



Convention to Combat Desertification

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Committee on Science and Technology
Third special session
Bonn, 9–12 April 2013

**Committee for the Review of the
Implementation of the Convention**
Eleventh session
Bonn, 15–19 April 2013

Information for participants

The eleventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC 11) and the third special session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST S-3) with its UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), hereinafter referred to as “the conference”, will be held from 9 to 19 April 2013 in Bonn, Germany. The present document contains general information which may be helpful to participants. Additional information will be provided in due course on the UNCCD website <www.unccd.int>.

1. Secretariat

The secretariat of the UNCCD is headed by the Executive Secretary, Mr. Luc Gnacadja, and based in Bonn, Germany, at:

Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
Langer Eugen
Hermann-Ehlers-Strasse 10
53113 Bonn, Germany
Tel.: + 49 228 815 2800
Fax: + 49 228 815 2898/99
E-mail: secretariat@unccd.int

2. Venue of the conference

The conference will be held at the World Conference Center Bonn (WCCB), at:

Platz der Vereinten Nationen 2
D-53113 Bonn, Germany
Tel.: + 49 228 926 70
Fax: + 49 228 926 7110
E-mail: info@worldccbonn.com

3. Admittance to the session

The provisions governing the Conference of the Parties (COP) apply *mutatis mutandis* to the proceedings of its subsidiary bodies. Participation in the conference is therefore open to Party delegations, United Nations specialized agencies and observers in accordance with the provisions of the UNCCD and the rules of procedure of the COP.¹

Party delegations do not need to present credentials because the CRIC and the CST are subsidiary bodies of the COP. However, an official list of delegation members should be forwarded to the UNCCD secretariat, for registration and security purposes, before the conference session. Observers already accredited to previous sessions of the COP should also comply with this requirement.

Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which has not yet obtained observer status may be admitted to the conference on submission of an official request to the UNCCD secretariat, pending the decision on its accreditation as an observer by the COP at its next ordinary session. This request should state the competence or qualification of the body or agency in matters covered by the UNCCD.

4. Registration

Registration for national delegations, specialized agencies and United Nations programmes, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as for the media and staff of the United Nations, will take place from Monday, 8 April 2013 to Friday, 19 April 2013 at the main entrance of the WCCB:

Platz der Vereinten Nationen 2
D-53113 Bonn, Germany

Registration will continue throughout the sessions on working days, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday 14 April from 2 to 5 p.m.

The CST S-3 session will convene its work on 9–12 April 2013. The UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference will be held during the CST S-3 session, from Tuesday, 9 April 2013 at 3 p.m. to Friday, 12 April 2013 at 1 p.m.

Regional consultations of affected country Parties of the Convention's regional implementation annexes for Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern

¹ In accordance with article 36, paragraph 2, of the Convention, for each State or regional economic integration organization which ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to the Convention after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention enters into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State or regional economic integration organization of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Consequently, the Parties as at the opening of the conference on 9 April 2013 will be the States and regional economic integration organizations that have deposited their instruments by 9 January 2013. States that deposited their instruments after 9 January but by 19 January 2013 will become Parties during the session. States that deposited their instruments after 19 January 2013 will not become Parties until after the session is closed, but may participate in the session as observers. Intergovernmental organizations that were accredited at the tenth session of the COP are listed in document ICCD/COP(10)/28. The civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, accredited to the COP are those having complied with the provisions set out in decision 5/COP.10. Relevant information on the status of ratifications is available on the secretariat website <www.unccd.int>.

Mediterranean and Central Eastern European country Parties in preparation for CRIC 11 will be convened from 12 to 13 April 2013. The CRIC will convene its eleventh session from 15 to 19 April 2013.

In addition to the Plenary Hall, meeting rooms will be made available, without interpretation services, for informal meetings. Arrangements for such meetings should be made with the secretariat.² Working hours will normally be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

Identity badges will be issued at the time of registration and participants are requested to wear them at all times since access to the WCCB is allowed only upon presentation of badges.

5. How to get to the conference venue

Flights

Some airlines have direct flights to Cologne-Bonn and many others fly to Frankfurt or Düsseldorf. There are numerous train connections between the Frankfurt and Düsseldorf airports and Bonn. It may be possible to book a train ticket together with the airline ticket (travel agents may provide related information) or train tickets can be purchased in the airport train station.

From Cologne-Bonn airport

Cologne-Bonn airport is approximately 30 minutes' drive from the centre of Bonn. Participants arriving at this airport can take a taxi or bus to Bonn city centre. Taxis are readily available; a one-way journey to the city costs between EUR 35 and EUR 40. The Airport Express SB60 (bus stop at arrival level of Terminal 1) connects the airport with Bonn's main railway station (Hauptbahnhof). The price of a one-way bus ticket to Bonn is EUR 7.20. Tickets may be purchased from the driver or at the ticket machine at the bus stop. The "Conference ticket", which is included in the price of accommodation if the booking is made through the Bonn Tourism and Congress Office (see below), may be used for this bus.

From Frankfurt airport to Bonn city centre

Participants arriving at Frankfurt airport should go to the Frankfurt airport long-distance train station, which is reached by following the signs to *Frankfurt Flughafen Fernbahnhof* (Frankfurt airport long-distance train station). This station is in the AIRail Terminal, next to Terminal 1. Trains arrive at and depart from platforms 4 to 7. Participants are recommended to travel either by high-speed InterCity-Express (ICE) train to Siegburg/Bonn or by direct Intercity (IC)/Eurocity (EC) train to Bonn central station (Bonn Hauptbahnhof).

High-speed ICE trains to Siegburg/Bonn or IC/EC trains to Bonn central station leave from the Frankfurt airport long-distance train station two to three times every hour between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. The high-speed ICE train journey to Siegburg/Bonn takes 40 minutes. Trains leave at least once an hour. The IC/EC train goes directly to Bonn central station (in the centre of Bonn); journey time is between 1.5 and 2 hours. For additional information, please check: <www.bahn.de>.

² Please check the Official Journal of the session for relevant contacts.

From Siegburg/Bonn railway station to Bonn city centre

Passengers travelling to Bonn via Siegburg/Bonn ICE station should change at Siegburg/Bonn station onto the local tram (Telekom Express line 66), which leaves every 10 minutes. To reach the tram, passengers will have a 7-minute walk (clearly marked) from the ICE platform to tram 66.

Journey time into the centre of Bonn is about 30 minutes. Tickets can be purchased on the tram. A one-way journey by taxi from Siegburg to Bonn costs approximately EUR 30.

From the main railway station (Hauptbahnhof) in Bonn to the World Conference Center Bonn

Participants travelling by public transport from Bonn to the WCCB may use either bus or underground train (U-Bahn).

Bus lines 610 and 611 (direction Heiderhof/Pappelweg) pass near the WCCB; participants should alight at the *Deutsche Welle* bus stop.

The underground (U-Bahn) lines 16, 63 and 66 (direction Bad Godesberg, Bad Honnef and Königswinter, respectively) also stop near the WCCB; participants should alight at the *Heussallee/Museumsmeile* stop, follow the sign for “Heussallee” and walk down that road for approximately 5–10 minutes. The WCCB is at the end of Heussallee, on the left-hand side.

6. Hotel accommodation

Hotel bookings should be made directly by participants. Reservations for hotel rooms may be made through the Bonn Tourism and Congress Office, using the following web link:

<<http://www.bonn-region.de/UNCCD-CRIC-11>>

Alternatively, bookings may be made by contacting the Bonn Tourism and Congress Office at:

Tourismus & Congress GmbH
Region Bonn/Rhein-Sieg/Ahrweiler
im WorldCCBonn
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 2
D-53113 Bonn, Germany
Hotel Reservation Department
Hotline: + 49 228 910 4133
E-mail: a.isengard@bonn-region.de
(Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

All bookings made through the Bonn Tourism and Congress Office include a “Conference ticket”, which is valid on public transport in Bonn for the duration of the stay. This ticket is not transferable.

7. Services available for participants at the conference venue

Information on medical services and emergency numbers, postal, telephone, fax, photocopying and Internet services, cafeteria and bars, banking services, travel agency and

any other additional services available for participants will be published in the Official Journal of the session.

8. Immigration formalities and customs regulations

The Government of Germany has advised that immigration formalities will be facilitated at its embassies or consulates. Applications may be submitted, with a reference to the Committee session, to the competent German embassy or consulate.³

The visa has always to be applied for by the person who intends to travel. Further information on the procedure and details of the documents to be presented are available on the website of the competent German embassy or directly from the embassy itself. Participants are advised to contact the German embassy as soon as possible. Please note that in most embassies appointments are necessary to file the application.

Information on customs regulations in force in Germany may be obtained from any German embassy or consulate.

Additional information about visa regulations, a table of countries whose citizens require/do not require visas to enter Germany and application forms (to be downloaded) may be found at:

<http://www.auswaertigesamt.de/EN/EinreiseUndAufenthalt/StaatenlisteVisumpflicht_node.html>.

9. Intervention at official meetings

By resolution 64/230 on the Pattern of Conferences and the report of the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly (document A/64/580), the General Assembly reiterates its request to ensure the provision of high-quality conference services to Member States and other participants in official United Nations meetings.

In the interest of the smooth running of the meetings, participants need to maintain a normal speed when delivering speeches or making statements, so that the provision of the required high-quality simultaneous interpretation services can be achieved to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

10. Side events

Participants who wish to organize side events during the conference are requested to apply to the secretariat by fax or email, as follows:

Fax: + 49 228 815 2898/99

E-mail: sideevents@unccd.int

The application form can be downloaded from the UNCCD website <www.unccd.int>.

Participants are advised that the secretariat is responsible only for room allocation. Time slots and rooms will be accommodated according to availability and on a first-come, first-served basis. Due to in-session activity, last-minute changes or even cancellations can

³ Please check the following website in order to find the competent German mission:
<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Startseite_node.html>.

occur on rare occasions for some side events. Additional services (such as catering, technical equipment, etc.) may be obtained on a commercial basis from local accredited providers, as follows:

Catering

Broich Premium Catering GmbH
Contact person: Mr. Claus Meinen
Tel: +49 228 2438024
E-mail: c.meinen@broich-catering.com
<www.broich-catering.com>

L & D GmbH & Co KG
Contact person: Ms. Olga Welling
Tel: +49 228 18486910
E-mail: eventgastronomie-bonn@l-und-d.de
<www.l-und-d.de>

Technical equipment

Mr. Jürgen Leipold
Tel.: + 49 228 9267525
Fax: + 49 228 9267526
E-mail: unccd-sideevent-2013@worldccbonn.com
Business hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A calendar of side events during the conference will be published in the Official Journal. For any additional information on side events, please refer to the guidelines posted on the UNCCD website <www.unccd.int>.

11. Exhibition facilities

Limited space for exhibition facilities will be available to participants. Arrangements can be made through the secretariat on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participants wishing to set up exhibits are invited to contact Ms. Katya Arapnakova at:

Tel.: + 49 228 815 28 64
Fax: + 49 228 815 2898/99
E-mail: exhibition@unccd.int

Participants are advised that the secretariat is responsible only for the allocation of exhibition space, which will be according to availability and on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants will be allotted a maximum of 3m² of exhibition space, which will be assigned with due consideration of relevance to the objectives of the UNCCD and equitable geographical distribution.

Exhibitors will be responsible for customs clearance of their exhibition material in accordance with German customs regulations. The secretariat may, however, provide assistance. Exhibitors will be responsible for their own stands. The mounting of the exhibition structure should be done in consultation with the management of the WCCB. Deliveries of exhibition equipment may be made to the following address:

World Conference Center Bonn
- UNCCD CST-S3/CRIC11/2013 -
Name and number of exhibition booth

Stresemannufer via Dahlmannstraße/Eingang 8
53113 Bonn, Germany

Deliveries will be accepted from Monday to Friday from 8.15 a.m. to 3.45 p.m.

In case of queries, please contact Mr. Jürgen Leipold (see contact details under item 10 above).

Additional services such as catering and supplying of technical equipment may be obtained on a commercial basis from local accredited providers, as listed under item 10 above.

For any additional information on exhibition facilities, please refer to the information posted on the UNCCD website.

12. Press centre/Information for the media

An international press centre will be provided for accredited journalists.

For information concerning accreditation, please contact:

Ms. Wagaki Mwangi
Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
Langer Eugen
Hermann-Ehlers-Strasse 10
53113 Bonn, Germany
Tel.: + 49 228 815 2820
Fax: + 49 228 815 2898/99
E-mail: wmwangi@unccd.int

13. General information about the conference venue

Information about Bonn

Useful information about the city of Bonn, including accommodation, transport and other services and facilities, can be found at <http://www.bonn-region.de>.

Currency

EUR 1 = approximately USD 1.32 (indicative rate in January 2013).

Weather

During the month of April the average temperature in Bonn oscillates between 6 and 14 degrees Celsius. Participants are recommended to bring an umbrella. Coat racks will be available next to the Plenary Hall.

Electricity

Electricity: 220 volts, 50 Hz European plugs with two round metal pins are used.

Local time

GMT + 01 hour

Further information is available on the UNCCD home page www.unccd.int.