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Item 3 (b) (i)

The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention

Consideration of the work plans of the Convention bodies

The draft multi-year work plan for the secretariat and the joint work programme of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism

**The 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation
of the Convention**

Note by the secretariat

Addendum

**Consideration of the draft multi-year work plan for the secretariat
(2008–2011)**

Summary

Decision 3/COP.8, by which Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) adopted a ten-year strategic plan and framework (The Strategy) for enhancing the implementation of the Convention, requests the UNCCD secretariat to present its planned contribution to The Strategy in a four-year work plan. This draft work plan is provided in the present document. It is constructed around the five operational objectives that were defined in The Strategy.

The four-year strategic work plan is geared to enhance the secretariat's responsiveness to the needs of the Parties in a changing international context, and at a time when the UNCCD process moves further towards concrete implementation. The contribution of the secretariat will take place first and foremost through strengthened substantive services to the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies. The secretariat

will upgrade its analytical and knowledge-brokering functions. It will encourage coalition building and system-wide cooperation to deliver the objectives of The Strategy and enhance political support at all levels. It will further facilitate the treatment of emerging issues, new mechanisms and legislative tools to support sustainable land management.

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ABBREVIATIONS

COP	Conference of the Parties
CRIC	Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
CSO	civil society organization
CST	Committee on Science and Technology
DLDD	desertification/land degradation and drought
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GM	Global Mechanism
ICT	information and communication technology
IFI	international financial institution
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
JWP	joint work programme
LADP	local area development programme
MA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NAP	national action programme
NCSA	national capacity self-assessment
NGO	non-governmental organization
ODA	official development assistance
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
RBM	results-based management
SGP	small grants programme
SLM	sustainable land management
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

I. Introduction: Presentation of the four-year work plan of the secretariat

1. By decision 3/COP.8, Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) adopted a ten-year strategic plan and framework (The Strategy) for enhancing the implementation of the Convention. By the same decision, they also requested the UNCCD secretariat to present its planned contribution to The Strategy in a multi-year (four-year) work plan.

2. The secretariat's four-year work plan is provided in the present document. It seeks to translate the guidance of The Strategy into focused, target-oriented action by the secretariat for the years 2008–2011.

3. Taking into account the changing environment for UNCCD implementation, as presented in document ICCD/CRIC(7)/2, the secretariat seeks to enhance its responsiveness to the needs of the Parties. This will take place first and foremost through enhanced substantive services to the Conference of the Parties (COP) and its subsidiary bodies. The secretariat will upgrade its analytical and knowledge-brokering functions. It will encourage coalition building and system-wide cooperation in order to deliver the objectives of The Strategy and enhance political support at all levels. It will further facilitate the treatment of emerging issues, new mechanisms or legislative tools to support sustainable land management (SLM).

4. The secretariat's work plan is constructed around the five operational objectives and the respective outcome areas under each objective, as defined in The Strategy. In addition, a section on management support is included.

5. In accordance with decision 3/COP.8, the work plan is prepared following a results-based management (RBM) approach. It presents the expected accomplishments of the secretariat for the four-year period together with related performance indicators. The expected accomplishments represent those strategic outcomes on which the secretariat will focus, and to which its contribution is necessary, although achieving the accomplishments often requires active participation of other stakeholders as well. The performance indicators provide the tools for measuring the level of achievement of each accomplishment, and often they also indicate the specific involvement of the secretariat.

5. The four-year strategic work plan of the secretariat is accompanied by a draft two-year work programme (2008–2009) which is contained in document ICCD/CRIC(7)/2/Add.2. This work programme presents the operational aspects of the work of the secretariat.

6. In addition to document ICCD/CRIC(7)/2/Add.2, this document should be read in conjunction with documents ICCD/CRIC(7)/2 which presents the overall context and rationale for the planning documents submitted to CRIC 7, ICCD/CRIC(7)/2/Add.3 and ICCD/CRIC(7)/2/Add.4 which present the draft multi-year work plan and costed draft two-year work programme for the Global Mechanism (GM), ICCD/CRIC(7)/2/Add.5 which presents the joint work programme for the GM and the secretariat, ICCD/CRIC(7)/2/Add.6 which presents the costed draft two-year work programme for the CRIC, and ICCD/CST(S-1)/4/Add.1 and

Add.2 which present the draft multi-year work plan and costed draft two-year work programme for the Committee on Science and Technology.

II. The four-year work plan of the secretariat

Subprogramme 1. Advocacy, awareness-raising and education

Operational objective of the subprogramme: To actively influence relevant international, national and local processes and actors in adequately addressing DLDD-related issues.

The secretariat assumes its lead mandate in advocacy and information, agenda setting and representation functions in relevant forums at international level in order to support Parties, the COP and the subsidiary bodies of the Convention in fulfilling their respective roles.

Outcome area 1.1: Desertification/land degradation and drought (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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
1.1.1 Input provided by the UNCCD through a comprehensive communication strategy is used by key constituencies to broaden further knowledge on DLDD issues and related synergies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of monthly UNCCD website visits - UNCCD website being referenced throughout the Internet - Level of satisfaction of key constituencies
1.1.2 Information, provided by the UNCCD, on interlinkages between land degradation, climate change and biodiversity, and on addressing them through a synergistic approach is used by Parties and international institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of monthly UNCCD website visits - UNCCD website being referenced throughout the Internet - Level of satisfaction of Parties and international institutions

Outcome area 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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
1.2.1 The UNCCD is recognized as a key partner, global focal point and normative reference for DLDD issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of major international initiatives and conferences that reflect UNCCD issues in their outputs - Thematic inputs provided to such forums and conferences
1.2.2 Better recognition of DLDD issues after participation in relevant international and regional forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of invitations to the UNCCD to participate in relevant forums and conferences - Thematic input provided to such forums and conferences
1.2.3 DLDD issues are included in relevant regional, subregional and international forums through thematic input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of key regional, subregional and international forums reflecting UNCCD issues in their output - Thematic input provided to such forums and conferences

Outcome area 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 is addressed in their advocacy, awareness-raising and education initiatives.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
1.3.1 Stronger mechanisms to support a CSO network enable effective participation in the work of UNCCD bodies and regional/national meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CSO network input is more frequently reflected in meeting reports - The number of CSO participants at UNCCD meetings and events
1.3.2 Scientists effectively participate in the UNCCD bodies and regional meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of decisions/ recommendations presented to the UNCCD bodies and regional meetings that are based on scientific contributions - Increased number of scientists participating in UNCCD bodies and regional meetings

1.3.3 CSOs, in particular non-governmental organizations (NGOs), increasingly have access to GEF small grants programmes (SGP) in order to implement pilot activities on DLDD	- The number of requests from NGOs sent to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the number of pilot activities on DLDD funded by the GEF SGP.
1.3.4 Universities and schools are increasingly involved in raising awareness of DLDD	- Extent to which universities and schools include DLDD in their programmes.
1.3.5 Private sector involvement in implementation of the UNCCD is effectively facilitated	- The COP decides on a policy and/or measures towards involvement of the private sector in UNCCD-related processes at various levels

Subprogramme 2. Policy framework

Operational objective of the subprogramme: To support the creation of enabling environments for promoting solutions to combat desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought.

The secretariat assumes its lead role in the delivery of specific outcomes for this subprogramme to strengthen cooperation in the implementation process and cooperate with the Global Mechanism (GM) in the context of the joint work programme (JWP).

Outcome area 2.1: Policy, institutional, financial and socio-economic drivers of desertification/land degradation and barriers to SLM are assessed, and appropriate measures to remove these barriers are recommended.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
2.1.1 Different drivers of desertification/land degradation and barriers to SLM are addressed at the level of ministers and other high-level government representatives	- The number of meetings held with ministers and/or high-level government officials
2.1.2 Key policy instruments and exchange of information at the regional and subregional levels are used to address drivers of desertification/land degradation and barriers to SLM	- The number of regional and subregional institutions that make reference to drivers and barriers to SLM in their work programmes - The number of cooperation arrangements and/or initiatives dealing with the issue
2.1.3 Local area development programmes (LADPs) are developed and implemented by Parties, with CSO involvement	- The number of UNCCD national and or thematic reports inform on the implementation of LADPs with CSO involvement.

2.1.4 The UNCCD is recognized as a legal reference framework for global soil protection	- The COP decides that the UNCCD is a legal reference for global soil protection
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Outcome area 2.2: Affected country Parties revise their national action programmes (NAPs) into strategic documents supported by biophysical and socio-economic baseline information, and include them in integrated investment frameworks.

Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
2.2.1 Affected countries complete, revise or adjust their NAPs in line with the guidance provided by The Strategy based on information provided by the UNCCD	- The number of countries initiating NAP completion/revision/adjustment in view of The Strategy
2.2.2 Increased number of affected countries have access to funding from the GEF and other financial institutions based on the improved quality of NAPs	- The number of affected countries reporting on the use of improved NAPs in accessing funding from the GEF and other financial institutions

Outcome area 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.

Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
2.3.1 Increased number of affected countries have included SLM priorities identified in NAPs in development planning and relevant sectoral and investment plans, portfolios and policy frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of affected countries reporting on the issue. - The number of affected country Parties to have included NAP priorities into their investment frameworks

Outcome area 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.

Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
2.4.1 Developed country Parties include the UNCCD approach in their development cooperation policies	- At least eight developed country Parties inform of measures taken to include the UNCCD approach in their cooperation policies

Outcome area 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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
2.5.1 Increased cooperation among the Rio conventions is developed, including coordinated assistance for implementation of action programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in joint activities among the secretariats of the three Rio Conventions reported to the respective COPs - The number of countries reporting on launching consultations on coordinated implementation at the national level

Subprogramme 3. Science, technology and knowledge

Operational objective of the subprogramme: To become a global authority on scientific and technical knowledge pertaining to desertification/land degradation and mitigation of the effects of drought.

The secretariat assumes its lead role in the delivery of specific outcomes for this subprogramme while developing its capacity to service the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) effectively.

Outcome area 3.1: National monitoring and vulnerability assessment on biophysical and socio-economic trends in affected countries are supported.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
3.1.1 Information on national monitoring and vulnerability assessment is shared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased number of publications and reports on case studies, best practices and lessons learned on national monitoring and vulnerability assessment are posted on the UNCCD website - Increased number of UNCCD website visits and downloads

Outcome area 3.2: A baseline based on the most robust data available on biophysical and socio-economic trends is developed, and relevant scientific approaches are gradually harmonized.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
3.2.1 A commonly agreed and globally recognized baseline is established	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COP decision on the matter - The number of institutions hosting the UNCCD baseline data.

Outcome area 3.3: Knowledge on biophysical and socio-economic factors and on their interactions in affected areas is improved to enable better decision-making.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
3.3.1 UNCCD poverty and land degradation assessment methodology is used by national authorities to enable better decision-making processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of national reports reflecting the use of the methodology

Outcome area 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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
3.4.1 Key constituencies are aware of the importance of the interactions between climate change adaptation, drought mitigation and restoration of degraded lands in affected areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governing bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) include this item in their agendas - Frequency of the topic being discussed in UNCCD regional meetings

Outcome area 3.5: Effective knowledge-sharing systems, including traditional knowledge,¹ 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.

Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
3.5.1 Information on appropriate technology, including traditional knowledge, is used by affected country Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of countries reporting on the use of information on appropriate technologies and traditional knowledge - The number of references on selected internet search engines and number of hits on the UNCCD knowledge-sharing portal

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

Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
3.6.1 The CST is recognized as the main forum for scientific assessment and exchanges on land and soil matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of scientific participants, the number of scientific accredited NGOs, and the number of scientific side events during COP, CST and CRIC sessions
3.6.2 Increased engagement of scientific research institutions at the national level in providing updated information for the NAPs to national coordinating bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of scientific research institutions participating at sessions of national coordinating bodies.

Subprogramme 4. Capacity-building

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

The secretariat focuses on its mandate to facilitate the compilation and communication of information required under the Convention.

¹ Excluding traditional knowledge on genetic resources.

Outcome area 4.1: Countries which have carried out the national capacity self-assessment (NCSA) implement the resulting action plans to develop the necessary capacity at the individual, institutional and systemic levels ² to tackle DLDD issues at the national and local levels.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
4.1.1 New standardized UNCCD reporting guidelines are approved by the COP and used by affected country Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting guidelines approved by the COP - The number of affected country Parties using the new reporting guidelines - COP 9 decision on revised terms of reference of the CRIC
4.1.2 Participants in the fellowship programme contribute to implementation of the UNCCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fellowship programme participants report on the use of the acquired knowledge in UNCCD implementation

Outcome area 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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
4.2.1 Affected country Parties use information and tools for assessing capacity-building needs for implementing the Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of countries assess their capacity-building needs for implementation of the Convention
4.2.2 Different drivers to desertification/land degradation and barriers to SLM are identified and assessed by Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of national reports containing an assessment of drivers to desertification and land degradation and barriers to SLM - CRIC recommendation and COP decision

Subprogramme 5. Financing and technology transfer

Operational objective of the subprogramme: 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.

² See the UNDP “Resource Kit for National Capacity Self-Assessment”, 2005, page vi, for a description of the various levels at which capacity can be developed.

The UNCCD Strategy entrusts a central role to the GM for supporting the mobilization of resources under this subprogramme. The secretariat under the JWP with the GM shall provide high-level advocacy, information and related policy advice, and it shall network with various forums including the GEF.

Outcome area 5.1: Affected country Parties develop integrated investment frameworks for leveraging national, bilateral and multilateral resources with a view to increasing the effectiveness and impact of interventions.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
5.1.1 Increased number of affected country Parties develop integrated investment frameworks	- The number of country parties reporting on the development of integrated investment frameworks

Outcome area 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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
5.2.1 More developed countries include UNCCD issues in their national level/bilateral cooperation programmes	- Increased number of developed country Parties participate in national consultation platforms

Outcome area 5.3: Parties increase their efforts to mobilize financial resources from international financial institutions (IFIs), facilities and funds, including the GEF, by promoting the UNCCD/SLM agenda within the governing bodies of these institutions	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
5.3.1 Increased recognition by governing bodies of IFIs of the importance of desertification as reflected in The Strategy	- Increased number of decisions in the governing bodies which recognize the importance of desertification - The number of international and regional financial institutions, facilities and funds using key aspects of the UNCCD as approval/evaluation criteria for funding of projects relating to land and soil
5.3.2 COP 10 initiates action towards the establishment/endorsement of specific funding arrangements targeting land, soil, drought and/or desertification	- COP 10 decision

Outcome area 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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
5.4.1 COP 10 takes action towards promoting innovative sources of financing for implementation of the UNCCD	- Mechanism(s) for access to innovative sources of financing, such as climate change finance and payments for ecosystem services, is/are adopted/endorsed
5.4.2 Economic opportunities in the drylands are identified and advocated by UNCCD institutions and Parties in the context of multilateral trade organizations	- Frequency of discussions on opportunities for key dryland commodities at meetings and events of multilateral trade organizations
5.4.3 Decision-makers at the national level know how to use tools for assessing the cost of inaction	- Ten countries to have undertaken training and assessment courses

Outcome area 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.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
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Subprogramme 6. Management support for Strategy implementation

The secretariat strengthens the core servicing of the UNCCD process through management support initiatives geared towards effective and efficient Strategy implementation. Related business processes are in line with relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, including those relating to the United Nations reform process, and emphasize results-based management (RBM), budgeting and accountability.

Management actively supports strategy implementation.	
Expected accomplishments (outcomes) 2008–2011	Performance indicators
6.1 Parties are satisfied with improved conditions for taking informed decisions at the level of the COP and its subsidiary bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of Parties expressing their satisfaction for arrangements made to organize COP, CRIC and CST sessions - Increased number of official documents promptly and effectively submitted to Parties for consideration at COP, CRIC and CST sessions
6.2 Improved capacity of the secretariat to service Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Majority of staff express their satisfaction with business processes including the introduction of RBM
6.3 Adequate and predictable resources are secured for the activities of the secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased voluntary contributions from diversified number of partners to the Special and Supplementary Funds
6.4 Effective mechanisms for regional coordination are adopted by a COP 9 decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposals made by regions - Decision by COP 9
6.5 Effectiveness and transparency of the financial management are improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting System (IPSAS) accounting standards as mandated by the United Nations - Adoption (by 2011) of a new United Nations-wide information management system in euros
6.6 Costs are saved and efficiency increased through expanded cooperation among Bonn-based United Nations organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More consistent procedures and policies with other Bonn-based United Nations organizations - Increase in number of shared services
6.7 Improved delivery of the secretariat's administrative services, including human resource management and travel-related services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased number of staff members expresses their satisfaction with business processes
6.8 The secretariat's information and communication technology (ICT) services are improved as part of its staff services, as well as its outreach and communication capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased general ICT literacy of staff members - Increased number of hit counters by institutional partners for information look-up - Increased number of members of staff expresses their satisfaction with ICT services
