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**Convention to Combat
Desertification**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
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Agenda item 19

**PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

Draft decision submitted by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session

Programme of work of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22 of the Convention,

Recalling also its decisions 9/COP.1, 2/COP.2, 4/COP.3, 5/COP.4, 5/COP.5 and 29/COP.6 on its programme of work, 11/COP.1 on procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation, its draft decision ICCD/COP(7)/L.17/Rev.1 on additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist in the review of the implementation of the Convention, and other relevant decisions of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties,

1. *Decides* to include the following items in the agenda of its eighth session and, if necessary, its ninth session:

- (a) Programme and budget for the biennium 2008-2009;
- (b) 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:
 - (i) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;
 - (ii) Consideration of additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the

implementation of the Convention, including the review referred to in paragraph 2 of ICCD/COP(7)/L.17/Rev.1;

(c) Committee on Science and Technology:

- (i) Review, pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2(d), of the Convention, of the report of the Committee on Science and Technology, including its recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, its programme of work, and the provision of guidance to it;
- (ii) Maintenance of the roster of experts and creation of ad hoc panels of experts, as necessary, with their terms of reference and modalities of work;

(d) Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies, in accordance with article 8 and article 22, paragraph 2(i), of the Convention;

(e) Consideration of the follow-up to the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) relevant to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;

[(f) Need for, modalities for, costs involved in, and feasibility and possible terms of reference of the regional coordination units;]

(g) Outstanding items:

- (i) Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure;
- (ii) Consideration of procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions on implementation, in accordance with article 27 of the Convention;
- (iii) Consideration of annexes containing arbitration and conciliation procedures, in accordance with article 28, paragraphs 2(a) and 6, of the Convention;

(h) Consideration of the report on observance of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification (2006);

(i) Consideration of the report on relations between the secretariat and its host country;

(j) Consideration of the report and draft ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the UNCCD transmitted by the ad hoc Working Group established in paragraph 1 of ICCD/COP(7)/L.27;

2. *Decides* to include interactive dialogue sessions with the relevant stakeholders, including ministers, non-governmental organizations and members of parliament on agenda items of relevance to them;

3. *Requests* the secretariat to circulate in all official languages at least six weeks prior to the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties a provisional annotated agenda and appropriate documentation for that session, reflecting the decisions contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 above.
