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

Windhoek, Namibia, 17–26 September 2013

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Review of the implementation of the Convention  
and The Strategy:**

**Multi-year workplans of the Convention  
institutions and subsidiary bodies**

**Conference of the Parties  
Committee on Science and Technology  
Eleventh session**

Windhoek, Namibia, 17–20 September 2013

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

**Consideration of the draft multi-year (four-year)  
workplan for the Committee on Science and  
Technology (2014–2017)**

**Comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention  
(2014–2017)**

**Note by the secretariat**

*Summary*

At its eighth session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy). The Strategy guides the actions of all stakeholders and partners of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). While Parties carry the main responsibility for implementing The Strategy, the UNCCD secretariat, the Global Mechanism and the subsidiary bodies of the COP have been assigned specific tasks to support the work to be carried out by the Parties. They are requested to operationalize their contribution to The Strategy by preparing results-oriented multi-year workplans and costed two-year work programmes.

By decision 1/COP.10, the COP requested the secretariat to integrate the 2014–2017 workplans of the Convention institutions and bodies into a comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention, for consideration by the COP at its eleventh session. This integrated workplan is presented in this document.

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## **I. Introduction**

1. At its eighth session, the Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018) (The Strategy). The Strategy contains four strategic objectives (SOs) and five operational objectives (OOs) which guide the actions of all stakeholders and partners of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). While Parties carry the main responsibility for implementing The Strategy, the UNCCD institutions and subsidiary bodies have been assigned specific tasks to support the work to be carried out by the Parties.

2. In The Strategy, the UNCCD secretariat was assigned a lead role for OO 1 and for specific outcomes of OOs 2 and 3, as well as a support role in the achievement of other OOs. The Global Mechanism (GM) was assigned central responsibility in contributing to OO 5 and a support role for OOs 1 and 2. The Committee on Science and Technology (CST) was given primary responsibility to fulfil OO 3 as well as a support role for implementing OO 1. The Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) was assigned a central role in reviewing the implementation of The Strategy.

3. The Convention institutions and subsidiary bodies mentioned in paragraph 2 above were each requested to operationalize their contribution to The Strategy by preparing results-oriented multi-year (four-year) work plans and costed two-year work programmes. In addition, the secretariat and the GM were requested to prepare two-year joint work programmes.

4. By decision 1/COP.10, the COP requested the secretariat to integrate the 2014–2017 workplans of the Convention institutions and bodies into a comprehensive multi-year workplan for the Convention, to be considered at COP 11. This document presents the integrated, comprehensive workplan for the Convention.

## **II. Comprehensive 2014–2017 workplan of the Convention**

### **A. Structure and format**

5. The comprehensive workplan of the Convention contains a set of expected accomplishments targeting each of the five OOs. These expected accomplishments are to be achieved by the secretariat, the GM, the CST and/or the CRIC, according to their respective mandates and responsibilities. A sixth section called “Management and services” (see chapter III.F) is also included to provide information on administrative and management functions that concern all or most of the OOs.

6. Most of the expected accomplishments involve primarily the secretariat, while those under OO 5 target mainly the GM. The CST and CRIC outputs are recommendations to the COP on the area covered by each relevant expected accomplishment, while the related work of the secretariat is also presented under the same expected accomplishment.

7. The new structure presents a ‘one UNCCD’ approach, whereby the planned activities of the secretariat and the GM are consistent and complementary and aim to achieve common results. The objective is to present Parties with a strategic view of what the Convention process could produce in the coming years. Compared to the earlier approach of separate workplans, this structure should better assist Parties in understanding

the purpose of the proposed accomplishments and related activities, and in providing focused guidance accordingly.

## **B. Strategic orientation**

8. For 2014–2017, the secretariat and the GM propose a workplan that would promote global collaboration to address desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) issues, enhance the normative role of the UNCCD process in this collaboration, and generate an effective support framework for affected countries to implement the UNCCD.

9. The UNCCD secretariat will focus on facilitating a productive and respected UNCCD process that promotes target-setting for meeting the objectives of The Strategy and ensures a solid knowledge base for decision-making. Emphasis is placed on the delivery of scientific knowledge to guide decision-making concerning UNCCD implementation. Another key area for the secretariat will be to effectively advocate for UNCCD implementation and DLDD issues with regard to the post-2015 global development agenda and the sustainable development goals, among other processes, particularly building on economic arguments concerning land degradation and drought.

10. The secretariat will continue active cooperation with key United Nations organizations and convention secretariats with the aim of promoting approaches and programmes that can effectively support affected countries in implementing the UNCCD. In cooperation with the GM, the secretariat will intensify its support in aligning action programmes.

11. Through the integrated investment frameworks (IIFs) and integrated financing strategies (IFSs) for sustainable land management (SLM), the GM will support affected countries in addressing financial gaps and elaborating viable investment plans, projects and programmes to address DLDD.

12. The GM will also assist affected countries in identifying available funding opportunities from traditional and innovative sources. Capacity-building initiatives on the criteria and modalities of potential investors and funders will be carried out, and affected countries will receive support to improve the enabling environment (i.e. the investment climate and regulatory context in which SLM investments can be made).

13. The GM will seek partnerships with donors as well as the private sector and investors to enhance synergies, increase financing options for SLM and develop new or larger funding windows for UNCCD implementation. The economic valuation of land as a tool for maximizing the potential benefits of investing in SLM will be among the key areas of work for the GM.

## **III. Workplan by operational objective**

14. The integrated workplan has been structured according to the OOs of The Strategy. The beginning of each section presents the outcomes under the OOs as they appear in The Strategy. The planned contributions of the subsidiary bodies, the secretariat and the GM are then presented, first as a brief summary and then as expected accomplishments. These accomplishments describe the anticipated benefits or changes resulting from the work carried out by the Convention entity concerned, together with Parties and other stakeholders, provided the required resources are available. These accomplishments also involve performance indicators proposed for a four-year period as well as targets and main outputs proposed for the next two years. The targets represent the basis for the budget proposed in the consolidated UNCCD work programme for 2014–2015 and will be revised

according to the budget decision taken at COP 11. After the five OOs, the plans of the secretariat and the GM concerning management and direction, conference services and administration are presented.

## A. Operational objective 1 – Advocacy, awareness-raising and education

*To actively influence relevant international, national and local processes and actors in adequately addressing desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD)-related issues*

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### Related outcomes as contained in The Strategy

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**Outcome 1.1:** DLDD issues and the synergies with climate change adaptation/mitigation and biodiversity conservation are effectively communicated among key constituencies at the international, national and local levels.

**Outcome 1.2:** DLDD issues are addressed in relevant international forums, including those pertaining to agricultural trade, climate change adaptation, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, rural development, sustainable development and poverty reduction.

**Outcome 1.3:** Civil society organizations (CSOs) and the scientific community in the North and the South are increasingly engaged as stakeholders in the Convention processes and DLDD are addressed in their advocacy, awareness-raising and education initiatives.

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15. Under OO 1, the secretariat, in cooperation with the GM, works towards increased awareness of the importance of addressing DLDD, increased recognition of the UNCCD process as a normative/policy reference for DLDD issues, and the effective facilitation of CSO involvement in the UNCCD process. In line with the findings of the 2012 reporting process, particular attention will be placed on supporting country Parties in raising awareness on DLDD issues among various audiences. The implementation of the updated UNCCD comprehensive communication strategy (CCS) will continue. Increased effort will be made to demonstrate the benefits of investing in SLM and shifting the perception of drylands as poor, desolate areas to areas of high growth potential. This will also be visible in the communication and advocacy activities of the GM, which are included in the updated CCS.

16. The GM will continue providing communication material, tools and platforms for financing to support the implementation of the UNCCD. Printed and online communication material, increased social media use and SLM finance platforms will be made available to effectively support affected countries in accessing finance.

17. High-level advocacy, supported by the communication products, will emphasize the importance of the Rio+20 outcome concerning a land degradation neutral world. In 2014, the secretariat will contribute to exchanges on the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals, with the aim of raising awareness on the importance of land issues in this context. High-level advocacy will also target other major United Nations processes and conferences. At the regional and subregional level, the Regional Coordination Units (RCUs) can effectively promote and provide information on UNCCD issues, and their advocacy functions in 2014–2015 will focus on major regional and subregional events and processes.

18. With regard to supporting the involvement of CSOs, the secretariat will continue active communication with the CSOs on UNCCD issues and further support CSO networking. The secretariat will also support CSO participation and involvement in UNCCD sessions, as well as the functioning of the CSO selection panel. At regional and

subregional levels, RCUs will assist in distributing information relevant to CSOs and promote the involvement of CSOs in activities concerning UNCCD implementation.

<i>Expected accomplishments for 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators for 2014–2017; targets for 2014–2015</i>	<i>Overview of main outputs and activities for 2014–2015</i>
1(a) Increased awareness of the importance of addressing DLDD as a solution to many global challenges	<p>The extent to which online DLDD information tools and social media of the Convention are used</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Statistics on the UNCCD website, social media and other tools show a positive trend in the number of visitors, downloads and other aspects related to use</p>	<p>Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC): Recommendations to the Conference of the Parties (COP) on further improving synergies and the effective communication of DLDD issues</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Global and regional outreach to decision-makers and other key target groups through evidence-based, targeted messaging</li> <li>- Communication and awareness-raising products</li> <li>- UNCCD flagship events, programmes and outreach including the website, social media, World Day to Combat Desertification, United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification, Land Day, Land for Life Award, Drylands Ambassadors, Drylands Champions, UNCCD News Alert, photo contest, LandScan and library services</li> <li>- Strategic partnerships and pooling of communication resources</li> <li>- Active engagement of media and support to the networking of journalists in reporting on DLDD and sustainable land management (SLM)</li> <li>- Region-specific awareness-raising and communication activities</li> </ul>
1(b) Increased awareness of financing opportunities, methods and tools for addressing DLDD	<p>The extent to which the Global Mechanism (GM) online information and tools on DLDD financing are used</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <p>Statistics on the GM website, social media and other tools show a positive trend in the number of visitors, downloads and other aspects related to use</p> <p>40 printed publications and 160 online publications</p>	<p>GM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communication materials on finance such as leaflets, brochures, papers and news digests</li> <li>- Outreach material for events</li> <li>- Knowledge management tools on DLDD financing</li> <li>- Support to country Parties in communicating on the benefits of investing in SLM (economic valuation of land (EVL)), best practices as well as barriers to financing for implementing the UNCCD</li> <li>- Maintenance and updates of the GM online presence (website, e-mail marketing and social media)</li> </ul>

<i>Expected accomplishments for 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators for 2014–2017; targets for 2014–2015</i>	<i>Overview of main outputs and activities for 2014–2015</i>
1(c) The Convention process is increasingly recognized as a normative reference for addressing DLDD issues in decisions concerning land	<p>The extent to which messages from the UNCCD process are integrated in major global processes relevant to UNCCD implementation</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <p>The provisions for DLDD in "The Future We Want" are translated into the sustainable development goals</p> <p>DLDD issues are included in the post-2015 development agenda</p> <p>Number of invitations to the secretariat and the GM to co-organize, chair or speak at high-level events</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Increase in the number of invitations compared to 2013</p>	<p>CRIC: Recommendations to the COP on further promoting the consideration of DLDD issues in relevant international forums</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DLDD inputs to, and follow-up of, major global meetings and processes, including those on the post-2015 development agenda, sustainable development goals, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States</li> <li>- UNCCD inputs to, and follow-up of, regular United Nations meetings and processes, including sessions of the General Assembly and the High Level Political Forum</li> <li>- DLDD inputs to, and follow-up of, major meetings and processes in subregions/regions</li> </ul> <p>GM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow-up on the work of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing</li> </ul>
1(d) Civil society contributions to meetings and processes of the Convention are effectively facilitated	<p>The extent to which CSO participation in the meetings of the COP and its subsidiary bodies is balanced according to criteria contained in decision 5/COP.9</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Increased involvement of the CSOs in the UNCCD at the national and regional levels</p>	<p>CRIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recommendations to the COP on further advancing CSO engagement in the Convention processes</li> <li>- Open dialogue sessions</li> </ul> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delivery of information to CSOs</li> <li>- Facilitation and strengthening of CSO networking</li> <li>- Facilitation of CSO participation in UNCCD sessions, including assistance to the CSO selection panel and the accreditation of observers</li> <li>- Regional promotion of CSO involvement</li> </ul> <p>GM: Information-sharing and dialogues with CSOs and the private sector, businesses and the financial industry on financing for SLM</p>

## B. Operational objective 2 – Policy framework

*To support the creation of enabling environments for promoting solutions to combat desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought*

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### Related outcomes as contained in The Strategy

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**Outcome 2.1:** Policy, institutional, financial and socioeconomic drivers of desertification/land degradation and barriers to SLM are assessed, and appropriate measures to remove these barriers are recommended.

**Outcome 2.2:** Affected country Parties revise their national action programmes (NAPs) into strategic documents supported by biophysical and socioeconomic baseline information and include them in integrated investment frameworks (IIFs).

**Outcome 2.3:** Affected country Parties integrate their NAPs and SLM and land degradation issues into development planning and relevant sectoral and investment plans and policies.

**Outcome 2.4:** Developed country Parties mainstream UNCCD objectives and SLM interventions into their development cooperation programmes/projects in line with their support to national sectoral and investment plans.

**Outcome 2.5:** Mutually reinforcing measures among desertification/land degradation action programmes and biodiversity and climate change mitigation and adaptation are introduced or strengthened so as to enhance the impact of interventions.

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19. The findings from 2012 national reporting concerning OO 2 emphasized the need for further support in national implementation, particularly in continuing work on aligning national action programmes (NAPs) with The Strategy. The reports also called for the intensification of support for facilitating synergistic mechanisms in affected country Parties.

20. In line with these findings, the secretariat helps fulfil OO 2 primarily in the three following areas:

(a) Facilitating NAP alignment and implementation. In cooperation with the GM, the secretariat will continue information-sharing and expert advice for the effective alignment of NAPs. The secretariat will also continue collaborating with various United Nations organizations, particularly in following up on the Global Drylands Report that spells out a United Nations-wide approach to supporting UNCCD implementation;

(b) Supporting regional coordination and collaboration. The RCUs supported by the secretariat and the GM will continue assisting countries in aligning the subregional and regional action programmes with The Strategy and in carrying out the obligations set out through the Convention process. They will foster the exchange of information and experiences within each region, and promote UNCCD implementation among organizations and institutions that work in the region on DLDD-related areas;

(c) Promoting a better understanding of the interlinkages between DLDD and other global issues. The secretariat will promote the consideration of DLDD issues in meetings and processes on land, water, forests, climate change, biodiversity and food security, and make relevant information available. The focus areas will include the follow-up to the 2013 High-level Meeting on National Drought Policies, participation in the emerging partnerships on soil, and support to the consideration of DLDD issues in global debates on land and forest-based adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.

21. Follow-up to the outcomes of Rio+20 will be a cross-cutting theme under this OO.



<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Overview of main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
2(a) Increased effectiveness in servicing countries in aligning and mainstreaming NAPs	<p>The number of NAPs aligned with The Strategy</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>80% of affected countries have aligned their NAPs</p>	<p>CRIC: Recommendations to the COP on aligning and mainstreaming NAPs</p> <p>Secretariat in cooperation with the GM:</p> <p>Support to NAP alignment, including the provision of information products, the enhancement of synergies between the alignment processes, and the development and implementation of integrated investment frameworks (IIFs), organization of subregional workshops, facilitation of Global Environment Facility (GEF) support, involvement of other United Nations partners in the region, and assistance to national consultations and coordination</p>
2(b) Effective regional cooperation and coordination in implementing the UNCCD	<p>The extent to which countries belonging to each Regional Implementation Annex participate in regional coordination activities</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>75% of countries belonging to each Annex participate in at least one regional coordination activity</p> <p>The extent to which regional and subregional action programmes are consistent with the objectives defined in the UNCCD process</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>At least two RAPs are aligned with The Strategy</p>	<p>CRIC: Recommendations to the COP on aligning regional action programmes (RAPs) and subregional action programmes (SRAPs)</p> <p>Committee on Science and Technology (CST): Recommendations to the COP concerning regional aspects of providing scientific advice to the UNCCD process</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support to regional coordination, including services for the regional committees, the organization of regional meetings, region-specific knowledge management and regional partnership initiatives</li> <li>- Support to the preparation/alignment of RAPs and SRAPs, including the provision of information and technical assistance, promotion of partnerships and the preparation of periodic status reports</li> </ul> <p>GM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assistance in the elaboration of regional and subregional IIFs</li> <li>- Advice to RCMs on financial issues</li> </ul>
2(c) Affected country Parties have increased support from major multilateral cooperation organizations and programmes in addressing DLDD	<p>The extent to which policies and programmes of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</p>	<p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cooperation with UNDP, UNEP, WMO, FAO and IUCN</li> <li>- Support to the implementation of the action plan stemming from the Global Drylands Report</li> <li>- Active participation in the UNEP</li> </ul>

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Overview of main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
<p>reflect UNCCD objectives and activities</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNCCD provisions are reflected in national drought policies in the follow-up to the 2013 conference</li> <li>- UNCCD provisions are increasingly reflected in international processes and initiatives related to land and soil.</li> </ul> <p>2(d) Improved understanding of interlinkages between implementing the Convention and addressing food security, water scarcity and drought, forestry and gender issues</p>	<p>reflect UNCCD objectives and activities</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNCCD provisions are reflected in national drought policies in the follow-up to the 2013 conference</li> <li>- UNCCD provisions are increasingly reflected in international processes and initiatives related to land and soil.</li> </ul> <p>The extent to which DLDD-related elements are referred to in major international processes and meetings concerning food security, water, drought, forests and gender issues, building on inputs made by the secretariat and the GM</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNCCD provisions are reflected in the work of the UN-Water and the seventh World Water Forum in 2015</li> <li>- UNCCD provisions are increasingly reflected in the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests</li> </ul>	<p>Environment Management Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participation in initiatives to support countries in establishing national drought policies</li> </ul> <p>GM: Participation in the implementation of the action plan stemming from the Global Drylands Report</p> <p>CRIC: Recommendations to the COP on interlinkages between implementing the UNCCD and addressing food security, water scarcity and drought, forests and gender issues</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support to the operationalization of the land degradation neutral world concept with various partners</li> <li>- UNCCD inputs to major international processes and events on food security, water, drought, forests and gender issues</li> <li>- Development and update of advocacy policy frameworks (APFs)</li> <li>- GM: Input concerning financing for UNCCD implementation to major international processes and events relating to SLM</li> </ul>
<p>2(e) Improved synergies between addressing DLDD and climate change and/or biodiversity</p>	<p>The extent to which DLDD-related elements are referred to in decisions concerning climate change and biodiversity</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Efforts to increase ecosystem resilience, sustainable forest management and agroforestry in drylands are noted in decisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</li> <li>- The importance of addressing DLDD is noted in decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity</li> </ul>	<p>CRIC: Recommendations to the COP on improving synergies between addressing DLDD and climate change and/or biodiversity</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advocacy concerning climate change and UNCCD implementation, particularly on drylands issues as it relates to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+)</li> <li>- Development of an APF on biodiversity in the drylands</li> <li>- Participation in the Joint Liaison Group</li> </ul> <p>GM: Promotion of financing for UNCCD implementation in the context of meetings and processes on climate change and biodiversity</p>

### C. Operational objective 3 – Science, technology and knowledge

*To become a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought*

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#### Related outcomes as contained in The Strategy

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**Outcome 3.1:** National monitoring and vulnerability assessment on biophysical and socioeconomic trends in affected countries are supported.

**Outcome 3.2:** A baseline based on the most robust data available on biophysical and socioeconomic trends is developed and relevant scientific approaches are gradually harmonized.

**Outcome 3.3:** Knowledge on biophysical and socioeconomic factors and on their interactions in affected areas is improved to enable better decision-making.

**Outcome 3.4:** Knowledge of the interactions between climate change adaptation, drought mitigation and restoration of degraded land in affected areas is improved to develop tools to assist decision-making.

**Outcome 3.5:** Effective knowledge-sharing systems, including traditional knowledge,<sup>a</sup> are in place at the global, regional, subregional and national levels to support policymakers and end users, including through the identification and sharing of best practices and success stories.

**Outcome 3.6:** Science and technology networks and institutions relevant to DLDD are engaged to support UNCCD implementation.

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<sup>a</sup> Excluding traditional knowledge on genetic resources.

22. In 2012, impact indicators were used for the first time in the reporting under the Convention. Based on lessons learned from this reporting round and the recommendations of the related expert group, the CST will further work on developing UNCCD impact monitoring and baselines. Critical aspects in this work are ensuring the comparability of data received and the integration of globally agreed land-related goals into the reporting system.

23. With regard to the CRIC, reporting on performance in meeting the OOs of The Strategy will improve and the performance review and assessment of implementation system (PRAIS) will be developed further. Countries and other reporting entities will be supported in reporting in 2014 on progress made towards achieving the OOs, and the reports received will be analysed and synthesized for the consideration of the CRIC at its thirteenth session.

24. Another key aim of the UNCCD process under OO 3 is to link scientific information with political decision-making. The CST, supported by the secretariat, will follow up on the outcomes of the Ad Hoc Working Group to Further Discuss the Options for the Provision of Scientific Advice Focusing on Desertification/Land Degradation and Drought Issues. Other important tasks in improving the science–policy interface include the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> UNCCD Scientific Conference, the development of the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal and the increased involvement of the scientific community in the UNCCD process.

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
3(a) Parties conduct impact assessments under the UNCCD, focusing on progress made in meeting strategic objectives (SOs) 1–4	<p>The number of affected Parties that report on progress made in meeting SOs 1–4</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Approach and methodology for reporting on the impact indicators is revised in accordance with lessons learned in the first reporting cycle (2013)</p>	<p>CST: Recommendations to the COP on the iterative process to further develop impact monitoring</p> <p>CRIC: Recommendations to the COP on the preparation of the second reporting cycle on impact indicators</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arrangements for continuing the iterative process and acquiring data from global sources</li> <li>- Update of reporting tools, including a revision of the reporting templates and guidelines as well as the upload of default data to the reporting portal</li> <li>- Preparation of support to countries for the next reporting cycle on impact indicators</li> <li>- Partnership-building for global monitoring</li> </ul>
3(b) National and global baselines for assessing progress in meeting SOs 1–3 are established	<p>The extent to which Parties advance in establishing baselines for assessing progress in meeting SOs 1–3</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring and evaluation (M&amp;E) methodology tested at national level in five countries</li> <li>- Agreement on whether a global baseline will be developed</li> </ul>	<p>CST: Recommendations to the COP on developing a science-based approach to baselines</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilot of the M&amp;E methodology, including components on land degradation neutrality, at the national level</li> <li>- Publication of guidelines based on the pilots</li> <li>- Inventory of global and regional assessments, knowledge and gaps relevant to UNCCD impact monitoring</li> <li>- Development of an action plan for a global assessment report concerning land degradation in cooperation with partners</li> </ul>
3(c) Parties base their decisions for action towards meeting operational objectives (OOs) 1–4 on updated information of related successes and challenges experienced by affected countries and other UNCCD stakeholders	<p>The extent to which reporting entities report on progress made in meeting OOs 1–4</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Increase from 2013 in reports received</p> <p>The extent to which the performance review and assessment of implementation effectively leads to targeted recommendations emerging from the CRIC</p>	<p>CRIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Meetings of the Bureau of the CRIC to prepare for sessions of the CRIC</li> <li>- Assessment of progress made in meeting OOs 1–4</li> <li>- Recommendations to the COP on next steps towards achieving OOs 1–4</li> </ul> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support to the CRIC in conducting the assessment of progress against indicators,</li> </ul>

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
	<p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>The CRIC at its thirteenth session makes recommendations on next steps based on reporting outcomes</p>	<p>including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- preparation of reporting templates and guidelines;</li> <li>- support to reporting entities in the preparation of the reports;</li> <li>- preliminary analysis of outcomes;</li> <li>- presentation of the findings; and</li> <li>- support to the CRIC sessions and the Bureau of the CRIC</li> <li>- Regional support to countries in preparing their reports, including workshops, and cooperation with subregional and regional organizations</li> <li>- Analysis by region of the information submitted in the reports</li> <li>- Translation of the outcomes of the reporting and the CRIC review into practical guidance for use at national level</li> </ul>
<p>3(d) Parties are satisfied with the methods and tools for communicating information through reporting under the UNCCD</p>	<p>The extent to which Parties' reports follow the reporting guidelines</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>At least 75% of reports received follow the guidelines</p>	<p>CRIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consideration of reporting tools and methodologies</li> <li>- Recommendations to the COP on the reporting tools and methodologies</li> </ul> <p>Secretariat: Analysis of the reporting tools and methodologies</p>
<p>3(e) The CST advances knowledge on combating DLDD for poverty reduction and sustainable development, with an emphasis on the contribution of science, technology, and traditional knowledge and practices.</p>	<p>The extent to which the 3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Conference raises interest among the scientific community</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>At least 200 abstracts submitted for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Conference</p>	<p>CST: Recommendations to the COP on the organization and outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Conference</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow-up activities to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Scientific Conference</li> <li>- Preparations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Conference, including support to the lead consortium, arrangements for the scientific committee and steering committee, and assistance in the substantive and logistical preparations</li> <li>- Organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Conference and support in reporting on its outcomes.</li> </ul>

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
3(f) The CST benefits from the work of scientific organizations and cooperation bodies that deal with issues relevant to DLDD.	<p>The extent to which the CST uses the work of other scientific cooperation bodies in its considerations</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Information on the work of scientific organizations and cooperation bodies is regularly delivered to the CST</p>	<p>CST: Recommendations to the COP concerning the use of information or work of other scientific cooperation bodies</p> <p>Secretariat: Provision of UNCCD inputs to the work of other scientific bodies and the delivery of information from these bodies to the work of the Convention</p>
3(g) Parties use scientific knowledge to support decision-making concerning the UNCCD	<p>The extent to which targeted scientific knowledge on DLDD is available under the Convention</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Scientific advice is provided according to guidance from the COP at its eleventh session</li> <li>- The number of partners participating in the Scientific Knowledge Brokering Portal (SKBP) doubles from 2013</li> </ul>	<p>CST: Recommendations to the COP on the provision of scientific advice and information to support decision-making concerning UNCCD</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support to the provision of scientific advice as instructed by the COP at its eleventh session</li> <li>- Further development of the SKBP</li> <li>- Development of a classification scheme on traditional knowledge concerning DLDD/UNCCD</li> <li>- Preparation and organization of work at CST sessions and meetings of the Bureau of the CST</li> </ul>
3(h) Parties use best practices to support the implementation of the UNCCD	<p>The extent to which best practices concerning DLDD are available to UNCCD stakeholders</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>A global information-sharing platform on best practices concerning DLDD/UNCCD is launched</p>	<p>CRIC and CST: Recommendations to the COP concerning best practices</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Facilitation of substantive input to the CRIC on best practices, including support to a global initiative on the compilation and dissemination of best practices on SLM</li> <li>- Definition of guidelines and tools for the analysis of best practices</li> <li>- Arrangements for the dissemination of best practices to UNCCD stakeholders, including consideration of the role of the SKBP</li> </ul>

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
3(i) Provisions for the engagement of science and institutions are improved	<p>The extent to which scientific networks and institutions participate in the work of the UNCCD</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The roster of experts is revised</li> <li>- There is an increase in the number of scientists that register for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Conference compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Scientific Conference</li> </ul>	<p>CST: Recommendations to the COP on the engagement of science and institutions</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of a strategy for scientific cooperation and partnerships under the UNCCD</li> <li>- Further development of the roster</li> <li>- Improved database concerning scientific contacts</li> </ul>

#### D. Operational objective 4 – Capacity-building

*To identify and address capacity-building needs to prevent and reverse desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.*

##### **Related outcomes as contained in The Strategy**

**Outcome 4.1:** Countries which have carried out the national capacity self-assessment implement the resulting action plans to develop the necessary capacity at the individual, institutional and systemic levels<sup>a</sup> to tackle DLDD issues at the national and local levels.

**Outcome 4.2:** Those countries which have not previously undertaken capacity needs assessments engage in relevant assessments processes to identify capacity needs for tackling DLDD at the national and local levels.

<sup>a</sup> See the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) “Resource Kit for National Capacity Self-Assessment”, 2005, page vi, for a description of the various levels at which capacity can be developed.

25. Most capacity-building activities under the UNCCD are conducted as part of specific processes, such as providing support for the alignment of action programmes, the development of IIFs and national reporting, which are presented under OOs 2, 3 and 5. Under OO 4, the secretariat has launched the Capacity Building Marketplace, which uses online services to link existing and emerging supply of and demand for capacity for the implementation of the Convention. Users can share their experiences and ideas, increase their knowledge and skills, and directly influence the future development of the facility. The services in the Marketplace include resources and training opportunities for capacity-building, e-learning modules, a calendar of activities related to capacity-building within the UNCCD context, a library with a search index on documents, reports and other material, and online forums and discussions. The Marketplace will be further developed in 2014–2015, and it is expected to support countries in meeting the capacity-building needs that they have identified through the self-assessment.

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
4(a) Opportunities for targeted capacity-building under the Convention are improved	<p>The extent to which the Capacity Building Marketplace is used</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase from 2013 in the capacity-building opportunities offered through the Marketplace</li> <li>- Increase from 2013 in visits to the Marketplace</li> </ul>	<p>CRIC: Recommendations to the COP on capacity-building</p> <p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Further development of the Marketplace through improved technical features and expanded content, including e-learning courses on specific topics relevant to UNCCD</li> <li>- Development of the UNCCD Capacity-building Fair</li> <li>- Support to the fellowship programme</li> </ul>

## E. Operational objective 5 – Financing and technology transfer

*To mobilize and improve the targeting and coordination of national, bilateral and multilateral financial and technological resources in order to increase their impact and effectiveness.*

### **Related outcomes as contained in The Strategy**

**Outcome 5.1:** Affected country Parties develop IIFs for leveraging national, bilateral and multilateral resources with a view to increasing the effectiveness and impact of interventions.

**Outcome 5.2:** Developed country Parties provide substantial, adequate, timely and predictable financial resources to support domestic initiatives to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.

**Outcome 5.3:** Parties increase their efforts to mobilize financial resources from international financial institutions, facilities and funds, including the GEF, by promoting the UNCCD/SLM agenda within the governing bodies of these institutions.

**Outcome 5.4:** Innovative sources of finance and financing mechanisms are identified to combat desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought, including from the private sector, market-based mechanisms, trade, foundations and CSOs, and other financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and for hunger and poverty reduction.

**Outcome 5.5:** Access to technology by affected country Parties is facilitated through adequate financing, effective economic and policy incentives and technical support, notably within the framework of South–South and North–South cooperation.

26. The GM has a central responsibility in contributing to OO 5 and will place particular emphasis in the period 2014–2017 on support to country Parties to increase the impact and effectiveness of financial resources for UNCCD implementation. This will be complemented by engaging a broader spectrum of partners, including the private sector and investors, in order to increase financial and investment opportunities for SLM. The GM will continue to use the results and impact assessment methodology to monitor and assess its impact, in particular at country level.

27. The GM will aim at strengthening the capacities of affected country Parties to increase the impact and effectiveness of financial resources for UNCCD implementation in



cooperation with country Parties and other partners. The development and implementation of the IIF is fundamental, as the IIF is considered the main tool for translating countries' needs into viable investment priorities and catalysing national, bilateral and multilateral financial resources. The GM will continue to provide technical and financial support for the development of the IFS as a vehicle to filling financing gaps in the IIF, identifying innovative sources and establishing enabling environments for increasing investments in SLM.

28. National budget allocations from affected country Parties are currently the main public source of finance for implementing the UNCCD but they are often inadequate to offset the issues of land degradation generated by other sectors. The GM will continue to assist country Parties and subregional and regional UNCCD focal point institutions in mainstreaming SLM into national and subregional budgetary and policy processes, and in improving the enabling environment for SLM adoption by state and non-state actors, including through South–South cooperation.

29. Official development assistance will remain important as catalytic support to affected country Parties. The secretariat will continue its engagement with the GEF Secretariat and developed country Parties at the policy level, while the GM will cooperate with the GEF at technical level on financial aspects. Furthermore, the GM will engage with funding institutions to increase finance for SLM and NAP implementation, including through the identification and packaging of sound project and programme proposals in accordance with the strategic opportunities identified by the IIF or through multi-country, (sub)regional, South–South cooperation processes and platforms.

30. Based on the experiences gained in the previous biennia, the GM will enhance its efforts to support country Parties and other UNCCD stakeholders to: (i) provide sound quantitative information on the economic benefits of SLM; (ii) forge new and strengthen existing partnerships with funding and investment organizations from the public and private sector; and (iii) establish conditions that motivate investors and land users to invest in sustainable practices. The GM will particularly focus on the exploration of innovative financing opportunities and new ways to increase investments in UNCCD implementation, for example through the engagement of the private sector, the use of incentives and innovative financial instruments and mechanisms.

31. The secretariat and the GM will continue participating in the Economics of Land Degradation (ELD) initiative. The GM will further support the economic valuation of land (EVL) at the national level, and global initiatives that concern SLM finance. Reporting through PRAIS will continue to provide key information on how the global partnership to implement the UNCCD is expanding and the financial flows to SLM are evolving.

32. Limited access to appropriate technology remains a key challenge in promoting UNCCD implementation. Measures to promote technology transfer will be identified or developed, and relevant facilitation channels will be explored, including through triangular, North–South and South–South partnerships.

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
5(a) Parties base their decisions for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of financial resources on updated information on related successes and challenges experienced	The extent to which reporting entities report on progress made in meeting OO 5  <i>Target for 2015:</i> Increase from 2013 in reports received	CRIC:  - Assessment of progress made in meeting OO 5  - Recommendations to the COP on enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of financial resources

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
by affected countries and other UNCCD stakeholders	The extent to which Parties use the outcomes of their assessment of progress made in meeting OOs 5 in deciding on the next steps towards this objective  <u>Target for 2015:</u>  At its thirteenth session, the CRIC makes recommendations on next steps on the basis of the reporting outcomes	- GM: Analysis of financial data, including in the context of PRAIS
5(b) Affected country Parties increasingly use an integrated approach to mobilize resources for UNCCD implementation at the national level	Number of IIFs/IFSs prepared with support of the GM  <u>Target for 2015:</u> 35 countries supported by the GM in the development or implementation of the IIFs/IFSs	GM:  - Support to the development and implementation of IIFs /IFSs  - Support to the mainstreaming of UNCCD objectives in relevant national policy processes, including national budgetary processes, development strategies, land-related policies, and public incentives for private investments Knowledge/information tools and the provision of related advice on approaches to increase and redirect finance to SLM
5(c) Multi-stakeholder and South–South cooperation platforms/coalitions effectively contribute to financing UNCCD implementation	Number of platforms/coalitions that begin contributing or increase their contribution to financing UNCCD implementation with support from the GM  <u>Target for 2015:</u> 38 platforms are supported by the GM	GM:  - Support to the development of an enabling political environment at regional and subregional level  - Assistance in identifying the needs and engagement of partners in multi-stakeholder and South–South cooperation platforms/coalitions relevant to SLM  - Support to the establishment and/or functioning of SLM financing platforms/coalitions
5(d) Improved evidence to support decisions to invest in activities contributing to UNCCD implementation	Number of countries and organizations supported by the GM in understanding, generating and using economic arguments for investing in activities contributing to UNCCD implementation  <u>Target for 2015:</u> 16 countries and organizations supported by the GM in understanding, generating and using economic arguments for their decisions to invest in activities contributing to UNCCD	Secretariat and GM:  - Participation in the Economics of Land Degradation (ELD) initiative  - Documentation of the DLDD/UNCCD impact chain  GM:  - Involvement of countries, bilateral and multilateral organizations, CSOs and private sector entities interested in EVL  - Identification of opportunities to inform

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
	implementation	<p>decision-making through EVL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support stakeholders in conducting EVL through capacity-building and technical advice on EVL assessments, tools and approaches</li> <li>- Cooperation with the ELD initiative, the OSLO consortium and others in refining the EVL methodology and conducting EVL studies and capacity-building initiatives</li> </ul>
5(e) Increased support from developed countries and multilateral donors in addressing DLDD issues/UNCCD implementation	<p>The extent to which DLDD issues/UNCCD implementation feature in the sixth GEF replenishment</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Improved allocation of funds to land degradation under the sixth GEF replenishment compared to the fifth GEF replenishment</p>	<p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Representation of the UNCCD at the GEF governing bodies and relations with the GEF Secretariat on policies and approaches concerning the UNCCD</li> <li>- Inputs to the Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty</li> <li>- Relations with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Bank on matters concerning the UNCCD</li> <li>- Participation in partnerships focusing on investments in drylands</li> <li>- Secretariat and the GM: Implementation of a joint fundraising strategy, political advocacy and outreach to existing and emerging donors</li> <li>- GM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification of SLM funding opportunities from existing budget lines, programmes and financial instruments</li> <li>- Preparation/update of information on funding opportunities and donor approaches and profiles, including those of the GEF</li> <li>- Partnerships and joint initiatives for SLM financing, including the update of cooperation strategies or policies for various countries or themes</li> <li>- Support to the development of project proposals for SLM activities or initiatives at country, regional or global level</li> <li>- Support in the mainstreaming of SLM and UNCCD objectives in relevant policies and programmes of developed countries and multilateral donors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>The extent to which developed countries and multilateral donors express commitment to supporting UNCCD implementation</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in financial resources provided by developed countries and multilateral donors to UNCCD implementation, as reported to the CRIC at its thirteenth session</li> <li>- Increase in partnerships involving the GM or the secretariat for providing financial support to UNCCD implementation</li> </ul>	

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
5(f) Private sector and innovative sources/mechanisms of financing are increasingly involved in financing SLM	<p>The extent of initiatives for increasing financing for SLM through innovative sources and mechanisms, which are generated through GM or secretariat input</p> <p><u>Targets for 2015:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 40 organizations involved in partnerships on innovative and private finance for SLM with the GM or the secretariat</li> <li>- 48 countries and subregions assisted by the GM</li> <li>- 15 innovative financing mechanisms explored by the GM that enable and motivate investments in SLM</li> <li>- 35 knowledge and advocacy products developed and outreach/capacity-building initiatives supported by the GM on innovative and private sector finance</li> </ul>	<p>Secretariat and the GM: Engagement with private sector and other stakeholders to develop and promote innovative sources and mechanisms to finance SLM</p> <p>GM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification of innovative sources of finance and mechanisms that incentivize private and public sector investments in SLM practices</li> <li>- Facilitation of dialogues on SLM investment opportunities with private sector, business, the financial industry, the impact investment community and governments</li> <li>- Cooperation with institutions and initiatives facilitating the mobilization of innovative sources of finance and financing mechanisms for UNCCD implementation</li> <li>- Advice to stakeholders on innovative financing, investment opportunities and related enabling measures, including incentives, financing instruments, public-private partnerships and green bonds</li> <li>- Knowledge products and capacity-building on innovative finance</li> </ul>
5(g) Improved access by affected countries to SLM technology	<p>Number of initiatives to facilitate technology transfer supported by the GM</p> <p><u>Target 2014–15:</u></p> <p>10 technology transfer initiatives supported</p>	<p>GM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification of measures to promote technology transfer</li> <li>- Participation in initiatives with institutions involved in the research and development of SLM-smart technologies</li> <li>- Support to South–South and North–South partnerships concerning technology transfer</li> <li>- Advice to affected countries on accessing SLM technologies and related financing</li> <li>- Support to knowledge exchange initiatives concerning access to SLM technologies</li> </ul>

## F. Management and services

33. The management and service functions of the secretariat and the GM consist of three key areas of work, namely executive direction and management, conference services and administrative and financial services.

34. The secretariat, together with the GM, seeks to organize the intergovernmental UNCCD process in a manner that makes high quality information available to support

Parties' decision-making, focuses the work towards clear and practical targets, and links this Convention with global changes and trends. The work of the secretariat and the GM is fully aligned with COP decisions. Their accountability will be further improved through the use of the results-based management approach by which all resources are linked to achievements agreed by the COP, ensuring sound and transparent management, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting. The arrangements for the UNCCD sessions and other Convention meetings meet United Nations standards and support productive exchanges. The financial and human resources of the Convention are administered effectively and efficiently.

*Expected accomplishments 2014–2017*

*Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015*

*Main outputs and activities 2014–2015*

### **Executive direction and management of the secretariat**

6.1.(a) Improved integrity and coherence of the Convention process

The extent to which Parties express their satisfaction

Secretariat:

- Strategic planning for the Convention process, including support to target-setting and the organization of related M&E processes
- Organization of internal planning and the preparation of workplans and work programmes
- Coordination, monitoring and quality assurance concerning the implementation of the work programmes
- Resource mobilization
- Coordination of the substantive servicing of the COP, CRIC and CST
- Preparation of the meetings of the Bureau of the COP
- Handling of legal issues
- Coordinated maintenance and upgrade of knowledge management functions of the secretariat

### **Direction and management of the GM**

6.1.(b) The GM is an effective and trusted partner in financing the implementation of the UNCCD

The proportion of the core budget adopted by the COP received for GM operations

GM:

- Coordination of GM services concerning relevant agenda items of the COP, CRIC and CST
- Organization of the functioning of the GM according to relevant rules and procedures

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
6.1.(c) Effective and transparent management of the GM work programme	<p>The extent to which quality assurance and results-based management, monitoring and assessment are enforced</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>The amount of voluntary contributions raised</p>	<p>GM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Results-based planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of GM work</li> <li>- Securing financial and human resources for the GM</li> </ul>
<b>Conference services</b>		
6.2.(a) Parties are satisfied with improved conditions and changes in conference patterns for taking informed decisions at the level of the COP and its subsidiary bodies	<p>The extent to which implementation of the new conference patterns related to the organization of the sessions of the COP and its subsidiary bodies has a positive impact</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Positive feedback from Parties about the arrangements</p> <p>The extent to which official documents are promptly and effectively submitted to Parties</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>All documents are available online on time</p>	<p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of the organization of the COP, CST and CRIC meetings in 2014–2015, including negotiation of the host country agreements, conference services and set-up plans for host facilities</li> <li>- Organization of the COP, CST and CRIC meetings in 2014–2015, including the sending of invitations, facilitation of participation, and document processing and reporting</li> <li>- Logistical organization of 16 meetings of the Bureaux of the COP, CRIC and CST in 2014–2015</li> </ul>
6.2.(b) Exchanges among Parties' representatives, scientific experts and/or other key stakeholders are efficiently facilitated	<p>The extent to which requested meetings, workshops and seminars are organized promptly and within the limits of the allocated budget</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>Positive feedback from partners on the organization of the meetings</p>	<p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organization of UNCCD meetings other than those of the COP and its subsidiary bodies</li> <li>- Support in organizing eight Adaptation Fund Board meetings</li> <li>- Support in processing Convention publications, information/education materials and documentation</li> </ul>
<b>Administration</b>		
6.3.(a) The financial and human resources are administered effectively and efficiently, and in accordance with the financial rules of the Convention and the regulations and rules of the United Nations	<p>The proportion of actual expenditure compared to the approved budget</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u> 100%</p> <p>The extent to which staff members' training requirements are met for implementing the work programme</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u></p> <p>At least 30% of the staff participates in training relating to their own</p>	<p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Budgeting and financial management</li> <li>- Administrative tasks including audit arrangements, travel, staff development and internal policies</li> <li>- Preparation of the move to the International Public Sector Accounting Standards and new enterprise resource planning system (replacement of the Integrated Management Information System)</li> </ul>

<i>Expected accomplishments 2014–2017</i>	<i>Performance indicators 2014–2017, targets 2014–2015</i>	<i>Main outputs and activities 2014–2015</i>
6.3.(b) Improved information and communication technology services of the secretariat	<p>work</p> <p>The extent to which information and communication technology services meet the secretariat’s requirements</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u> Staff recognizes improvements in ICT services</p> <p>The extent to which Parties and other users express their satisfaction with services at conferences</p> <p><u>Target for 2015:</u> No complaints from Parties</p>	<p>Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of ICT services</li> <li>- ICT network architecture plans for meetings of the UNCCD</li> <li>- Assessment and update of secretariat communication tools</li> <li>- Preparation, technical maintenance and update of the knowledge management system and various databases</li> <li>- Continuous maintenance of ICT services and user support</li> </ul>

#### IV. Conclusions

35. Parties may wish to review the proposed 2014–2017 Convention workplan and approve the strategic orientation set out in it, while taking into account the specific requests and tasks addressed to the secretariat, the GM, the CST or the CRIC in other decisions taken at COP 11.