



UNITED  
NATIONS



**Convention to Combat  
Desertification**

Distr.  
LIMITED

ICCD/COP(9)/L.30  
26 September 2009

Original: ENGLISH

---

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**  
**Ninth session**  
**Buenos Aires, 21 September–2 October 2009**

**Agenda item 9 (a)**  
**Committee on Science and Technology**  
**Report of the Committee on Science and Technology**

**Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA)**

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

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* the provisions of decision 15/COP.8 on Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA),

*Taking note* of the report on progress of the LADA programme contained in document ICCD/COP(9)/CST/5,

*Aware* of draft decision L.29 on advice on how best to measure progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3,

*Recognizing* that the LADA programme is a coherent, multi-scale approach applied in several member countries to assess land degradation and sustainable land management,

*Recognizing also* that the LADA approach can be used to collect, process and display in a harmonized way data required to ensure effective utilization of the impact indicators related to land degradation and recommended, in accordance with draft decision L.29, to measure the strategic objectives of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, particularly strategic objectives 2 and 3,

*Taking note* also that the LADA project is approaching its final phase of activities, at the end of which a number of outputs will be produced, in particular the global plan of action incorporating all the findings of the project, and conclusions and recommendations for further action,

*Noting* with appreciation the cross-fertilization between the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and the LADA programme, particularly where impact indicators are concerned,

1. *Invites* the CST, with the support of the secretariat, to consult with the LADA programme as it consolidates, in accordance with draft decision L.29, the agreed upon impact indicators related to land degradation, and the related methodologies;
2. *Encourages* the CST to develop collaborative regional training activities on land degradation in order to improve capacities for monitoring and assessing the implementation of the strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018).

-----