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COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION
Second session
Havana, 26-29 August 2003
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the secretariat

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I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The provisional agenda presented for adoption is as follows:
 1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 2. Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention:
 - (a) Consideration of the report of the Committee on its first session;
 - (b) Overall review of the activities of the secretariat and of the progress made by affected country Parties in implementation of the Convention;
 - (c) Review of the report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention.
 3. Global Mechanism:
 - (a) Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention, of the report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it;
 - (b) Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 7 of the Convention, of the policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it.
 4. Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention.
 5. Programme of work for the third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention.
 6. Adoption of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, the draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties.
 7. Election of officers other than the Chairperson of the Committee.

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Venue

2. By its decision 1/COP.5, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) decided to establish the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) as a subsidiary body of the COP to assist it in regularly reviewing implementation of the Convention. Pursuant to provisions contained in paragraph 5 of the annex to the same decision, the second session of the CRIC will be held during the sixth session of the COP in Havana, Cuba, from 26 to 29 August 2003.

Participants

3. According to decision 1/COP.5, the CRIC shall be composed of all Parties to the Convention. Any other body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which wishes to be represented at a session of the CRIC as an observer may be admitted unless one third of the Parties present at the session object. The procedure for admission of observers is detailed in rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the COP (decision 1/COP.1 as contained in ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1).

Bureau

4. In accordance with the provisions contained in decision 1/COP.5, the Committee, at its first session, elected its own four Vice-Chairpersons, of whom one acts as Rapporteur. These Vice-Chairpersons, together with the Chairperson elected by the COP at its fifth session, in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the COP, constitute the Bureau of the CRIC.

Agenda

5. The Convention provides, in article 22, paragraph 2(a), that the COP shall regularly review the implementation of the Convention and the functioning of its institutional arrangements. By decision 1/COP.5, the CRIC was established to assist the COP in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention, in the light of experience gained at the national, subregional, regional and international levels, and to facilitate the exchange of information on measures adopted by the Parties, pursuant to article 26 of the Convention, in order to draw conclusions and to propose to the COP concrete recommendations on further steps in the implementation of the Convention.

6. By the same decision, the COP decided that, at sessions held during the COP, the CRIC shall:

- (i) Consider the comprehensive report of its inter-sessional session;
- (ii) Review regularly the policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism;
- (iii) Review regularly reports prepared by the secretariat on the execution of its functions;

- (iv) Consider reports on the collaboration with the Global Environment Facility;

with a view to elaborating draft decisions, where necessary, for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

7. These, in addition to other matters arising from decision 1/COP.5 and other relevant decisions of the COP, have been taken into account in the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat in agreement with the Chairperson of the CRIC.

Documentation

8. A list of documents for the session and other relevant documents is provided in annex I. In addition to normal distribution, official documents for the session have been made available on the secretariat's Internet web site at the following address: <http://www.unccd.int>.

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

9. The CRIC will have before it the provisional agenda (see chapter I above) to consider for adoption. A tentative schedule of work for the session, on which the sections below elaborate, is contained in annex II.

Purpose of the session

10. By its decision 1/COP.5, the COP adopted the terms of reference of the CRIC, as contained in an annex to that decision. These stipulate, *inter alia*, that the review will be an experience-sharing and lessons-learning exercise which will identify successes, obstacles and difficulties with a view to improving the implementation of the Convention.

11. By the same decision, the COP decided that the second session of the CRIC, to be held during the sixth session of the COP, will carry out its functions pursuant to paragraph 1(b) of the terms of reference of the CRIC, as described in paragraph 6 above.

Organization of work

12. With regard to organization of the work of the session, the Committee may wish to consider the scenario by which the Chairperson of the CRIC would open the session on 26 August 2003 and then call for adoption of the agenda and organization of work, followed by consideration of the items on the agenda.

13. Following the completion of all agenda items, the proposed tentative schedule of work allows for the elaboration of the report of the CRIC, including, where necessary, the draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties. During the concluding meeting, the Committee would adopt its report and consider the programme of work for its third session. The Chairperson would, at the end, call for the election of officers other than the Chairperson of the CRIC.

Times of meetings

14. The tentative schedule aims to make best use of the facilities available during normal working hours. No scheduling or budgetary provision has been made for evening or weekend sessions. Consistent with local working hours and to avoid incurring overtime expenses, the normal working hours of the second session of the CRIC will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. No provision has been made for more than one meeting with interpretation services to be held at any one time.

2. Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention

15. Pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention, the COP is to review the implementation of the UNCCD and its institutional arrangements.

16. By its decision 1/COP.5, the COP decided to establish a committee for the review of the implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body of the COP to assist it in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention and to adopt the terms of reference of the CRIC as contained in the annex to that decision.

(a) *Consideration of the report of the Committee on its first session*

17. According to decision 1/COP.5, at sessions held between ordinary sessions of the COP, the CRIC is, *inter alia*, to draw conclusions and propose to the COP concrete recommendations on further steps in the implementation of the Convention, through a comprehensive report to the COP in the light of its programme of work. At the end of its first session, on 22 November 2002, the CRIC adopted the draft of this report and authorized the Rapporteur to finalize it, with the assistance of the secretariat, as appropriate. The final report is contained in ICCD/CRIC(1)/10.

(b) *Overall review of the activities of the secretariat and of the progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention*

18. By its decision 2/COP.3, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to undertake an overall review of secretariat activities and to submit a report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session for consideration. This report is prepared in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2(f) of the Convention.

19. By decision 11/COP.1, the secretariat is requested, after the third ordinary session and following every subsequent ordinary session of the COP, to prepare a report summarizing the conclusions of the review process.

20. Furthermore, by its decision 5/COP.3 the COP requested the secretariat to provide at forthcoming sessions of the COP a synthesis by each subregion, with the aim of elaborating a comparative document on the progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention.

21. The report, responding to the requests made in the decisions of the COP as described above, is contained in ICCD/CRIC(2)/2.

(c) Review of the report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention

22. According to the Declaration on the commitments under the Convention to enhance implementation of the obligations of the UNCCD, annexed to decision 8/COP.4, the Executive Secretary of the Convention is requested to compile, synthesize and submit appropriate information relating to the enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention, as a follow-up to this Declaration, through a report to each COP during this decade, starting in 2003. This report is contained in ICCD/CRIC(2)/3.

3. Global Mechanism

(a) Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention, of the report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it

23. Based on article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention and pursuant to decisions 24/COP.1 and 10/COP.3, the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism (GM) is requested to submit to each ordinary session of the COP, on behalf of the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a report on the activities of the GM, which will encompass the following: (i) operations and activities of the GM, including the effectiveness of its activities in promoting the mobilization and channelling of the substantial financial resources to affected developing country Parties, (ii) assessment of the future availability of funds for implementation of the Convention, as well as assessment and proposals for effective ways and means of providing such funds, and (iii) the activities of IFAD, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank as well as other relevant organizations in support of the GM.

24. Following the provision contained in decision 10/COP.3, the report by the Managing Director of the GM is contained in ICCD/CRIC(2)/4.

25. By its decision 5/COP.3, the COP requested the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the Managing Director of the GM, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention, to assist affected African country Parties, upon request, in facilitating the convocation of consultative processes in order to negotiate and conclude partnership agreements based on national, subregional and regional action programmes. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the Managing Director of the GM were also requested to report at each session of the COP on their role in facilitating these processes and on the results obtained. The relevant information on this subject is contained in documents ICCD/CRIC(2)/2 and ICCD/CRIC(2)/4.

(b) Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 7 of the Convention, of the policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it

26. Article 21, paragraph 7 of the Convention stipulates that the COP shall, at its third ordinary session, review the policies, operational modalities and activities of the GM accountable to it pursuant to article 21, paragraph 4, taking into account the provisions of article 7, and that, on the basis of this review, it shall consider and take appropriate action. By its decision 9/COP.3, the COP

decided, among other matters, that the second review of policies, operational modalities and activities of the GM would take place at the sixth session of the COP in 2003. At the request of the President of COP 5, an independent evaluation of the GM has been undertaken and its results are contained in ICCD/CRIC(2)/INF.1.

4. Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention

27. Article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention addresses the need to promote the mobilization of adequate, timely and predictable financial resources, including new and additional funding from the GEF of the agreed incremental costs of those activities concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Instrument establishing the GEF. By its decision 9/COP.1, the COP decided to include, as a standing item on its agenda, a review of available information on the financing of the Convention by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the GEF concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b). This information is contained in ICCD/CRIC(2)/6.

5. Programme of work for the third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

28. By its decision 1/COP.5, the COP decided that after the sixth session of the COP, the review of the implementation of the Convention should be conducted in accordance with the timetable outlined in paragraphs 13 to 15 of decision 11/COP.1, which entails alternation between affected African country Parties and affected country Parties of other regions. Consequently, at its third session the Committee shall examine the reports of affected African country Parties, as well as reports of developed country Parties and relevant organs, funds and programmes of the United Nations and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on measures taken to assist action programmes of affected African country Parties.

29. The COP also decided that the review shall focus on seven key thematic topics which are laid down in the same decision.

30. The COP furthermore decided that, at sessions held between ordinary sessions of the COP, the CRIC shall, among other matters, submit a comprehensive report to the COP in the light of its programme of work, including conclusions and recommendations.

31. Based on the provisions described above, the CRIC might wish to forward its input in this respect to the COP, which, according to decision 1/COP.5, shall approve the programme of work of the CRIC, including estimates regarding financial implications.

6. Adoption of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, the draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the COP

32. According to decision 1/COP.5, the CRIC shall report on its work at each ordinary session of the COP. The report of the CRIC shall be submitted to the COP for its consideration and any decision the Conference may wish to take on the implementation of the Convention.

7. Election of officers other than the Chairperson of the Committee

33. Pursuant to article 4 of the terms of reference of the CRIC, as contained in decision 1/COP.5, four Vice-Chairpersons who, together with the Chairperson elected by the COP in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure, constitute the Bureau of the Committee, shall be elected with due regard to the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and adequate representation of affected country Parties, particularly those in Africa, while not neglecting affected country Parties in other regions. The Chairperson would call for the election of these officers at the concluding meeting. The Committee may wish to consider the option of electing these Vice-Chairpersons to serve for two consecutive terms, thus enabling their terms to coincide with that of the Chairperson.

Annex I

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Documents available at the second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention:

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/CRIC(2)/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work – Provisional agenda and annotations
ICCD/CRIC(2)/2	Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention – Overall review of the activities of the secretariat and of the progress made by affected country Parties in implementation of the Convention
ICCD/CRIC(2)/3	Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention – Review of the report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention
ICCD/CRIC(2)/4	Global Mechanism – Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention, of the report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it
ICCD/CRIC(2)/5	Global Mechanism – Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 7 of the Convention, of the policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it
ICCD/CRIC(2)/6	Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention

Other documents:

First session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

ICCD/CRIC(1)/10	Report of the Committee on its first session
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Previous sessions of the Conference of the Parties

<u>Document symbol</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
ICCD/COP(5)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(4)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fourth session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(4)/AHWG/6	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group to the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(3)/20/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its third session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(2)/14/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session: Action taken
ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session: Action taken

Annex II**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF WORK**

Tuesday, 26 August 2003	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
<p>---</p>	<p><i>Opening of the session by the Chairperson of the CRIC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (<i>ICCD/CRIC(2)/1</i>) • Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(a) and (b), and article 26 of the Convention <p>- Consideration of the report of the Committee on its first session (<i>ICCD/CRIC(1)/10</i>)</p> <p>- Overall review of the activities of the secretariat and of the progress made by affected country Parties in the implementation of the Convention (<i>ICCD/CRIC(2)/2</i>)</p> <p>- Review of the report on enhanced implementation of the obligations of the Convention (<i>ICCD/CRIC(2)/3</i>)</p>
Wednesday, 27 August 2003	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Mechanism <p>- Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 5(d) of the Convention, of the report on activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it (<i>ICCD/CRIC(2)/4</i>)</p> <p>- Review, pursuant to article 21, paragraph 7 of the Convention, of the policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and the provision of guidance to it (<i>ICCD/CRIC(2)/5</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of available information regarding the financing of Convention implementation by multilateral agencies and institutions, including information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, as specified in article 20, paragraph 2(b) of the Convention (<i>ICCD/CRIC(2)/6</i>)

Thursday, 28 August 2003	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
<i>Elaboration of the report of the CRIC, including, where necessary, the draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i>	<i>Elaboration of the report of the CRIC, including, where necessary, the draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties</i>

Friday, 29 August 2003	
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 6 p.m.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme of work for the third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention • Adoption of the report of the Committee, including, where necessary, the draft decisions for consideration and, as appropriate, adoption by the Conference of the Parties • Election of officers other than the Chairperson of the Committee <p><i>Closing of the session</i></p>	<p>---</p>
