



UNITED
NATIONS



**Convention to Combat
Desertification**

Distr.
LIMITED

ICCD/COP(8)/L.25
14 September 2007

Original: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Eighth session
Madrid, 3–14 September 2007

Agenda item 15
Relations between the secretariat and its host country

Relations between the secretariat and its host country

Draft decision submitted by the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 5/COP.1 on the physical location of the permanent secretariat of the Convention,

Recalling also decision 29/COP.7 on relations between the secretariat and its host country,

Having considered document ICCD/COP(8)/12 on relations between the secretariat and its host country,

Noting that the secretariat moved to the United Nations Campus in Bonn, Germany, in June 2006 and that temporary arrangements have been made including on cost sharing for maintaining and operating the new premises,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to develop its relations with the Government of Germany, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the City of Bonn, as well as with other relevant stakeholders;
2. *Encourages* the secretariat to seek more cost-effective solutions for official meetings held in Bonn, pending the availability of adequate conference facilities, and *invites* the Government of Germany to continue contributing, on a voluntary basis, to meetings of the Convention organized in Bonn;
3. *Invites also* the United Nations organizations based in Bonn and the Government of Germany to conclude consultations with a view to concluding a Premises Agreement before the end of September 2008;

4. *Requests* the Government of Germany to continue to absorb most of the costs and take responsibility for maintaining and operating the new premises;
5. *Requests also* the secretariat to report to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session on progress made in its relations with the host country.

- - - - -