread and encourage best practices for protecting vulnerable people and ecosystems. To that end, the mobilization of adequate and predictable resources through the promotion of south-south and north-south cooperation is a priority.

7. To reach successful results in this context, the following elements are particularly relevant:

(a) Establishment of concrete targets within the UNCCD process through the adoption and implementation of a 10-year strategy to combat desertification and drought, in order to provide, as soon as possible, an operational plan and, in particular, indicators to evaluate progress.

(b) A target for activities related to carbon sinks and increased land productivity to be carried out in drylands worldwide should be proposed without delay. Likewise, a target for effective forestation and reforestation activities in drylands worldwide over the 10-year period should be proposed.

(c) Consideration of the social and economic costs of desertification, and especially the costs of inaction in areas affected by land degradation, in order to raise awareness and increase support for the affected areas efficiently.

(d) Reinforced linkages through increased cooperation among the three Rio Conventions, optimizing the use of existing instruments.

(e) Promotion of scientific and technological links through joint work on vulnerability, degradation and carbon sinks.

(f) Strengthened institutional and programmatic links facilitating access by UNCCD Parties to the human and financial resources that are required to catalyze and support their national efforts.

(g) Promotion of effective participation by NGOs and other civil society stakeholders in the UNCCD processes.

8. Lastly, the adoption of the UNCCD strategic framework on the eve of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development dealing with Africa, agriculture, rural development, land degradation, desertification and drought offers us a significant opportunity to re-commit investments in rural areas where prevention and rehabilitation measures must combine to secure the fundamental rights of populations affected by land degradation, desertification and drought. In this sense we welcome the creation of voluntary partnerships seeking to broaden the existing cooperation between key players and focused on a concerted effort to provide assistance to countries affected by land degradation, desertification and drought.

Annex II

**Participants in the High-Level Round Table Discussion on  
“Desertification and adaptation to climate change”**

H.E. Mr. Laurent Sedogo, Minister for the Environment and Quality of Life (Burkina Faso)

H.E. Mr. Juan Mario Dary Fuentes, Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources (Guatemala)

H.E. Ms. Patrizia Sentinelli, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs (Italy)

H.E. Ms. Ligia Castro de Doens, General Administrator of the National Environmental Authority (Panama)

H.E. Mr. Humberto Rosa, Secretary of State, Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development (Portugal)

H.E. Mr. Faumuina Tiatia Liuga, Minister for Natural Resources and the Environment (Samoa)

H.E. Ms. Cristina Narbona, Minister for the Environment (Spain), President of COP 8

Mr. Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity

Mr. Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization



Annex III

**List of speakers at the special segment**

Mr. Lufter Xhuveli  
Minister for the Environment, Forestry and Water Management, Albania

Mr. Mansour Ahmed Al Hawshabi  
Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, Yemen

Mr. Juan Mario Dary Fuentes  
Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources, Guatemala

Ms. Elizabeth H. Thompson  
Minister for Energy and the Environment, Barbados

Mr. Mansoor Hasan Bin Rajab  
Minister for Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, Bahrain

H.E. Mr. Humberto Rosa, Secretary of State, Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development, Portugal

A representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on behalf of the Minister for Agriculture

Mr. Sooronbai Sharipovich Jeenbekov  
Minister for Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry, Kyrgyzstan

Mr. Michael Kaingu  
Minister for Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources, Zambia

Mr. Yao Bernard Koffi  
Sub-Director of Quality of Life, Ministry for the Environment and Quality of Life, Côte d'Ivoire

Mr. Ralechate L. Mokose  
Minister for Forestry and Land Reclamation, Lesotho

Mr. Jean-Marie Claude Germain  
Minister for the Environment, Haiti

Mr. Abas Ndiour  
Ambassador of Senegal to Spain, on behalf of the Minister for the Environment and Nature Protection

Ms. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo  
Minister for the Environment and Nature Protection, Benin

Mr. Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed  
Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, in Charge of Water and Marine Resources, Djibouti

Mr. Mohammad Saeed Al Kindi  
Minister for the Environment and Water, United Arab Emirates

Mr. Mtiti Fakudze  
Minister for Agriculture and Cooperatives, Swaziland

Mr. Abel Mamani Marca  
Minister for Water, Bolivia

Mr. Willem Konjore  
Minister for the Environment and Tourism, Namibia

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Mr. Michel Jarraud  
Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Mr. Yvo De Boer  
Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Mr. Kanayo F. Nwanze  
Vice-President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Mr. Christian Mersmann  
Managing Director, Global Mechanism

Ms. Aicha Sidi Bouna  
Minister for the Environment, Cabinet of the Prime Minister, Mauritania

Mr. Constantin Mihailescu  
Minister for Ecology and Natural Resources, Moldova

A representative of the United Republic of Tanzania on behalf of the Minister of State for the Environment

Mr. Haoua Outhman Djame  
Minister for the Environment, Quality of Life and National Parks, Chad

Mr. Edward Singhatey  
Secretary of State for Forestry and the Environment, Gambia

Mr. Juan Rafael Elvira Quesada  
Secretary for the Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico

Mr. Vicente Rodriguez Siosa  
Minister for Fisheries and the Environment, Equatorial Guinea

Mr. Mahmoud Camara  
Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, the Environment, Water and Forests, Guinea

Mr. Natie Plea  
Minister for the Environment and Sanitary Sewerage, Mali

Mr. Lieke Zhu  
Vice-Minister for the State Forestry Administration, China

Mr. Francis Nhema  
Minister for the Environment and Tourism, Zimbabwe

Mr. Laurent Sedogo  
Minister for the Environment and Quality of Life, Burkina Faso

Mr. Ernesto Reyna-Alcantara  
Vice-Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic

Mr. Jorge Palma  
Vice-Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources, Honduras

Ms. Rejoice Mabudafhasi  
Deputy Minister for Environmental Affairs and Tourism, South Africa

Mr. Miguel Leonardo Rodríguez  
Vice-Minister, Ministry of Environmental Conservation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

A representative on behalf of the Vice-Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam

Mr. Sami-ul-Haq Khilji  
Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Pakistan

Mr. André Christ Nguimbi  
Minister for the Environment, the Protection of Nature and the City Gabon

Mr. Simon Papyan  
First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Nature Protection, Armenia

Mr. Maxwell Kofi Jumah  
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Environment, Ghana

Mr. Manfred Konukiewitz  
Director, Global and Sectoral Tasks, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

Mr. Faris Al Junaidi  
Secretary General, Ministry of the Environment, Jordan

Mr. Miguel Enrique Pellerano  
Under-Secretary for Environmental Policy and Planning, Argentina

Mr. Egon Krakheke  
Secretary of Extractivism and Sustainable Rural Development and UNCCD National Focal Point, Brazil

Mr. Forood Sharifi  
Deputy Minister and Head, Forest Range and Watershed Organization, Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Mr. Hassane Saley  
Executive Secretary, National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Niger

Mr. Claudio Martini  
President, Regional Government of Tuscany, Italy

Mr. Abdesselam Chelghoum  
General Secretary, Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development, Algeria

Ms. Meena Gupta  
Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Forests, India

Mr. Saiful Amin Khan  
Ambassador of Bangladesh to Spain, on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Forests

Mr. Ciprian Pahontu  
Director General, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Romania, on behalf of the Secretary of State

Mr. Khaled Al Shara'a  
Director of Land Safety, Ministry of Local Administration and the Environment, Syrian Arab Republic

Mr. James Ole Kiyapi  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, Kenya

Mr. Abdu Gasem Al Shareef Al Assiri  
Director General, Natural Resources Department, Saudi Arabia, on behalf of the Secretary of State

Mr. Arefaine Berhe  
Minister for Agriculture, Eritrea

Mr. Ghanem Abdullah Mohammad  
Director, Supreme Council for the Environment and Natural Reserves, Qatar

Mr. Motohide Yoshikawa  
Ambassador of Japan to Spain

Ambassador Niels Pultz  
Ambassador of Denmark to Spain

Mr. Laurent Stefanini  
Ambassador for Environmental Issues, France

Mr. Habib M'Barek  
Ambassador of Tunisia to Spain

Mr. Alberto Velazco San José  
Ambassador of Cuba to Spain

Mr. Per Ludvig Magnus  
Ambassador of Norway to Spain

Mr. Jean-Philippe Tissières  
Ambassador of Switzerland to Spain

Mr. Siddig M. Abdalla  
Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Sudan to Spain

Mr. Arnaldo Andrade Ramos  
Ambassador of Cape Verde to Spain, on behalf of the Minister for the Environment and Agriculture

Mr. Laxman Prasad Mainali  
Officiating Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, Nepal

Ms. Rhoda Tumusiime  
Commissioner, Agricultural Planning, Uganda

Mr. Uriel Safriel  
Focal Point to the Convention, Israel

Mr. Bjarni Sigtryggsson  
Counsellor, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs, Iceland

Ms. Helen Beck  
Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Solomon Islands to the United Nations, New York

Ms. Jasenka Nećak  
Head of Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction, Croatia

Mr. Mohamed Ghanam  
Engineer and Chief of Coordination and Follow-up to the Convention, Morocco

Mr. Ositadinma Anaedu  
Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. Katbehbader Nedal Abdelqader Abdallah  
Deputy Director-General, Environment Quality Authority, Palestine

Mr. Gustavo Fonseca  
Team leader for natural resources, Global Environment Facility (GEF), on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Mr. Rami A. Salman

Head of Programme, World Conservation Union (IUCN) Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation

Mr. Habib Ben Yahya

Secretary General, Arab Maghreb Union

Mr. Alhousseini Bretaudeau

Executive Secretary, Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)

Mr. Inoke Ratukalou

Land Use and Resources Policy Adviser, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Fiji

Representative of Proterra (Peru) on behalf of the non-governmental organizations participating in the Conference

Annex IV**Declaration by Members of Parliament****The role of Members of Parliament in the efforts to combat desertification:  
implementation of the United Nations Convention to  
Combat Desertification and challenges ahead**

*We, members of parliament*, meeting in Madrid on 12 and 13 September 2007 for the seventh Round Table at the invitation of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), with the best and full support of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Parliament of Spain, alongside the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 8), dealing with land degradation and soil erosion,

*Reaffirm* our responsibility to advance and strengthen the interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable human development at local, national, regional and global levels while remaining committed to the indivisibility of human rights and human dignity for all, and to women's empowerment and gender equality, as well as to democratic systems and to better global governance with more effective, democratic and accountable international and multilateral institutions;

*Are alarmed* by the continuous trends and perils of land degradation, soil erosion, drought and impoverishment, particularly in the fragile ecosystems and drylands of developing countries;

*Emphasize* the need for an efficient implementation of the UNCCD to address equally the four dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social, environmental and, often forgotten, political;

*Recommend* that the UNCCD implementation processes be much better linked with climate targets attainment, migration issues, conflict prevention, good governance and desertification mainstreaming;

*Recall* the United Nations Millennium Declaration and its Development Goals (MDGs), the outcomes of major United Nations conferences including the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and the 2005 United Nations World Summit as well as the IPU Universal Declaration on Democracy, which define a vision for the future of humanity and provide a comprehensive basis for action at the national, regional and international levels with the objectives of poverty elimination, sustained economic growth, sustainable human development and improvements in the living conditions of people everywhere;

*Are conscious* that where unfair trade and unregulated capitalism rule, a successful development and anti-desertification policy cannot prevail, and that the real causes contributing to many development bottlenecks are a non-enabling national and international environment, climatic changes and the lack of industrialization and economic investment and of sustainable development, as well as historical and existing unsustainable production and consumption patterns and the imbalances in the current international economic order which require the framing of an international social and ecological market economy.

#### **A. Implementation of the UNCCD – a mixed balance**

1. *We appreciate* the fact that the UNCCD has achieved wide political recognition and enjoys a truly universal membership of 191 Parties (190 countries and the European Community);
2. *We welcome* actions being taken by affected country Parties and different bilateral and multilateral donors as well as the private sector and civil society organizations to enhance the implementation of the Convention – often with very positive achievements;
3. *We are concerned* that, more than 10 years after the entry into force of the Convention, desertification trends show no signs of abatement and that there is a lack of strong achievements on the ground;
4. *We acknowledge* that the slow progress in the implementation of the Convention at the national, subregional and regional levels is due to various factors which include:
  - (a) Many affected country Parties do not give high priority to land degradation in their development plans and efforts,
  - (b) Many developed Parties do not promote sufficiently the mobilization of new and additional funding,
  - (c) There is a general neglect of rural policy, which is linked to a lack of peasant participation;
5. *We also acknowledge* that inadequate political will, the trans-sectoral nature of the Convention, its location within weak structures of the departments of the participating administrations, the unwieldiness of its international structures, and deficient mainstreaming of the combating desertification very often lead to a modest implementation performance, due to a lack of coordination between the executing agencies and the secretariat, and had a negative influence on the capacity of the Convention to compete for official development assistance (ODA).
6. *We note* that although some 97 national action programmes (NAPs) have been developed, in practice the priority activities of many NAPs are not yet being carried out, due to a lack of appropriate strategic actions in the countries concerned, limited financial resources, a lack of appropriate technology, knowledge, know-how and connection between policymakers and



scientists – and, too often, the limited incorporation and effective integration of regional and subregional policies at the national level.

7. *We admit* that the overall role played by many national, subregional and regional parliaments in the UNCCD implementation process has been rather weak;

8. *We deplore* the fact that sometimes governments do not follow the proposals made by their respective parliaments;

9. *We note* that the Round Tables of Members of Parliament (in total, 275 MPs, of whom 15 per cent were women, from 70 countries as well as four regional parliaments participated in the previous six round tables) became a platform for an exchange of views and interaction – but that many commitments were not realized including the promise to make better use of the Parliamentary Network at the UNCCD and its website (<[www.unccd.int](http://www.unccd.int)> Parliaments in action);

10. *We deplore* that whereas it is widely accepted that humankind has to protect the ozone layer and biodiversity, the relevance of saving land from degradation and erosion is not yet adequately recognized;

11. *We also deplore* that the UNCCD – one of the three Rio conventions on climate change, biodiversity loss and desertification – still suffers from insufficient political and public attention in spite of some fairly successful awareness-raising activities and in spite of its past achievements.

## **B. Future challenges – more weight to desertification issues and better visibility**

*We, the Parliamentarians, declare:*

12. UNCCD implementation must be embedded into core development policy frameworks defined at the international as well as the regional, national and local levels.

13. The financial resources made available so far to the UNCCD are neither substantial nor adequate, nor timely or predictable. There is a financing gap which must be closed. The various mobilization and financial mechanisms – such as the Global Mechanism, the Global Environment Facility, the Clean Energy Investment Framework of the World Bank or the recently launched United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Carbon Facility – are relevant for projects and programmes combating land degradation and soil erosion; they must be better coordinated and opened more widely to desertification issues. Further new or innovative financing instruments must be explored or extended, such as debt for nature swaps, air ticket taxes, the Forest Carbon Partnership Initiative of the World Bank and drought insurance.

14. The UNCCD deserves more success for the sake of the people living under desertification stress. This can be achieved by sharpening the Convention's profile and institutions, making desertification a cornerstone in the general architecture of global environmental governance, making desertification a priority on the agenda of decision makers, giving more weight to desertification, land degradation and water policies in governments and parliaments, involving stakeholders more actively at all levels, improving land management and regional cooperation,

enhancing institutional and individual capacities, raising much greater awareness, pursuing an advocacy and mediation role in other international processes of relevance to UNCCD concerns, and – last but not least – by providing affected country Parties that have adopted NAPs with the necessary financial means.

15. Some concrete proposals may contribute to promoting the cause of combating desertification, land degradation and soil erosion, such as the recognition that topsoil is a global public good, the establishment of an International Panel on Desertification, a UNCCD peer review mechanism, the publication of regular ‘green accounting’ government reports, the holding of Youth Summits, a Soil Protection Prize, and the transformation of parliaments and MPs into real agents of sustainable human development and desertification control.

16. Since combating land degradation and desertification and adapting to climate changes are mutually reinforcing, we call on our governments and parliaments to do all they can:

(a) To reinforce climate change policy and legislation,

(b) To enhance international cooperation on the basis of common but differentiated responsibilities,

(c) To ratify – if not already done – the Kyoto Protocol in order to gain access to the Clean Development Mechanism,

(d) To effectively combine sustainable development and water access to the deployment of renewable energies (we support the German idea of creating a Global Agency on Renewable Energies), the improvement of energy efficiency, the mitigation options in the promotion of biofuels and the promotion of income-generating activities in rural areas, creating better living conditions for rural populations.

17. The UNCCD is the first convention to recognize the causal links between environment degradation, increasing poverty and migration (in our view the occupation of land in some countries is a further cause of desertification). The timely and successful implementation of the Convention as well as enhanced regional coordination are important to prevent conflicts both in migrants’ countries of origin and in their destination countries.

18. Desertification, climate adaptation, migration and conflict prevention are closely connected to questions of governance. We reiterate that parliaments can contribute decisively to good governance grounded on democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people, anti-corruption measures, gender equality and a favourable atmosphere and environment for investment. In its implementation the UNCCD, based on the principles of participation, partnership and decentralization, should lay more emphasis on the quality of governance.

### **C. Parliaments – a stronger commitment and political will**

19. We shall do our utmost in strengthening political will at the national and international level, which is essential for the successful implementation of the UNCCD.

20. We encourage Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to develop NAPs in

cooperation with their parliaments and invite all affected country Parties to make efforts to integrate the NAPs fully into all national development strategies.

21. We stress the critical role of local institutions and communities, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership in the context of the UNCCD implementation process.

22. We call on our parliaments and their members, and commit ourselves:

(a) To undertake the strengthening of national legislation and its harmonization with the provisions of the UNCCD and the streamlining of land degradation and desertification issues in NAPs, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and country programmes supported by the donor community;

(b) To work for the pursuit of coherent and better-coordinated policies in the area of anti-poverty and sustainable human development strategies including anti-desertification, the enhancement of synergies between the Rio conventions and the building up of a culture of coordination of NAPs with other national development priorities;

(c) To monitor executive actions and whether desertification issues are included in overall government agendas;

(d) To create specific budget lines for combating land degradation and to observe consistent budget strategies that appropriately integrate foreign assistance into national development plans;

(e) To mobilize public opinion on, and raise awareness of, sustainable human development, land degradation and desertification issues through campaigns, annual events (such as the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought on 17 June), special parliamentary debates, environmental education, the involvement of schools, academics and artists, and commemorative postage stamps;

(f) To build partnerships between policymakers, the academic community, the business sector, and non-governmental and community-based organizations;

(g) To work for the strengthening of regional and continental cooperation in the field of combating desertification, and to promote forms of international, regional and subregional cooperation relevant to improving relations between intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and actors, including – if necessary – parliamentary diplomatic activities;

(h) To create parliamentary oversight mechanisms (vis-à-vis the Global Environmental Facility and the regional development banks).

23. The parliaments of the industrialized countries must do their utmost to increase official development assistance, particularly from those countries which did not reach the 0.7 per cent target, a target which should be reached by 2015.

24. The Parliamentary Network of the UNCCD (PNoUNCCD), which itself requires regular

funding, must be better used and its steering committee should provide better input and monitor the work of parliamentarians under the UNCCD.

25. The IPU should give the UNCCD parliamentary forum a more structured support.

*Finally, as members of parliament, we request the UNCCD secretariat, with the assistance of the IPU:*

26. To facilitate the organization of the eighth Round Table of Members of Parliament in conjunction with the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

27. To take appropriate follow-up action on the outcomes of the present round table and to assist with the development of strategies, with the aim of achieving universal awareness of the declarations and of the progress reports of the parliamentarians' round table processes on the implementation of the UNCCD;

28. To strengthen cooperation and synergies between the three United Nations Rio conventions – the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Annex V

**Declaration by non-governmental organizations**

**participating in the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the  
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

1. The non-governmental organizations (NGOs) meeting in Madrid on the occasion of the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 8) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) wish to thank the Spanish authorities responsible for the coordination of this Conference, the secretariat of the Convention and in particular the Spanish NGOs Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz, Ecologistas en Acción, Fundación IPADE and WWF/Adena for their efforts and support, together with other organizations which have made this Conference possible.
2. The participating NGOs reiterate the need to fulfil all the commitments entered into hitherto and the importance of giving a conclusive and well-judged boost to the process of implementation of measures to promote sustainable development in territories which are suffering from or are liable to desertification.
3. We demand immediate measures because passivity and inaction have so far been a constant feature and this situation has fostered disillusionment and frustration on the part of all of us who are struggling actively every day to improve the living conditions and environmental, social and economically sustainable development of population groups affected by desertification.
4. The present trend of soil degradation affects food security, increases poverty, triggers large-scale international migration and intraregional conflicts, exacerbates social instability and gender inequality and jeopardizes the health and well-being of 1,200 million people in over 100 countries.
5. All these issues are in the focus of the activities of civil society, which stands perplexed at the inactivity and indifference of governments with regard to efforts to combat poverty, and watches as genuine attainment of the Millennium Development Goals becomes more and more remote. We remind governments that they cannot choose their societies, but we can choose our governments.
6. Throughout the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD, the representatives of civil society have raised issues of crosscutting importance for the fight against poverty and sustainable development, basic elements which must feature in the implementation of the Convention, such as the involvement of civil society, gender equality and adaptation to climate change.
7. We have discussed the limits, the potentialities and the effectiveness of participation and the need for these aspects to be reflected in practical decisions by COP 8.

8. Effective machinery must be devised which will encourage and guarantee the involvement of young people in efforts to combat desertification and mitigate drought.

9. In order to promote the participation of civil society, the NGOs' draft decision for the establishment of an intersessional working group to examine how best to ensure the participation of civil society in the implementation of the Convention was presented during the open dialogue session, a proposal which was welcomed by the Minister for the Environment of Spain, President of COP 8, and which we hope will be approved by this Conference. If this proposal is ignored, all that governments have said about participation would amount merely to rhetorical statements lacking in true commitment.

10. We NGOs have focused on the vital importance of gender equality and its significance in combating desertification throughout the world, and especially in Africa. This issue calls for greater investment in financial, institutional and professional terms, since governments must guarantee equal opportunities between men and women and the recognition of women as key participants in the management of natural resources, especially sustainable land management.

11. It is also necessary to recognize the rights of transhumant peoples and to promote the development of adaptive pasture-management systems which maximize sustainable productivity and minimize risks.

12. We have also engaged in debate on the problems which the consequences of climate change and global warming are bringing to our peoples, and in particular to the affected communities.

13. One of the most urgent aspects of this issue is the very short time available to us to adapt to desertification and to climate change – tragedies that have been forecast for decades and disasters which are of very little concern to governments, since they have not yet taken practical steps to tackle this situation even though the international scientific community and civil-society organizations have long been warning of these problems.

14. For this reason, we call on governments to cooperate with society as a whole in the context of a long-term perspective. Governments must become aware that it is not fair for peoples to have to accept decisions dictated by short-term political or economic interests – we need and demand firm, lasting and effective commitments.

15. We hope that this Conference will go down as a turning point in the history of the Convention and that the adoption of the 10-year strategic plan and framework will mark the beginning of a new phase in its implementation. There must be an end to excuses and the country Parties must fulfil the commitments they themselves entered into and take the steps necessary to reverse the processes of degradation of drylands and the consequent poverty of the affected communities.

16. We NGOs do not wish to be complicit in this indifference to the desertification of our planet; we offer our cooperation in active efforts but we refuse to continue to be involved with paper conventions and agreements which involve huge financial investment but non-existent results.

Annex VI

**Chairperson's summary of the work of the  
Ad Hoc Group of Experts**

1. At the opening of the meeting, the secretariat introduced the two agenda items to be considered by the Ad Hoc Group of Experts (AHGE):
  - (a) Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation,
  - (b) Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures.
2. Documents ICCD/COP(8)/7 and ICCD/COP(8)/8 regarding these two outstanding issues were distributed and considered by the Ad Hoc Group of Experts.
3. The secretariat explained that the two issues at hand had been on the agenda of the Conference of the Parties (COP) since its second session.
4. Delegations were not prepared to discuss in depth the issues of implementation and compliance in connection with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, because they felt that these two legal issues could be more appropriately discussed once the 10-year strategy and the future of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body to the COP had been decided by the COP. It would therefore be advisable to postpone the consideration of these items to the ninth session of the COP (COP 9). It was also felt that each issue should be the subject of a separate decision.
5. The secretariat proposed ways of encouraging Parties to provide input in connection with these two legal issues, such as sending two or three *notes verbales* (instead of only one) to Parties and relevant institutions.
6. The conclusion of the AHGE was to postpone to COP 9 consideration of the two agenda items and the recommendations contained in ICCD/COP(8)/7 and ICCD/COP(8)/8.
7. Consequently, the Group decided to submit two draft decisions for adoption by the COP that will establish this process for the current period and the process for the reconvening of the AHGE at COP 9. It is hoped that Parties are content with the proposals and are ready to take action accordingly.

Annex VII

**Documents before the Conference of the Parties  
at its eighth session**

**Documents available at the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties**

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(8)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/1/Corr.1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(8)/2	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.1	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Programme and budget for the biennium 2008–2009
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.2	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Programme and budget for the biennium 2008–2009 for the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.2/Corr.1	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Programme and budget for the biennium 2008–2009 for the Global Mechanism. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.2/Corr.2	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Programme and budget for the biennium 2008–2009 for the Global Mechanism. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.3	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Programme and budget for the biennium 2008–2009. Supplementary Fund
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.3/Corr.1	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Programme and budget for the biennium 2008–2009. Supplementary Fund. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.4	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report on the performance of the Convention's trust funds in the biennium 2006–2007
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.5	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Unaudited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2006–2007 as at 31 December 2006



<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.6	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2006–2007 for the years ended 31 December 2006 and 2005 (Global Mechanism)
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.7	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report on the performance of the trust fund for supplementary activities for the biennium 2006–2007
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.8	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2004–2005 as at 31 December 2005, including the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.9	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Audited financial statements for the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2004–2005 for the years ended 31 December 2005 and 2004 (Global Mechanism)
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.10	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2006–2007
ICD/COP(8)/2/Add.10/Corr.1	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report on the status of contributions to the Convention's trust funds for the biennium 2006–2007. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(8)/2/Add.11	Programme and budget. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report on the implications of results-based planning, programming and budgeting
ICCD/COP(8)/3	Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/4	Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/5	Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and preparation of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(8)/5/Add.1	Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and preparation of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Note by the secretariat. Addendum
ICCD/COP(8)/6	Rule 47 of the rules of procedure. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/7	Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/8	Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/9	Maintenance of the roster of independent experts and creation, as necessary, of ad hoc panels of experts. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/10	Follow up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and strategy development to foster the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/10/Add.1	Follow up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and strategy development to foster the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report, based on the review by the Intergovernmental Intersessional Working Group of the report by the Joint Inspection Unit, including how best to address the recommendations therein
ICCD/COP(8)/10/Add.1/Corr.1	Follow up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and strategy development to foster the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report, based on the review by the Intergovernmental Intersessional Working Group of the report by the Joint Inspection Unit, including how best to address the recommendations therein. Corrigendum
ICCD/COP(8)/10/Add.2	Follow up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and strategy development to foster the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Draft Ten-Year Strategic Plan and Framework to Enhance the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/11*	Outcome of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification. Note by the secretariat

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(8)/12	Relations between the secretariat and its host country. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/13	Arrangements for regional coordination units. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/14	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/14/Add.1	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/15	Credentials of delegations. Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(8)/INF.1	Preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(8)/INF.2	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/INF.3	Directory of focal points for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/INF.4	List of participants
ICCD/COP(8)/INF.5	Follow up to the Joint Inspection Unit report and strategy development to foster the implementation of the Convention. Situational analysis. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/INF.6	High-level round table discussion on desertification and adaptation to climate change. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/MISC.1	Options for enhanced cooperation among the Rio Conventions, and success stories of field activities on synergies
ICCD/COP(8)/MISC.2	List of pre-registered participants
ICCD/COP(8)/MISC.3	Report of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification at its eighth session

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

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/CRIC(5)/11	Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on its fifth session, held in Buenos Aires from 12 to 21 March 2007
ICCD/CRIC(6)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(6)/2	Comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(6)/3	Report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(6)/3/Add.1	Report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Options for financing targets relating to combating land degradation and desertification
ICCD/CRIC(6)/4	Report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it, and review of policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(6)/5	Review of available information on the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(6)/5/Add.1	Review of available information on the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification
ICCD/CRIC(6)/6	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on improving the procedures for communication of information. Note by the secretariat

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/CRIC(6)/6/Add.1	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on improving the procedures for communication of information. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Toward harmonization and standardization: a proposed methodological guide to improve financial reporting under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

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

ICCD/COP(8)/CST/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.1	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Benchmarks and indicators for monitoring and assessment of desertification
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.2	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Communication strategy: development of a mechanism for an interactive and thematic data/metadata network (THEMANET)
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.3	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Integrative assessment methodology for poverty and land degradation
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.4	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Development of synergy with other related conventions
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.5	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Case studies on conservation and rehabilitation for users in implementing the Convention
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.6	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Methodologies for the assessment of desertification at global, regional and local levels

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.7	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Identification of perceived gaps between biophysical, socio-economic and cultural knowledge and activities to combat desertification, their causes and ways of eliminating them
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.8	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Guidelines for early warning systems
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/2/Add.9	Report of the fifth meeting of the Group of Experts of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Guidelines for updating the <i>World Atlas of Desertification</i>
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/3	Synthesis of the analysis by the Group of Experts of the reports submitted by Parties to the fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/4	Summary of activities of the Bureau during the intersessional period. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/5	Report on a UNCCD fellowship programme. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/6	Review of the functions and the work of the Group of Experts, and procedures for the renewal of the membership of the Group of Experts. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/7	Reports submitted by Parties on the effects of climatic variations and human activities on land degradation: assessment, field experience gained, and integration of mitigation and adaptation practices for livelihood improvement. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/8	Abridged report on the international workshop on climate and land degradation. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/9	Report on progress of the Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands project. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/INF.1	Report of the international workshop on climate and land degradation. Note by the secretariat

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/INF.2	Analysis by the Group of Experts of the reports submitted by Parties to the fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/INF.3	Case studies on conservation and rehabilitation for users in implementing the Convention
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/INF.4	Towards the establishment of an international centre on traditional knowledge in Italy
ICCD/COP(8)/CST/MISC.1	The effects of climatic variations and human activities on land degradation: assessment, field experience gained, and integration of mitigation and adaptation practices for livelihood improvement. Submissions from Parties

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

ICCD/COP(7)/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session, held in Nairobi from 17 to 28 October 2005. Part one: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(7)/16/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session, held in Nairobi from 17 to 28 October 2005. Addendum. Part two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session
ICCD/COP(6)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session, held in Havana from 25 August to 5 September 2003. Part one: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(6)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session, held in Havana from 25 August to 5 September 2003. Addendum. Part two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session
ICCD/COP(5)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session, held in Geneva from 1 to 12 October 2001. Part one: Proceedings
ICCD/COP(5)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session, held in Geneva from 1 to 12 October 2001. Addendum. Part two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session

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