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**Convention to Combat  
Desertification**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
Sixth session  
Havana, 25 August - 5 September 2003

**COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology**

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

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* decision 11/COP.1 on procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation, and in particular paragraph 18 of the annex to that decision, which concerns the review process,

*Recalling* also decisions 16/COP.3, 16/COP.4 and 16/COP.5 on the programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST),

*Taking into account* the observations and recommendations made by the CST and its Group of Experts during the sixth session,

*Taking note* of the interest by the CST in case studies illustrating best practices and innovative research relating to “Land degradation, vulnerability and rehabilitation: an integrated approach”, as reported in document (ICCD/COP(6)/CST/2),

*Bearing in mind* the work of the Group of Experts in the assessment of desertification and land degradation,

1. *Decides* that the priority issue addressed by the CST at its sixth session, “Land degradation, vulnerability and rehabilitation: an integrated approach”, should be further discussed at the seventh session;

2. *Encourages* Parties to submit reports on case studies illustrating best practices and innovative research relating to the above theme, taking into account the observations of the CST and its Group of Experts. These reports should be concise and should be transmitted to the secretariat no later than four months before the next session;

3. *Requests* the secretariat, in consultation with the CST through its Group of Experts, to select three or four representative case studies from among the contributions received from the Parties. These selected representative case studies should be presented by the Parties at the seventh session of the CST;

4. *Further requests* the secretariat to facilitate the convening of one inter-sessional meeting of the CST Bureau for the review of decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties and other related matters regarding the work of the CST, especially the planning and organization of the next session of the CST.

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