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Information on Financial Resource Requirements to Facilitate Participation at the 2013 UNCCD Core Events

I write to express gratitude to all Parties for their commitment and support to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 2012. At Rio +20, world leaders recognized the significance of good land and soil management. Stressing the global dimension of DLDD challenges, they recognized the need for urgent action to reverse land degradation and decided to strive to achieve a land degradation neutral world. Further, they reaffirmed their resolve under the UNCCD to monitor, globally, land degradation and to restore degraded lands in arid, semi-arid and dry sub humid areas. Taken together, these commitments provide powerful tools that can help reinvigorate implementation of the Convention and contribute to addressing today's major challenges including food security, combating poverty, biodiversity conservation, addressing climate change and improving water availability.

For the momentum to be sustained, the core UNCCD events in 2013 will be critical. Early in 2013, the Committee on Science and Technology and the 2nd Scientific Conference will provide an economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas in Fortaleza, Brazil. While in April, the Committee for Review of the Implementation of the Convention will undertake, for the first time, an analysis of the impact of our collective efforts. Later in the year, regional meetings are planned prior to the 11th session of the Conference of the Parties. I hope this upcoming COP will create conditions conducive to a pragmatic direction for an enhanced implementation of the Convention.

Facilitating the participation of eligible country representatives ensures the voice of affected developing country Parties can be heard in the UNCCD process. The Secretariat relies on voluntary contributions from Parties to the Convention and other key stakeholders to support participation. Please find attached a document, which outlines the financial requirements to facilitate the participation of eligible country representatives to UNCCD core events in 2013.

Should you require any further information about this letter, my colleague Ms. Louise Baker (lbaker@unccd.int) in charge of resource mobilization and partnership building would be pleased to assist as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,



Luc Gnacadja
Executive Secretary

