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**Convention to Combat  
Desertification**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
Eighth session  
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Agenda items 14 and 14 (a)  
Outcome of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification  
Decade of Deserts and Combating Desertification (2010–2020)

**Outcome of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification**

Draft decision submitted by the Group of African States

*The Conference of the Parties*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 58/211, which declared 2006 the International Year of Deserts and Desertification,

*Having reviewed* the report of the secretariat on the outcomes of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification (ICCD/COP(8)/11),

*Having also reviewed* the agenda item “Decade on Deserts and Combating Desertification”,

1. *Welcomes* the results achieved during the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, which contributed to raising awareness at the global level of the threat of desertification as well as awareness of the Convention process;
2. *Takes note* of the recommendations listed in document ICCD/COP(8)/11;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to explore ways and means of addressing the recommendations listed in document ICCD/COP(8)/11 in the framework of the 10-year strategy, particularly in the context of its operational objective 1 on advocacy, awareness raising and education;
4. *Invites* the General Assembly to consider at its forthcoming 62nd session declaring 2010–2020 the Decade of Deserts and Combating Desertification.

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