

Draft text for consultations ¹**Assessment of the implementation of the Convention against the operational objectives of The Strategy**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 11/COP.9, 13/COP.9, decision 13/COP.10 and decision 13/COP.11,

Also recalling decision 22/COP.11,

Bearing in mind decision .../COP.12 on the integration of the sustainable development goals and targets into the implementation of the UNCCD and the IWG report on land degradation neutrality, and the future strategic orientation of the UNCCD,

Recalling that the definition of land degradation neutrality (LDN) applies to all territories and not to drylands only,

Recognizing the need to improve national reports in order for them to become effective tools for advocacy, awareness-raising and education,

Also recognizing that the scientific contribution to the implementation of the UNCCD should focus on providing applied scientific solutions, traditional knowledge and innovative approaches and replicating successful sustainable land management practices at ground level in order to achieve concrete benefits for affected populations and ecosystems,

Further recognizing the need to scale up the LDN project and to take into account the sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the national action programme alignment (NAP),

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the roles of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and the Science-Policy Interface (SPI), as well as cooperation between scientists and policymakers,

Also emphasizing the need to have national monitoring systems in place in order to provide information to global monitoring,

Operational Objective 1: Advocacy, awareness-raising and education

1. *Invites* those country Parties which reported a percentage of national awareness of desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) and its synergies that is lower than

¹ Based on the conclusions and recommendations made by Parties at CRIC 13 with regard to operational objectives 1, 3 and 4, as contained in document ICCD/CRIC(13)/9. The conclusions and recommendations made at CRIC 13 with regard to operational objectives 2 and 5 are contained in the draft for consultations on the "Formulation, revision and implementation of action programmes in view of the post-2015 development agenda" and the "Assessment of financial flows for the implementation of the Convention", respectively.

their national targets to step up their efforts in communication and education in order to meet their targets, including through the mobilization of resources for capacity-building of social communicators such as the media, civil society organizations (CSOs), practitioners and social networks;

2. *Also invites/encourages* Parties to assess and increase the effectiveness of their advocacy activities and means of communication on DLDD-related issues through the use of various means, including internet-based tools and participatory approaches with a view to reaching and changing the behaviour/mentality/attitude of a wider audience;

3. *Further encourages/invites* affected country Parties: (a) to continue monitoring the implementation of their national action programmes (NAPs) with regard to policy, measures and actions undertaken in the fields of advocacy, awareness-raising and education; and (b) to use land degradation neutrality (LDN), where appropriate, as an additional term for advocacy, awareness-raising and educational purposes;

4. *Invites* affected country Parties to place DLDD in the formal national educational programmes of primary and secondary school to raise awareness on DLDD;

5. *Also invites* developed country Parties, other governments, non-governmental organizations and financial institutions to undertake specific actions in support of enabling affected country Parties to raise awareness on DLDD;

6. *Encourages* affected country Parties to enter into South-South and triangular cooperation to enhance their efforts in setting and achieving their national targets on advocacy, awareness-raising and education;

7. *Suggests* Parties to use success stories for reporting on Operational Objective 1 rather than data that may be unreliable, particularly the total percentage of population informed about DLDD issues.

Operational Objective 3: Science, technology and knowledge

8. *Invites* affected country Parties to increase their efforts to develop, implement and maintain robust, functional and regularly updated monitoring systems, taking into consideration national circumstances and conditions, recover those systems which have been discontinued and eventually expand those systems that partially cover all DLDD issues in order to provide the required specific information;

9. *Requests* the Regional Coordination Mechanisms (RCMs), with the support of the secretariat, to undertake an in-depth analysis of national, regional and global monitoring systems including on their scope, functionality and efficiency with a view to making this information available, especially to those development partners that can contribute technically and financially to the development and maintenance of such capacities, including the private sector;

10. *Invites* Parties to share their experiences in designing and implementing their national monitoring systems, and *also invites* developed country Parties and relevant financial and development institutions to support this effort;

11. *Further invites* affected country Parties to provide national information and technical advice on DLDD, with the assistance of the secretariat, with a view to making this information available to those development partners that can contribute technically and financially to the development and maintenance of monitoring systems, including the private sector;
12. *Invites furthermore* developed country Parties, countries in a position to do so/other governments, and relevant technical and financial organizations, including from the private sector, to provide additional support to affected country Parties for the establishment and maintenance of national monitoring systems;
13. *Encourages* Parties, with the support of developed country Parties, relevant financial and development institutions, and CSOs to share successful experiences, which can be adapted as necessary to the local needs of different countries;
14. *Invites* affected country Parties and the secretariat to enhance the efforts aimed at developing knowledge-sharing systems on DLDD issues;
15. *Also invites* developed country Parties and multilateral agencies to provide support to affected country Parties for capacity-building, including training and workshops and resource mobilization related to action programme alignment and implementation.

Operational Objective 4: capacity building

16. *Invites* developed country Parties and international organizations, including those of the United Nations system and the GEF, to review their capacity-building plans with a view to increasing such support on matters relating to DLDD in a more coordinated manner to avoid duplication and enhance the effective use of resources and taking into account the post-2015 development agenda;
17. *Requests* the Convention's institutions to make available information on affected country Parties which, according to the 2014 reporting, need further capacity-building assistance, if the interested country Party does not oppose the disclosure of this information, with a view to the requests being considered by bilateral donors and multilateral agencies within the framework of possible projects and programmes;
18. *Encourages* affected country Parties to enter South-South and triangular cooperation to address issues regarding the lack of capacity required for effective implementation of the Convention.

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