

1 July 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR
THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR
DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Seventh session

Nairobi, 7-18 August 1995

Agenda item 2

IMPLEMENTATION OF URGENT ACTION FOR AFRICA
AND ACTION IN OTHER REGIONS:
COMPILATION OF INFORMATION

Contribution from the Government of Portugal
(received on 2 June 1995)

PORTUGAL'S REPORT TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON DESERTIFICATION ABOUT MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE URGENT ACTION FOR AFRICA AND ACTION IN OTHER REGIONS

Since INCD-6, which took place in New York in January 1995, Portugal has pursued its activities in the context of the provisions aimed at preparing the formal implementation of the Convention:

1. More domestically oriented activities:

a) - Translation of the Convention into Portuguese, with copies delivered to the different Portuguese speaking countries, Secretariat of the Convention and UNDP;

b) - Beginning of the ratification process of the Convention, which we believe to be completed by September 1995;

c) - Preparation of public awareness materials about the Convention, especially in the light of the 17th June, World Day of Desertification and Drought;

d) - Set-up of two coordinating groups for the implementation of the Convention :

- the external group, to deal with all the foreign activities, led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

- the internal group, to deal with all the domestic activities to be developed, led by the Ministry of Agriculture;

e) - Preparation of Portugal's participation in the Northern Mediterranean Regional Desertification Conference, scheduled for Almeria, Spain, on 26-28 June 1995, event that will boost the preparation of the implementation of the Northern Mediterranean Regional Implementation Annex of the Convention.

2. Cooperation activities with African countries

Portugal intends to pursue the activities that has been developping in the area of rural development, especially training, capacity building and technical assistance, which are mainly taking place in Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau, but also in Angola and Mozambique.

Portugal intends to take part in some of the round tables that are going to be set up in different African countries to assist the implementation of the Convention, namely, at this stage, the preparation of the National and Regional Action Programmes.

The Portuguese Delegation to the INCD

May 1995