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Buenos Aires, 21 September–2 October 2009

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Venue

1. Pursuant to provisions contained in decision 28/COP.8, and in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties (COP) (decision 1/COP.1), the ninth session of the COP will be held in Buenos Aires from 21 September to 2 October 2009.

Logistic arrangements

2. A few weeks before the opening of COP 9, the secretariat will distribute an information note (ICCD/COP(9)/INF.1) detailing registration and security procedures, as well as other logistic arrangements for the session.

Participants

3. 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 9 on 21 September 2009 will be the States and regional economic integration organizations that have deposited their instruments by 23 June 2009. Those Parties that deposit their instruments after 23 June and by 4 July 2009 will become Parties during COP 9. Those which do so after 4 July 2009 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 Convention website (<www.unccd.int>).

Agenda

4. In its decision 27/COP.8, the COP decided to include in the provisional agenda for its ninth session standing items on its agenda as defined in decision 9/COP.1 as well as matters arising from other decisions of the COP.

Documentation

5. A list of documents for the session and for the concurrent eighth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) and ninth session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) is provided in annex I. In addition to normal distribution, official documents for the session will be made available on the Convention website (<www.unccd.int>).

1. Election of the President

6. 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. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

7. The COP will have before it for adoption the provisional agenda contained in this document. A tentative schedule of work for the session is contained in annex II.

Purpose of the session

8. The tasks of the COP are defined in article 22, paragraph 2, of the Convention. The organization of work of the session is designed to facilitate the activities in this respect, while taking account of decision 27/COP.8 and other decisions of the COP relevant to its programme of work.

Opening plenary meeting

9. The COP may wish to consider the following scenario with regard to the structure of the opening plenary meeting. The President of COP 8 will open the session and call for the election of the President of COP 9. The President of COP 9 will make a statement after his or her election. Statements will then be made on behalf of the host country and by the Executive Secretary of UNCCD, to be followed by statements from representatives of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and regional and interest groups, and by a representative of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The President will call for the adoption of the agenda and organization of work. Subsequently, the President will call for the election of the Vice-Presidents and the Chair of the CST.

10. Finally, the COP will discuss accreditation of IGOs and NGOs and admission of observers.

Establishment of a Committee of the Whole and allocation of its tasks

11. The practice followed at previous sessions of the COP has been to establish at the opening plenary meeting a sessional Committee of the Whole (COW) open to the participation of all Parties. The COP may wish to follow the same practice at its ninth session. The COW will recommend draft decisions for adoption by the COP. Its Chair will have the authority to delegate work, as appropriate, to drafting groups. The COP may allocate the following items to the COW:

(a) The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018):

- (i) Report on the implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018);
- (ii) Mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention;
- (iii) Follow-up on outstanding Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) recommendations;

(b) Programme and budget;

- (i) Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011;
- (ii) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds;

(c) Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention – Terms of reference of the CRIC;

(d) Assessment of the Global Mechanism (GM) by the JIU;

(e) Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies;

(f) Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) relevant to the UNCCD and outcome of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD);

(g) Rule 47 of the rules of procedures;

(h) The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020);

(i) Programme of work for the tenth session of the COP;

(j) Any other matters deemed to be appropriate.

Committee on Science and Technology

12. The CST is tentatively scheduled to meet between 22 and 25 September for one day. The UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference will be held from 22 to 24 September for two and a half days. In accordance with decision 18/COP.8 and other relevant decisions of the COP, the secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda for the Committee's session (ICCD/COP(9)/CST/1), as well as other documents needed for its deliberations; these documents are listed in annex I.

Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

13. The CRIC is tentatively scheduled to meet between 23 and 30 September for three and a half days. In accordance with decision 1/COP.5 and other relevant decisions, the secretariat has prepared a provisional agenda for the Committee's work (ICCD/CRIC/(8)/1), as well as other documents for the session; these documents are listed in annex I.

Ad hoc group of experts

14. It is proposed that the open-ended ad hoc group of experts (AHGE) be reconvened on 1 October, pursuant to decisions 20 and 21/COP.8.

Initial segment

15. It is proposed in the tentative schedule that COP 9 be divided into three segments. During the initial segment, from 21 to 25 September, in addition to the CST and CRIC sessions, the COW would initiate its work.

16. The COP would meet in plenary on 25 September to hear reports from the COW and the CST, 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

17. During the special segment on 28 and 29 September, included in the agenda in accordance with decision 27/COP.8, three round-table discussions among high-level officials of Parties will be conducted.

Round-table discussions by Members of Parliament

18. The interactive dialogue session with Members of Parliament, included in the agenda in accordance with decision 27/COP.8, will take the form of round-table discussions and is planned for 24 to 25 September. It is anticipated that any outcome from the round-table discussions will be communicated to the COP for consideration.

Open dialogue sessions

19. In accordance with decision 27/COP.8, two half-day sessions have been planned for open dialogue sessions organized by NGOs on 1 October.

Concluding segment

20. During the concluding segment, the COP will consider all decisions not previously adopted. It will also have before it for adoption the report on credentials (ICCD/COP(9)/17) submitted by the Bureau. It will decide the date and venue of the tenth session of the COP, taking account of:

(a) The pertinent legislative provisions of article 22, paragraph 4, of the Convention, rule 4, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, rule 3 of the rules of procedure and decision 1/COP.2;

(b) Any offer to host the tenth session and meet the additional financial cost.

21. The COP will also decide the date and venue of the ninth 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 2 October. Accordingly, all negotiations should be concluded by 1 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 session 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.

3. Election of officers other than the President

(a) Election of Vice-Presidents

24. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure contained in decision 1/COP.1, as amended by decision 20/COP.2, nine Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the COP from among the representatives of the Parties present at the session. This election will take place at the opening meeting of the COP on 21 September 2009.

(b) Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology

25. Rule 22 of the rules of procedure, as amended by decision 20/COP.2, also applies for the election of the Chair of the CST. The Bureau of the COP has received a recommendation from the Bureau of the CST through the Chair of the CST to have the current Bureau of the CST conduct the work of the committee up to the end of its ninth session, and to have the new Bureau start its work with the new programme of work for the next biennium. This recommendation will be considered by the COP at its opening meeting on 21 September.

(c) Election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

26. Rule 31 of the rules of procedure, as amended by decision 20/COP.2, provides for the election by the COP of Chairs of subsidiary bodies other than the CST, unless the COP decides otherwise. The election of the Chair of the CRIC will take place after the conclusion of the eighth session of the CRIC.

4. Credentials of delegations

27. In accordance with rules 19 and 20 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the COP will examine the credentials of representatives, alternate representatives and advisers and submit its report to the COP for decision. This report on credentials will be contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/17. In accordance with rule 21 of the rules of procedure, representatives will 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

28. In accordance with the provisions of article 22, paragraph 7 of the Convention, of rules 6 and 7 of the rules of procedure, and of decision 26/COP.1, a list of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) proposed for accreditation at COP 9, is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/16 and Add.1.

6. The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018)

29. In accordance with decision 23/COP.6, a comprehensive review of the activities of the secretariat was undertaken by the JIU and submitted to the COP at its seventh session for consideration.

30. In decision 3/COP.7 the COP established the ad hoc Intergovernmental Intersessional Working Group (IIWG) with a mandate to review the JIU report in full and to develop a draft ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention by addressing, inter alia, the recommendations of the JIU report.

31. In decision 3/COP.8 the COP adopted the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (The Strategy).

(a) Report on the implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018)

32. In paragraph 23 of decision 3/COP.8 the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report to CRIC 7 and COP 9 on the implementation of The Strategy. The report of the Executive Secretary is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/2 for consideration by the COP at its ninth session.

33. In paragraph 5 of decision 3/COP.8, the COP urged affected country Parties to align their action programmes and other relevant implementation activities relating to the Convention, with The Strategy by, inter alia, addressing the outcomes under the five operational objectives.

34. The Parties at CRIC 7 recommended enhancing the alignment of the implementation of action programmes, and requested joint financial and technical support from the secretariat and the GM, depending on their respective mandates, to undertake the necessary activities. The Parties also recommended that the secretariat work programme for the biennium 2010–2011 focus more on the service rendered to the Parties, in particular as it relates to the assistance that they might need with the alignment of their action programmes with The Strategy.

35. Relevant information on this matter, including draft guidelines for the alignment of action programmes with The Strategy for consideration by the COP, is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/2/Add.1.

(b) Mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention

36. In paragraph 30 of decision 3/COP.8, the COP called upon each region to develop a proposal, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary and the GM, on mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention and to provide these prior to COP 9 for consideration in the context of the budget and the programme of work. In paragraph 31 of the same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to compile regional proposals and the means for putting them into operation, and to submit these to COP 9

for consideration. The compilation of regional proposals is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/MISC.2.

37. In paragraph 32 of decision 3/COP.8, the COP also requested the Executive Secretary, taking into account the views of the GM on its regional arrangements, to review the current regional coordination arrangements within the secretariat and within the GM with a view to improving them, to develop evidence-based options for improving regional coordination arrangements and to submit these to COP 9 for consideration. The evidence-based options are contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/3.

(c) Follow-up on outstanding Joint Inspection Unit recommendations

38. In paragraph 20 (a) of the annex to decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested the secretariat to implement and systematically report to it on the relevant institutional recommendations contained in the JIU report. In line with JIU recommendation 18, the secretariat should formulate a strategy for human resources management as an essential part of the proposed results-based management (RBM) strategy. Furthermore, in line with JIU recommendation 20, the secretariat should develop, for consideration and approval by the COP, a comprehensive information and communication technology (ICT) strategy to support the proposed RBM strategy. Information on the matters above is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/4. In addition, in line with JIU recommendation 12, an independent entity was contracted by the secretariat to conduct a desk-to-desk workload analysis as part of a needs assessment review of the human and financial resources required to deliver the expected results under the medium-term plan. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/INF.6.

(i) *Revised procedures for the participation of civil society organizations in UNCCD meetings and processes, including clear selection criteria and a mechanism to ensure a balance of participants from different regions*

39. In paragraph 20 (b) (iii) d. of the annex to decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested the secretariat to develop revised procedures for the participation of civil society organizations in UNCCD meetings and processes, including clear selection criteria and a mechanism to ensure a balance of participants from different regions in line with JIU recommendation 9. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/4/Add.1.

(ii) *Development and implementation of a comprehensive communication strategy at the international level*

40. In paragraph 20 (b) (iii) b. of the annex to decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested the secretariat to coordinate the development and implementation of a comprehensive communication strategy at the international level with a set of core communications objectives and expected results. Information on this matter is contained in documents ICCD/COP(9)/4/Add.2 and ICCD/COP(9)/MISC.1.

7. Programme and budget

41. Article 22, paragraph 2 (g) of the Convention 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.

(a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011

42. In paragraph 3 of decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested that the various institutions and bodies of the Convention develop their respective RBM multi-year (four-year) workplans in line with The Strategy and report on progress with implementation at the CRIC. In the same paragraph it was mentioned that the COP would take relevant decisions based on recommendations from the CRIC. Furthermore, all draft multi-year programmes of work were to be presented to the COP for adoption. A general overview of the programme and budget documents submitted to COP 9 for consideration is provided in document ICCD/COP(9)/5.

43. In paragraph 38 of the same decision the COP set the planning and budgeting cycles of the Convention bodies and stated that under the first planning cycle the draft multi-year workplans would be presented at CRIC 7 and considered at COP 9 along with the drafts under the first budget cycle.

44. In paragraphs 20 and 21 of decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a draft multi-year (four-year) workplan complemented by a costed two-year work programme in line with The Strategy and taking an RBM approach, and to present them to CRIC 7 for review and subsequently to COP 9 for consideration and adoption. Furthermore, in decision 27/COP.8 the Executive Secretary was requested to submit to the COP at its ninth session a programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011. In line with the above-mentioned decision, the costed draft 2010–2011 work programme for the secretariat is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.1.

45. In paragraph 17 of decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested the GM to revise its current workplan to make it consistent with The Strategy, maintaining the RBM approach, and to prepare a draft multi-year (four-year) workplan complemented by a costed two-year work programme. In paragraph 18 of the same decision the GM was further requested to present its proposed draft multi-year workplan and two-year work programme to CRIC 7 for review and subsequently to COP 9 for consideration and adoption. In line with this decision the costed draft 2010–2011 work programme for the GM is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.2.

46. In paragraphs 7 and 11 of decision 3/COP.8, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureaux of the COP and the CST, to prepare for the CST, in line with The Strategy, a costed draft two-year work programme taking an RBM approach, and to present it to COP 9 for consideration and adoption. In line with this decision, the costed draft 2010–2011 work programme for the CST is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.3.

47. In decision 7/COP.8, the COP decided that the terms of reference of the CRIC should be considered and revised at COP 9, bearing in mind the strategic plan and the role of the CRIC as specified in the relevant decisions of COP 8 and the outcomes of CRIC 7 and 8. In the light of

the provisions above, and the fact that the draft multi-year workplan for the CRIC can only be prepared once its terms of reference have been revised and approved, document ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.4 contains the preliminary costed draft 2010–2011 work programme for the CRIC.

(b) Financial performance for the Convention trust funds

Reports on the implementation of the costed 2008–2009 work programmes of the institutions and bodies of the Convention

48. In decision 1/COP.ES-1, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to report to the COP at its ninth session on the financial status of the Convention trust funds established under the financial rules of the COP. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/6, along with the reports on the implementation of the costed 2008–2009 work programmes for the secretariat, the CST and the CRIC.

49. The report on the implementation of the costed 2008–2009 work programme for the GM contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.2 is submitted to COP 9 for consideration. The report on the implementation of the 2008–2009 joint work programme of the secretariat and the GM is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.1 and submitted to COP 9 for consideration.

Financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009

50. The financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009 are contained in documents ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.3 and Add.7 .

Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2007

51. The audited financial statements for the trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2007 are contained in documents ICCP/COP(9)/6/Add.4 and Add.6.

Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009

52. The status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009 is presented in document ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.5.

Relations between the secretariat and its host country

53. As a follow-up to the report on relations between the secretariat and its host country submitted for consideration by the COP at its eighth session, the secretariat was requested, in decision 22/COP.8, to continue to develop its relations with the Government of Germany, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the City of Bonn, as well as with other relevant stakeholders. Furthermore, the secretariat was encouraged to seek more cost-effective solutions for official meetings held in Bonn, pending the availability of adequate conference facilities. By the same decision, the COP requested the Government of Germany to continue to absorb

most of the costs and take responsibility for maintaining and operating the new premises. The progress made concerning the above matters is reported in document ICCD/COP(9)/5.

8. Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements

54. 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) Report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

55. In 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 sessions of the COP.

56. In decision 7/COP.8, the COP decided that the terms of reference of the CRIC should be considered and revised at its ninth session, bearing in mind the strategic plan and role of the CRIC as specified in the relevant COP 8 decisions and the outcomes of the seventh and eighth sessions of the CRIC. In the same decision, the COP also decided that the CRIC should function under its terms of reference as specified in decision 1/COP.5, where applicable.

57. In accordance with decisions 1/COP.5 and 7/COP.8, the Committee at its eighth session will review the implementation of The Strategy, and consider the report of the Committee on its seventh session; the workplans of the institutions and subsidiary bodies of the Convention; and the available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environmental Facility. The committee will also consider additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, and the performance review and assessment of the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy. The Committee will further consider the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and format of reports to be submitted to the COP and the draft reporting guidelines for reporting entities referred to in decision 8/COP.8 – all with a view to formulating, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP.

58. 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. In accordance with decision 1/COP.5, the CRIC will report on its work at each ordinary session of the COP. The report on the eighth session of the CRIC will be submitted to the COP for its consideration and for any decision the COP may wish to take on the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy.

(b) Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention – Terms of reference of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

59. In decision 1/COP.5, the COP decided that the mandate and functions of the CRIC, as contained in paragraph 1 (b) of its terms of reference, should 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 also 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.

60. In decision 7/COP.7, the COP decided that the review of the terms of reference of the Committee, its operations and its schedule of meetings would take place at the eighth session of the COP with a view to making any necessary modifications, including reconsidering the modalities of the Committee as a subsidiary body.

61. In decision 7/COP.8, the COP decided that the terms of reference of the Committee should be considered and revised as necessary at the ninth session of the COP bearing in mind the strategic plan and role of the CRIC as specified in the relevant decisions of the eighth session of the COP (COP 8) and the outcomes of the seventh and eighth sessions of the CRIC (CRIC 7 and CRIC 8).

62. The CRIC at its seventh session made a number of recommendations on how to conduct a global review of The Strategy and the Convention, including on interactions between the subsidiary bodies to the COP and the role of the CST in assisting the CRIC in the review of the implementation of the Convention. CRIC 7 also recommended that the secretariat prepare a document on the revised terms of reference and the format for future sessions of the CRIC for consideration by the COP, in accordance with decisions 3/COP.8 and 9/COP.8. Information related to this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/7.

9. Committee on Science and Technology

(a) Report of the Committee on Science and Technology

63. In 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, would be a standing item on its agenda. In decision 18/COP.8, the COP decided that the priority theme to be addressed by the CST at its ninth session would be: “Biophysical and socio-economic monitoring and assessment of desertification and land degradation, to support decision-making in land and water management”.

64. The CST will transmit to the COP draft decisions resulting from the deliberations at its ninth session, as well as recommendations on its costed draft two-year work programme which, in line with paragraph 8 of decision 3/COP.8, was included in the agenda of its ninth session. The report of the CST will also include the priority theme to be addressed by the CST in line

with decision 13/COP.8. The report of the UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference will also be transmitted to the COP. The COP may wish to discuss these reports and to provide any necessary guidance to the CST.

(b) Maintenance of the roster of independent experts and creation, as necessary, of ad hoc panels of experts

65. Article 24, paragraph 2, of the Convention provides that the COP shall establish and maintain a roster of independent experts with expertise and experience in the relevant fields. In decision 18/COP.1, the COP adopted procedures for the establishment and maintenance of a roster of independent experts. In decision 11/COP.8, the COP made further recommendations on the maintenance and use of the roster of independent experts. Information on the progress made on the maintenance of the roster of independent experts and the use made of it is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/8. An updated roster of experts is available on the Convention website at: <www.unccd.int/cop/cst/experts/search.php>.

66. 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.

10. Assessment of the Global Mechanism by the Joint Inspection Unit

67. Paragraph 27 of decision 3/COP.8 requests an assessment of the GM with recommendations to be undertaken by the JIU, to be submitted to COP 9 for consideration. The COP further determined the basis of these terms of reference and requested the JIU to submit the assessment to the ninth session of the COP for consideration.

68. The detailed terms of reference proposed by the JIU were prepared in line with the previously mentioned decision of the COP and were submitted for the attention of the seventh session of the CRIC (3–14 November 2008, Istanbul) for further comments and consideration. The final document elaborated by the JIU following the requested assessment is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/9.

11. Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies

69. In accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2 (i), of the Convention, and pursuant to decision 4/COP.8, the COP at its ninth session will review activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships and synergies with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies. Information on this matter is contained in documents ICCD/COP(9)/10 and Add.1.

12. Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and outcome of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development

70. In decision 2/COP.8, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs, actively to prepare for and participate in the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The report of the Executive Secretary on the activities carried out to implement decision 2/COP.8 is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/11.

13. Outstanding items

(a) Rule 47 of the rules of procedure

71. 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”. In 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. In 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 document ICCD/COP(3)/13.

72. In decision 19/COP.8, the COP requested the secretariat to include consideration of this outstanding rule of procedure in the agenda of COP 9 and to report on the status of similar rules of procedure in other multilateral environmental agreements. The relevant information on this item is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/12.

(b) Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation

73. In accordance with article 27 of the Convention, the COP is to decide on procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation.

74. In decision 20/COP.8, the COP decided to reconvene, during its ninth session, the open-ended ad hoc group of experts (AHGE) established in decision 20/COP.3, to examine further and make recommendations on, procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation. In the same decision the secretariat was requested to prepare a document to include a compilation of submissions by Parties contained in previous COP documents on this matter, including a draft to provide options for, and the terms of reference of, a multilateral consultative process, and a compilation also of those views submitted on article 27 of the Convention. Information on the above matters, including views communicated by Parties is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/13 for consideration by the COP.

(c) Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures

75. In accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2 (a) and 6 of the Convention, the COP is also to establish annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures.

76. In decision 21/COP.8, the COP decided to reconvene, at its ninth session, the AHGE, to examine further and make recommendations on annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures. In the same decision the secretariat was requested to prepare a document to include: (a) a compilation of submissions contained in previous COP documents on this matter and those submitted on article 28 of the Convention, and (b) an updated version of the annexes contained in document ICCD/COP(7)/9 to reflect these views. Information on the above matters, including views communicated by Parties is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/14, for consideration by the COP.

**14. The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification
(2010–2020)**

77. In decision 27/COP.8, the COP decided to include preparation for the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020) in the agenda of its ninth session. Information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/15.

15. Inclusion of activities of civil society organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue sessions

78. In decision 27/COP.1, the COP requested that open dialogue sessions organized by NGOs 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 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 27/COP.8 reiterated this request. The two half-day sessions have been tentatively scheduled for 1 October.

16. Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions

79. Following decision 27/COP.8 on the programme of work of the COP 9, it is proposed that an interactive dialogue session among high-level officials of Parties attending COP 9 will take place on 28 and 29 September. This would include three round-table discussions to focus on suggestions for actions to achieve the objectives of The Strategy and guidance to furthering the implementation process. The background information on this matter is contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/INF.7.

17. Programme of work for the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties

80. In accordance with decision 9/COP.1, which listed items to be included as standing items on COP agendas, and following decision 27/COP.8 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.

18. Report on the session

81. A draft report of the session will be prepared for adoption at the concluding plenary meeting on 2 October 2009, in accordance with established practice. The COP will be 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 before the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties**

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(9)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/2	The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of The Strategy
ICCD/COP(9)/2/Add.1	The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of The Strategy. Addendum. Alignment of action programmes with The Strategy
ICCD/COP(9)/3	Evidence-based options for improving regional coordination arrangements. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/4	The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit recommendations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/4/Add.1	The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit recommendations. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Revised procedures for the participation of civil society organizations in UNCCD meetings and processes, including clear selection criteria and a mechanism to ensure a balance of participants from different regions
ICCD/COP(9)/4/Add.2	The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit recommendations. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Development and implementation of a comprehensive communication strategy
ICCD/COP(9)/5	Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.1	Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the costed draft two-year work programme for the secretariat (2010–2011)

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.2	Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the costed draft two-year work programme for the Global Mechanism (2010–2011)
ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.3	Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the costed draft two-year work programme for the Committee on Science and Technology (2010–2011)
ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.4	Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the costed draft two-year work programme for the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (2010–2011)
ICCD/COP(9)/6	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.1	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the report on the implementation of the joint work programme of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism (2008–2009)
ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.2	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the report on the implementation of the costed two-year work programme of the Global Mechanism (2008–2009)
ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.3	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Unaudited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009 as at 31 December 2008
ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.4	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2007 and the Report of the Board of Auditors
ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.5	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009
ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.6	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2007, including the audit report of PricewaterhouseCoopers SpA for the Global Mechanism

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.7	Financial performance for the Convention trust funds. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009, including the audit report of PricewaterhouseCoopers SpA as at 31 December 2008 for the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(9)/7	Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Terms of reference for the CRIC
ICCD/COP(9)/8	Report on progress on the maintenance of the roster of independent experts. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/9	Assessment of the Global Mechanism by the Joint Inspection Unit. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/10	Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/10/Add.1	Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization during the period under review
ICCD/COP(9)/11	Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and outcome of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Development. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/12	Rule 47 of the rules of procedure. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/13	Procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/14	Annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/15	The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020). Note by the secretariat

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(9)/16	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/16/Add.1	Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers. Note by the secretariat. Addendum
ICCD/COP(9)/17	Credentials of delegations. Report of the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(9)/INF.1	Information for participants
ICCD/COP(9)/INF.2	Status of ratification of UNCCD
ICCD/COP(9)/INF.3	List of participants
ICCD/COP(9)/INF.4	Directory of focal points for UNCCD
ICCD/COP(9)/INF.6	Information note on the permanent structure of the UNCCD secretariat and the human resources required to deliver the expected outputs in the programme of work of the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/INF.7	Background document for the panel discussions during the High-Level Segment
ICCD/COP(9)/MISC.1	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification comprehensive communication strategy. Land Matters
ICCD/COP(9)/MISC.2	The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Compilation of regional proposals
ICCD/COP(9)/MISC.3	Support by the United Nations Environment Programme to the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

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

ICCD/CRIC(8)/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(8)/2	Workplans of the institutions and subsidiary bodies of the Convention. Note by the secretariat

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/CRIC(8)/2/Add.1	Workplans of the institutions and subsidiary bodies of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the draft multi-year workplan for the secretariat (2010–2013)
ICCD/CRIC(8)/2/Add.2	Workplans of the institutions and subsidiary bodies of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the draft joint work programme of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism (2010–2011)
ICCD/CRIC(8)/2/Add.3	Workplans of the institutions and subsidiary bodies of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the draft multi-year workplan for the Global Mechanism (2010–2013)
ICCD/CRIC(8)/2/Add.4	Workplans of the institutions and subsidiary bodies of the Convention. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the draft multi-year workplan for the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (2010–2013)
ICCD/CRIC(8)/3	Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(8)/3/Add.1	Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report by the Global Environment Facility on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification
ICCD/CRIC(8)/4	Performance review and assessment of the implementation of the Convention and of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.1	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Performance indicators for the review of implementation of The Strategy
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.2	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Methodological guide on the use of performance indicators for the review of implementation of The Strategy and related metadata
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.3	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Glossary of performance indicators for the review of implementation of The Strategy and best practices
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.4	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Financial annex and programme and project sheet
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.5	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Common framework for the definition and selection of best practices
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.6	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of the input from the Committee on Science and Technology on how best to measure strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy ^a

^a This document will be issued during the session.

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.7	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: Consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8. Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Consideration of how best to measure progress on strategic objective 4 of The Strategy
ICCD/CRIC(8)/INF.1	Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention. Institutional set-up of review and assessment systems under the other Rio conventions
ICCD/CRIC(8)/INF.2	Sample format for reporting guidelines. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/CRIC(8)/INF.3	Full-size project proposal for assistance to affected country Parties in monitoring the implementation of the Convention and The Strategy. Note by the secretariat

Documents before the Committee on Science and Technology at its ninth session

ICCD/COP(9)/CST/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the secretariat.
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/2	Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/2/Add.1	Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report of the UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference ^b
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/2/Add.2	Reshaping the operation of the Committee on Science and Technology in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018). Note by the secretariat. Addendum. Report on the organization of the UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/3	Draft multi-year (four-year) workplan for the Committee on Science and Technology (2010–2013). Note by the secretariat

^b This document will be issued during the session.

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/4	Advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/5	Report on progress of the Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands project. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/6	Report on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification fellowship programme. Note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/7	In-session report of the Committee on Science and Technology. Note by the secretariat ^c
ICCD/COP(9)/CST/INF.1	Directory of science and technology correspondents

Other documents available at the session

ICCD/COP(8)/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(8)/16/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session: action taken
ICCD/COP(7)/16	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(7)/16/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session: action taken
ICCD/COP(6)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: proceedings
ICCD/COP(6)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixth session: action taken
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

^c This document will be issued during the session.

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
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
ICCD/CRIC(7)/5	Report of the seventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Istanbul from 3 to 14 November 2008

Annex II

Tentative schedule of work

Monday, 21 September 2009		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	<i>Informal consultations</i>	<p><i>Opening of the session by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of the President <p><i>Statement by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session</i> <i>Statement on behalf of the host country</i> <i>Statement by the Executive Secretary of UNCCD</i> <i>Statements by the representatives of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations</i> <i>Statements by the representatives of regional and interest groups</i> <i>Statement by a representative of non-governmental organizations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the agenda and organization of work <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/1)</i> • Election of officers other than the President - Election of Vice-Presidents • Accreditation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, admission of observers <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/16 and Add.1)</i>

Tuesday, 22 September 2009		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme and budget (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/5</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011 (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.1- Add4</i>) - Financial performance of the Convention trust funds <p><i>Reports on the implementation of the costed two-year work programmes for the institutions and bodies of the Convention (ICCD/COP(9)/6)</i></p> <p><i>Financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium 2008–2009 (ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.3 and Add.7)</i></p> <p><i>Audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for the biennium ended 31 December 2007 (ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.4 and Add.6)</i></p> <p><i>Report on the status of contributions to the Convention trust funds (2008–2009) (ICCD/COP(9)/6/Add.5)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the GM by the JIU (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/9</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Terms of reference of the CRIC (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/7</i>) • The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on the implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/2 and Add.1</i>) - Mechanisms to facilitate regional coordination of the implementation of the Convention (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/3 and ICCD/COP(9)/MISC.2</i>)

Tuesday, 22 September 2009 (cont.)		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C S T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of the CST 9 ordinary session • Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/CST/1</i>) • The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Consideration of the draft multi-year (four-year) workplan for the CST (ICCD/COP(9)/CST/3)</i> - <i>Consideration of the costed draft two-year work programme for the CST (2010–2011) (ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.3)</i> • Reshaping the operation of the CST in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Documentation on reshaping the operation of the CST in line with the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (ICCD/COP(9)/CST/2)</i> • Adjournment of the CST 9 ordinary session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference

Wednesday, 23 September 2009		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C R I C	<p><i>Opening of the session by the Chair of the CRIC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (ICCD/CRIC(8)/1) • Review of implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Report of the Committee on its seventh session (ICCD/CRIC(7)/5)</i> - <i>Workplans of the institutions and subsidiary bodies of the Convention (ICCD/CRIC(8)/2 and Add. 1- Add.4)</i> - <i>Report by the Chair of the CST on consideration of the draft multi-year (four-year) workplan for the CST</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of implementation of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Review of available information regarding the financing of the implementation of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (ICCD/CRIC(8)/3 and Add.1)</i>
C S T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference (cont.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference (cont.)

Thursday, 24 September 2009		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C R I C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8 - <i>Indicators and monitoring of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (ICCD/CRIC(8)/5 and Add.1 - Add.4 and ICCD/CRIC(8)/INF.2 and INF.3)</i> - <i>Common framework for the definition and selection of best practices (ICCD/CRIC(8)/Add.5)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8 - <i>Consideration of how best to measure progress on strategic objective 4 of The Strategy (ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.7)</i>
C S T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference (cont.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference (cont.) • Closing of the UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference

Friday, 25 September 2009		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
P L E N A R Y	---	<p><i>Consideration of the preliminary report of the COW</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of officers other than the President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Election of the Chair of the Committee on Science and Technology • Committee on Science and Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Report of the Committee on Science and Technology - Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation of ad hoc panels of experts
C O W	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up on outstanding JIU recommendations (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/4, Add.1 and Add.2 and ICCD/COP(9)/MISC.1</i>) • Programme and budget <p><i>Report by the Chair of the CST on consideration of the costed draft two-year work programme for the CST (ICCD/COP(9)/5/Add.3)</i></p>
C R I C	<p><i>Formulation of the report of the CRIC, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i></p>	---

Friday, 25 September 2009 (cont.)		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C S T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resumption of the CST 9 ordinary session • Report of the UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/CST/2/Add.1)</i> • Consideration of the report on the organization of the UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/CST/2/Add.2)</i> • The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008-2018) –Committee on Science and Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consideration of advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention. <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/CST/4)</i> • Consideration of the report on progress of the Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/CST/5)</i> • United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification fellowship programme <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/CST/6)</i> • Roster of independent experts <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/8)</i> • Programme of work for the tenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology • <i>Formulation of the draft report of the CST (ICCD/COP(9)/CST/7)</i> • Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee <p><i>Closing of the session</i></p>	---

Monday, 28 September 2009		
	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"> • Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p><i>Opening ceremony of the High-Level Segment</i></p> <p><i>Welcome address by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session</i></p> <p><i>Welcome address by the Executive Secretary of UNCCD</i></p> <p><i>Briefing on status of negotiations by the President of the CRIC</i></p> <p><i>Briefing on status of negotiations by the President of the CST</i></p> <p><i>Briefing on status of negotiations by the President of the COW</i></p> <p><i>Special statements on behalf of regional and interest groups</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p>Round table 1: The global trends of desertification, land degradation and drought - liaison with other problems and challenges for decision makers and stakeholders</p> <p>- The recommendations of the CST, building on the UNCCD 1st Scientific Conference – what are the implications for policymakers and for the UNCCD process?</p> <p>- Prevention of land degradation: Can the UNCCD guide the sustainable use of the world's soils?</p> <p>- Critical problematic: food security, migration, and access to and the use and management of water.</p>

Tuesday, 29 September 2009		
	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"> • Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p>Round table 2: Desertification/land degradation and climate change - what role for the land in the ongoing negotiations for a new climate regime at Copenhagen?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What mechanisms should be considered to effectively contribute to DLDD, within the framework of the adaptation and mitigation strategies? - Bio-energy: The threats or opportunities for the drylands? - Making energy efficiency and carbon sequestration work for land and soils improvement: What are the potential impacts for affected populations and ecosystems? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special segment: interactive dialogue sessions <p>Round table 3: Partnerships and institutions for combating desertification, land degradation and drought - the path to improvement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The role of the land (DLDD) in the Green New Deal and the economic stimulus packages - Which mechanisms can foster coordination at all levels? - What are the implications for the UNCCD institutions at the global and regional levels? - Economic opportunities: Why invest in drylands? <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Closing ceremony</i></p>

Wednesday, 30 September 2009		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C O W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/10 and Add.1</i>) • Follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development relevant to UNCCD, and outcome of the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Development. (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/11</i>) • The United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020) (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/15</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rule 47 of the rules of procedure (<i>ICCD/COP(9)/12</i>) • Programme of work for the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties <p><i>Adoption of the report to the Conference of the Parties</i></p>

Wednesday, 30 September 2009 (cont.)		
	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
C R I C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 - consideration of draft reporting guidelines as referred to in decision 8/COP.8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Consideration of the input from the Committee on Science and Technology on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy (ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.6)</i> Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Performance review and assessment of the implementation of the Convention and of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (ICCD/CRIC(8)/4)</i> 	<p><i>Formulation of the report of the CRIC, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme of work for the ninth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention Adoption of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties Election of officers other than the Chair of the Committee <p><i>Closure of the session</i></p>

Thursday, 1 October 2009		
	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"> Inclusion of activities of civil society organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of activities of civil society organizations within the official programme of work of the Conference of the Parties: open dialogue session
A H G E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outstanding items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation (ICCD/COP(9)/13) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outstanding items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures (ICCD/COP(9)/14) <p><i>Adoption of the report to the Conference of the Parties</i></p>

Friday, 2 October 2009		
	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"> • Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention at its eighth session • Election of other officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - election of the Chair of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention • Credentials of delegations. Report of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties <i>(ICCD/COP(9)/17)</i> <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"> • Report on the session
