



Convention to Combat
Desertification

Distr.
LIMITED

ICCD/COP(5)/L.2
5 October 2001

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fifth session
Geneva, 1-12 October 2001
Agenda item 11

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on
Science and Technology

Roster of independent experts

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 24, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification,

Having reviewed the revised roster of independent experts prepared by the secretariat in accordance with decision 15/COP.4, on submissions received from Parties through diplomatic channels,

Having reviewed also the report^{1/} prepared by the secretariat for the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the important role played by community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the Convention,

Noting the efforts made by the secretariat to ensure that the roster is available in electronic form, as well as through the regular channels of the United Nations system,

Noting also the recommendations of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology on this subject,

1. *Encourages* the Parties using the appropriate mechanisms, such as, for example, focal points, to include in their submissions experts from community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations in the roster of independent experts;

^{1/} ICCD/COP(5)/5/Add.1

2. *Invites* Parties to supplement their submissions to the secretariat for inclusion in the roster using the format contained in annex 2 of ICCD/COP(5)/5/Add.1, with the aim in particular of:

- (a) Making the roster more balanced in terms of gender;
- (b) Ensuring better representation of all relevant disciplines;
- (c) Including expertise from civil society;

3. *Invites* Parties that have not yet submitted nominations of experts for the roster to do so, including full postal and e-mail addresses, via regular diplomatic channels, six months before the next session of the Conference of the Parties;

4. *Further invites* Parties to report to the secretariat on the use that they have made of the roster, six months before the next session of the Conference of the Parties;

5. *Requests* the secretariat to ensure that an updated roster of experts is made available in electronic form, as appropriate;

6. *Also requests* the secretariat to distribute a hard copy of the roster to Parties before the next session of the Conference of the Parties.

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