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Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements

Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties
in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention

Additional procedures or institutional mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties in regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention

Note by the secretariat*

Summary

1. By its decision 1/COP.5, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided that the mandate and functions of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) should be subject to renewal at COP 7, in the light of lessons learned during the overall review of the Committee. The COP also decided that it shall, no later than at COP 7, review the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and its schedule of meetings, with a view to making any necessary modification, including reconsidering the need for and modalities of the CRIC as a subsidiary body.

2. By its decision 7/COP.7, the COP decided that this review will take place at COP 8, and invited Parties and relevant CRIC stakeholders, including civil society, to submit their responses to the questions contained in document ICCD/COP(7)/9 to the secretariat no later than six months before COP 8.

* The submission of this document was delayed in order to take into consideration contributions received from Parties, relevant stakeholders of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention and civil society until 30 June 2007.

3. The responses received by the secretariat are posted on the Convention website (<www.unccd.int>) and summarized in this document. Taking into account the fact that modalities and functioning of the CRIC are addressed also in the outcomes of the working groups established at COP 7 (the Ad Hoc Working Group on improving the procedure of communication of information and the Intergovernmental Intersessional Working Group), this document further elaborates on the proposals made within these contexts, which represent an additional and important input by Parties on this issue.

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I. Introduction

1. By its decision 1/COP.5, the Conference of the Parties (COP) established the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) as a subsidiary body to assist in the regular review of the implementation of the Convention. The mandate and functions of the Committee as stated in paragraph 1 (b) of its terms of reference, contained in the same decision, were subject to renewal at the seventh session of the COP (COP 7), in the light of lessons learned during the overall review of the Committee.
2. By its decision 7/COP.6, the COP decided that the criteria against which the terms of reference, operations and schedule of meetings of the CRIC would be reviewed would be relevance, impact, effectiveness, appropriateness of format, and cost-effectiveness.
3. By its decision 7/COP.7, the COP renewed the mandate of the CRIC as a subsidiary body of the COP up to and including COP 8 and decided to undertake the review of the CRIC at that session, with the aim of making any necessary modifications, including reconsidering the modalities of the Committee as a subsidiary body.
4. By the same decision, the COP invited Parties and relevant CRIC stakeholders, including civil society, to submit their responses to the questions contained in document ICCD/COP(7)/3 no later than six months before COP 8. As of 30 June 2007, submissions had been received from 12 Parties: Argentina, Benin, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Cameroon, El Salvador, India, Mexico, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Spain and Suriname. Chapter II of this document contains a synthesis and preliminary analysis of the views expressed in those submissions; the submissions themselves are reproduced in their entirety on the website of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) at: <www.unccd.int/>.
5. Taking into consideration the fact that the modalities and functioning of the CRIC are also addressed in the outcomes of the working groups established at COP 7, namely the Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) on improving the procedures of communication of information and the Intergovernmental Intersessional Working Group (IIWG), this document further elaborates on the proposals made within these contexts, which represent additional and important inputs by country Parties on this issue.
6. In view of the fact that all the submissions and both working groups agreed that the CRIC has played a key role in the review of the implementation of the Convention, the COP may wish to renew the mandate of the CRIC as a subsidiary body to the COP or to establish it as a permanent body. The COP may consider the various inputs received from Parties and determine in what ways the modalities of the CRIC would have to be adjusted, taking into consideration the draft 10-year strategic plan and framework developed by the IIWG and the preliminary findings of the AHWG with regard to improving the procedures of communication of information.

II. Synthesis and preliminary analysis of the contributions by Parties and observers

A. Relevance

7. The questions raised in document ICCD/COP(7)/3 are as follows:

(a) To what extent have the results and conclusions of the first three sessions of the CRIC responded to the expectations of Parties and other stakeholders in terms of an improved implementation of the Convention?

(b) Do the terms of reference of the CRIC sufficiently target an improved and faster implementation of the Convention?

(c) What are the expectations and needs of Parties that could still be addressed by the CRIC process?

(d) To what degree do Parties feel that the CRIC process has addressed those needs?

(e) Could the relevance improve if clearer priorities were set with regard to those perceived needs?

8. The relevance of the CRIC was not questioned in any of the submissions received. On the contrary, most contributions recognized that the CRIC has by and large met expectations, particularly with regard to providing a platform for exchanges on best practices and shortcomings in the implementation of the Convention.

9. One submission stated that a review of the mandate, functions and operational modalities of the CRIC at COP 8 might be premature as it should not precede the deliberations by the COP on the draft 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the UNCCD.

10. Some general concerns were raised when discussing the value and relevance of the CRIC. Difficulties in establishing predictable funding mechanisms for implementation of national action programmes (NAPs) were mentioned as pre-empting an effective review by the CRIC. If the implementation of NAPs, subregional action programmes (SRAPs) and regional action programmes (RAPs) were adequately supported, reporting and hence the review by the CRIC would gain in relevance and effectiveness. This would ultimately allow affected developing country Parties to translate into action COP decisions originated by the CRIC.

11. The question whether the CRIC would target an improved implementation of the Convention was not alluded to directly in the responses. The submissions seem to focus more on the expectations of the CRIC vis-à-vis its terms of reference, which do not include the mandate to improve implementation per se. By providing guidance to Parties, the responsibility for ensuring implementation is – and, according to one submission, should remain – the prerogative of the COP. The CRIC, however, has been widely recognized as a valuable monitoring body of the COP.

12. Submissions pointed to the fact that a more informal organization of the CRIC could facilitate dialogue between affected developing country Parties and their development partners. However, a submission stated that issues relating to institutional agreements, as well as global progress assessments, should be dealt with in a more formal setting so as to allow full participation by all stakeholders. These two suggestions indicated that the structure and organization of CRIC sessions would need to be amended in order to increase participation, while at the same time seeking not to jeopardize the intergovernmental process that governs the Convention.

13. Another expectation expressed in a submission highlighted the potential of the CRIC in global awareness-raising and demonstrating links with other broader sustainable development issues, in particular the discussions on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The submission seems to suggest that improvements could be made to the programme of work and structure of the CRIC in order to give more prominence to those important discussions and to ensure participation of stakeholders of parallel intergovernmental processes in official sessions of the CRIC. Another submission seems to support this view by calling for an expansion of the CRIC's mandate to include activities outside the analysis of national reports, for example discussions on free trade agreements, in order to increase the relevance and effectiveness of the CRIC.

14. The importance of cross-fertilization between CRIC and Committee on Science and Technology (CST) issues and/or input was stressed and accompanied by a request to allow for CST cooperation in the sessions of the CRIC in a more structured manner. It was also pointed out that more efforts should be made to integrate relevant inputs and contributions from other organizations and institutions in order to bring added value to the CRIC deliberations and, ultimately, to the efforts of affected country Parties to implement the Convention.

15. Submissions also pointed out that the establishment of cooperation frameworks among Parties, the increase of funding and the building of synergies between the Rio conventions need more attention at CRIC sessions, so that activities could be implemented in accordance with the deliberations of the CRIC and the COP.

B. Impact

16. The questions raised in document ICCD/COP(7)/3 are as follows:

(a) Do the approximately 35 recommendations on a wide variety of subjects and directed to all stakeholders taken during the first cycle of the implementation review process (the first and second sessions of the CRIC and COP 6) tackle the issues considered to be at the heart of a more efficient and effective implementation of the Convention?

(b) Has there been a follow-up of COP 6 decisions by Parties and to what extent was a political adoption achieved?

(c) How have these recommendations been translated into local, national and regional policies, strategies and actions and what have been the resulting impacts on the ground?

17. One submission stated that the CRIC has been able to guide Parties in fulfilling their obligations through the provision of a platform for the exchange of information and the provision of information on best practices. However, the same submission also stated that the impact of the CRIC could have been much more pronounced if financial and legislative issues had been properly addressed by the COP, which indicates that the CRIC has so far not been able to fully realize its potential.

18. Submissions pointed out that fundamental constraints experienced in the Convention and its institutional bodies have remained, such as inadequate funding and the lack of firm guidance and political will – all issues that weaken the overall achievement of the Convention and consequently the performance of the CRIC.

19. Most submissions did not explain in detail how COP decisions impacted implementation at the national level. Taking into consideration ongoing discussions on necessary targets for UNCCD implementation at the global and national level, it may be deduced that COP decisions relating to implementation did not have a binding character that would have induced Parties to implement them.

20. One submission clearly stated that CRIC recommendations would need to provide more detailed guidance for regional and subregional implementation, and that a thorough review of the needs of each region and subregion would assist Parties in the overall steering of the process, including in the long-term directives to be identified by the COP.

C. Effectiveness

21. The questions raised in document ICCD/COP(7)/3 are as follows:

(a) Does the current reporting format provide for efficient information sharing, cross-fertilization of experiences and comparison to build analysis upon for assessing the impact of policy and activities? If there is scope for improvement, how would that affect the national reports and other inputs?

(b) Has the CRIC fulfilled its mandated activities at sessions held between ordinary sessions of the COP, especially when it comes to the identification of key issues?

(c) To what extent have measures taken by Parties and stakeholders been identified and analyzed as to their capacity to enhance desertification combat, mitigate drought impact and meet the needs of people living in affected areas?

(d) To what extent have best practices and lessons learned been identified, synthesized and shared among Parties and stakeholders?

(e) Has the CRIC fulfilled its mandated activities at ordinary COP sessions, and has it formulated recommendations that are sufficiently relevant and realistic for the COP to follow up with concrete decisions that improve the implementation of the Convention?

22. One submission pointed out that reporting under the Convention needs to be improved and referred to the ongoing work of the AHWG. Pending the completion of work by the AHWG, national reports and country profiles need to become more specific and comprehensive for the CRIC to be in a position to assess the progress that has been made and define possible measures to enhance implementation. Likewise, it was suggested that databases containing comprehensive data sets for national reporting and CRIC reviews could be established and serviced by Parties at the subregional level.

23. Another submission stated that thematic programme networks (TPNs) could become a catalyst and an important tool for an improved provision of information to the CRIC. Failure to implement TPNs was thought to have negatively affected the effective sharing of information at CRIC sessions.

24. One submission pointed out that the CRIC should hold its session independently from the COP in order to achieve better results and increase its effectiveness. Another submission supported this statement and requested that CRIC sessions should not be held in parallel with other meetings.

25. With reference to the collection and systemization of best practices, it was pointed out that success stories identified by the CRIC would still need to be further documented and processed by the secretariat before they could be of use to Parties. The submission seems to make a link with the need to establish a reference database and update it after each intersessional session of the CRIC.

26. With regard to the question of CRIC recommendations being relevant enough for the COP to adopt decisions, one submission highlighted the importance of CRIC deliberations and its findings for the COP to determine new strategies and orientation. Other submissions, however, stated that a lot more could be achieved, and that detailed guidance is needed through the identification of indicators and clear objectives for Convention implementation.

D. Appropriateness of format

27. The questions raised in document ICCD/COP(7)/3 are as follows:

(a) Is the format chosen for the first, second and third session of the CRIC considered adequate to facilitate an open and fruitful exchange of experiences, including the identification of good practices and barriers for the implementation of the Convention? Did the organization of the non-intersessional CRIC debate lead to a dynamic predominantly centred around the preparation of COP 6 decisions?

(b) Did the review format followed generate meaningful assessments and recommendations concerning good practices and barriers influencing the implementation of the Convention, among others?

(c) Could the format profit from the clarification of objectives, identification of results to be achieved, activities and means? Could the results be more operational if the objectives are more specific, measurable, realistic, and acceptable and time bound?

(d) Is the current open-ended composition of the CRIC adequate for the task mandated and are all stakeholders sufficiently represented? Is there enough room for input from the relevant stakeholders? Is the frequency of sessions (during COP and once between each of the ordinary sessions of the COP, with its alternating geographical coverage), adequate for the review cycle?

(e) Is the current organization of work of the CRIC sessions adequate for the intended results? Is there enough focus on key issues with operational value for the implementation of the Convention? Does the current organization of work through plenary sessions allow for this focus or should parallel working groups be contemplated? Are modern techniques and professional moderation being employed to focus the discussions?

(f) Does the comprehensive report of intersessional CRICs reflect the discussions and results in an adequate and relevant manner?

(g) Have the key thematic topics been sufficiently addressed so far? Are they still relevant for future work or should they be replaced, changed or increased?

28. Several submissions highlighted the need for less formal and more interactive segments within the CRIC sessions. One submission highlighted the need to engage experts and policymakers into meaningful dialogues to enrich debates and maximize outputs.

29. Key thematic topics are considered important as they provide focus but should be accompanied by indicators and a more structured approach to allow the CRIC to undertake assessments. One submission mentioned that the follow-up on recommendations on key thematic topics was still insufficient despite them being to the point and useful. The submission linked this shortcoming to the problem of inadequate funding for the implementation of Convention-specific activities, which hampers the effectiveness of recommendations and requires that the same recommendations are put forward again in subsequent sessions of the CRIC.

30. Another submission stated that better use needed to be made of indicators in the review of the formulation and implementation of NAPs in order to provide the CRIC with the opportunity to review the progress that had been made in the core areas identified by the Convention. Similarly, a call was made for an extensive review of the implementation of NAPs as one of the most important items to be addressed by the CRIC in order to bring back the focus on UNCCD implementation.

31. With regard to the key thematic topics under review it was also suggested to include in the national reports information on the implications of climate change on desertification and on measures to mitigate it.

32. One submission stated that key areas, such as mainstreaming of NAPs, synergy among the Rio Conventions, technology and best practices, resource mobilization deserved more prominence, both in the reports and in the deliberations of the CRIC. At the same time there is a need to develop indicators for those thematic topics to enable the CRIC to adequately monitor the progress that has been made.

33. According to another submission, the comprehensive report of the CRIC would need to be improved and to include information on the economic and social impact of soil degradation and desertification.

E. Cost effectiveness

34. The questions raised in document ICCD/COP(7)/3 are as follows:

(a) How can the reporting process leading up to the CRIC sessions and the sessions themselves be judged in terms of workload, time efficiency and cost effectiveness? Could opportunities to rationalize time and resources be identified?

(b) Is the information made available by Parties (national reports) and other stakeholders at the various CRIC sessions considered useful in terms of reaching the objectives of the CRIC? Did the information effectively present progress achieved in ongoing activities and on new initiatives, while mentioning finalized projects? Would an enhanced utilization of existing databases improve the situation?

(c) Are all CRIC related reports readily available and accessible, e.g. in the UNCCD database?

(d) Has the Financial Information Engine on Land Degradation (FIELD) of the Global Mechanism (GM) been fully developed and could it be used to generate new or updated reports in the future?

(e) Could intersessional CRIC sessions, once focused on key operational issues, be limited to five working days?

35. Respondents agreed that intersessional sessions of the CRIC could be shortened on the condition that, in place of a prolonged debate at international level, there would be more debate and in-depth review at regional and subregional levels, or at a more technical expert level. One submission referred to the possibility of establishing ad hoc working groups under the CRIC, to be charged with a review of reports, while the mandate of the CST would be adapted with the aim of improving the scientific input to CRIC deliberations; it would be feasible to shorten intersessional sessions of the CRIC in such circumstances. Another submission mentioned that preliminary review processes need to be established at regional level with the aim of supporting the review by the CRIC at the global level. Yet another submission suggested that intersessional sessions of the CRIC could take place over a six-day period (Monday to Saturday) in order to improve cost-effectiveness, with particular regard to travel and logistics.

36. A call was made with regard to better preparing country Parties for deliberations at CRIC plenary meetings in order to obtain the necessary interactions and exchange of information. Another submission suggested that if intersessional sessions of the CRIC were shortened, regional consultations would have to be lengthened, thereby allowing a more detailed review of reports and issues prior to the CRIC.

37. There was a suggestion that the CRIC should be mandated to undertake a self-assessment of the impact of its recommendations so as to improve the cost-effectiveness of future sessions. Also, transparency on issues such as the appointment of the chair of the CRIC and the financial costs incurred in the preparation of CRIC sessions should be improved.

III. Preliminary outputs of other parallel processes established at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties as they relate to the review of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

A. Ad Hoc Working Group on improving the procedures for communication of information

38. Suggestions on how to improve the perceived need for **cross-fertilization between the CRIC and the CST** were made in the AHWG deliberations and in one of the submissions received. Also, the IIWG has foreseen a reshaping of the CST with functions that could improve the scientific discussions to be undertaken within the framework of the CRIC. Echoing the suggestions by both working groups, one submission proposed to align the mandate and operation modalities of the CRIC with the 10-year strategic plan and framework, and to establish mechanisms of interaction between the CRIC and the CST.

39. Expectations were also directed towards the capacity of stakeholders to deliver a successful review by the CRIC and a call for **capacity-building** was made with particular mention of the role of the secretariat and the GM as key institutions in assisting the reporting process and facilitating CRIC deliberations. Indeed, capacity-building was also a major deliverable identified by the AHWG in as much as national reports and the implementation of a monitoring network at the national level are concerned.

40. A call was made to improve reporting through the use of **targets and indicators** rather than description and narration in order to enhance the potential of the CRIC to conduct in-depth assessments which can be monitored across regions and over time. The analysis and synthesis of national reports, as well as other supporting documentation prepared for the CRIC, would have to be adapted if national reports became more analytical. The AHWG also stressed the need to identify targets for implementation at the global level in the same way as the other Rio conventions do. This would enable Parties to align their national activities accordingly and assist the CRIC in its efforts to monitor progress.

41. The AHWG emphasized the **need to review NAPs** and priority field programmes that could be monitored in a reporting cycle and regularly amended in line with the overall objectives identified in the 10-year strategy.

42. The AHWG nevertheless recommended that future reports should explicitly include information on **best practices, success stories and lessons learned** so as to enable the CRIC to assess to what extent decisions impact national and local activities.

43. Echoing submissions by Parties, the AHWG stressed the need for a more structured approach in reporting. Taking into consideration the call for a **realignment of key thematic topics under review** by the CRIC in terms of their applicability and usefulness in reviewing the

10-year strategy to be adopted at COP 8, a call was made to establish a specific ad hoc working group dealing, inter alia, with the review of the terms of reference of the CRIC, its operations and schedule of meetings, in order to improving effectiveness of future sessions of the Committee.

44. Some suggestions for rationalizing and reorganizing the reporting process were made by the AHWG and need to be taken into consideration when deciding on the **format and timing of CRIC sessions**. The AHWG identified three options for future sessions of the CRIC:

(a) A global review undertaken during intersessional sessions of the CRIC of all regions at the same time; this would mean that the reporting cycle would have only one intersessional session and that all elements would have to be reviewed during this session;

(b) A review undertaken according to the themes, with all regions reporting at the same time; this scenario would maintain a schedule of two intersessional sessions of the CRIC but with the themes separated in order to allow in-depth discussions;

(c) The current alternating reporting process is maintained, and the CRIC would review implementation in Africa and other regions alternately at intersessional sessions.

45. It was also recommended that **consistent and coherent reporting guidelines be adopted for all reporting entities**, including United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations, in order to harmonize information submitted to the CRIC and increase its effectiveness.

B. Intergovernmental Intersessional Working Group

46. While recognizing the central role of the CRIC in reviewing the implementation of the strategic plan through an effective reporting process and documenting and disseminating best practices, the IIWG recommends that the COP pursue its review of the CRIC and its institutional arrangements in the light of the provisions of the 10-year strategic plan and framework.

47. The strategic plan would entrust the CRIC with two additional tasks: the review of implementation of the strategic plan, based on a set of indicators, and the assessment and monitoring of CRIC performance and effectiveness.

48. With regard to the programme of work of the CRIC, the IIWG suggests introducing a multi-year planning for the CRIC based on a results-based management approach consistent with the objectives and results of its strategic plan. In this context, the frequency and synchronization of the meetings of the CRIC and the CST need to be agreed upon in the light of the strategic plan to be adopted at COP 8.

49. Similarly to the AHWG, the IIWG identified as a priority restructuring the CRIC to enable a simplified and effective reporting process based on information which can be compared across regions and over time.

50. The two working groups made similar recommendations on the need to adopt targets and pertinent indicators that would lead to a more focused and rationalized debate by the CRIC. However, capacity-building for country Parties and a clear assignment of responsibilities of supporting institutions is needed in order to achieve a more substantive and analytical review by the CRIC. As the starting point for a reorientation of the reporting process the 10-year strategic plan would first have to be assessed in terms of its influence on reporting and the way in which the CRIC would be enabled to monitor the progress that has been made.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

51. Recommendations received from country Parties highlighted the need for the CRIC to become a permanent subsidiary body of the COP to assist it in the regular review of the implementation of the Convention and to draw conclusions on the progress made in achieving its objectives.

52. With regard to the relevance of the objectives, purpose and results of the CRIC, there are recommendations to widen the scope of the review process and give more prominence in key areas, such as:

- (a) Mainstreaming of NAPs into sustainable development processes;
- (b) Enhancing synergy among conventions;
- (c) Technology and best practices;
- (d) Resource mobilization;
- (e) Effect of climate change on desertification;
- (f) The social and economic impact of land degradation.

53. According to the proposed strategic plan, the CRIC should be also entrusted with the review of the implementation of the strategic plan and the assessment and monitoring of CRIC performance and effectiveness.

54. Limited financial resources, and the lack of firm guidance and political will have been mentioned as factors limiting the impact of CRIC deliberations on national, regional and global strategies and activities. Under such circumstances the CRIC may not be able to fully achieve its potential.

55. The effectiveness of the review by the CRIC would be increased through a more consistent and coherent reporting process, based on information which can be compared across regions and over time. There is general agreement on the need to adopt quantifiable targets and implementation objectives, as well as clear reporting guidelines, for all stakeholders in order to enhance the capacity of the CRIC to assess the implementation of the Convention and draw solid recommendations on further steps. Nevertheless, one of the key functions of the CRIC – to facilitate exchanges on and dissemination of best practices – is maintained.

56. With respect to the format of CRIC sessions, particularly intersessional sessions, the submissions received indicate that there is a need to implement reforms taking into consideration:

- (a) Less formal and more interactive exchange, without jeopardizing the intergovernmental nature of the review process;
- (b) More focus on core activities under the Convention, particularly implementation of action programmes;
- (c) An additional segment dealing with other relevant environmental intergovernmental processes;
- (d) Cross-fertilization of CRIC and CST issues in order to improve the scientific debate during CRIC sessions.

57. Similar to recommendations made by the AHWG, in the submissions received the following options were put forward with regard to the cost-effectiveness and time-efficiency of CRIC sessions:

- (a) Holding only intersessional sessions of the CRIC, which are more closely linked to the reporting process;
- (b) Holding sessions of the CRIC in conjunction with COP sessions but not in parallel with CST sessions or other COP meetings;
- (c) Shortening CRIC intersessional sessions to five or six days provided that regional consultations and/or review mechanisms are put in place for each implementation annex.

58. Taking into consideration the views expressed by Parties as reflected in this document, as well as the pertinent recommendations of the AHWG and the IIWG on the review of implementation of the Convention, the COP may wish:

- (a) To confirm the mandate of the CRIC as a permanent subsidiary body to the COP, in order to assist it in its function of regularly reviewing the implementation of the Convention;
- (b) To assign to the CRIC the following additional and/or adjusted functions:
 - (i) Determining and disseminating best practices on implementation of the Convention;
 - (ii) Reviewing implementation of the 10-year strategy;
 - (iii) Reviewing the contribution of Parties in the implementation of the Convention;
 - (iv) Assessing and monitoring of CRIC performance and effectiveness.
- (c) To establish an ad hoc working group to review the terms of reference, operations and schedule of meetings of the CRIC by COP 9, and to propose a new decision to replace decision 1/COP.5.

59. The ad hoc working group would work on the basis of the 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance UNCCD implementation as adopted by the COP, and include consideration of the renewed functions and work programme of the CRIC, as outlined in the strategic plan. It would operate in coordination with other consultations mechanisms that may be established by the COP on the other pending institutional arrangements and the improvement of the procedure of communication of information.

60. The COP may also wish to entrust the next intersessional session of the CRIC, to be convened in 2008, to review the policy and methodology issues emerging from the consideration of the strategic framework, including the work undertaken by this ad hoc working group according to the mandate received.

61. The COP may further wish to consider requesting the secretariat to facilitate the work of the ad hoc working group on the review of the CRIC, including through meetings to be organized subject to the availability of the required funding, and to report at COP 9 on the measures taken to implement the decision made by the COP.

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