

**Draft Report on the
Regional Meeting Preparatory to the Tenth Session of the Conference of the Parties
(COP 10) for Annex IV
Bonn, Germany 12 – 14 September 2011**

- DRAFT REPORT -

Item 1. Election of Officers of the meeting, Consideration and adoption of the agenda

1. The Executive Secretary welcomed participant Country Parties and addressed the main priorities of the next COP 10, mainly devoted to the analysis and further implementation of 10 Year Strategy with respect to its termination in 2018. He also mentioned the importance of having a decision on impact indicators. After this opening statement, Israel was elected as chairperson for this meeting and Italy as rapporteur with consensus. The Chair introduced the meeting.
2. The Agenda was presented by the Secretariat and was adopted with amendments (see Annex X).

Item 2. CST - Impact indicators to measure progress on Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 3

3. The Secretariat presented the documents prepared for the CST and the possible related decisions. Detailed information on the scientific peer review for the refinement of the set of impact indicators, through a global e-forum and specific meetings was provided. Concerning the pilot tracking exercise, the Secretariat illustrated the activities carried out up to now. The iterative process for their refinement has been described and the lesson learnt by analyzing the results of all activities. The Annex IV countries expressed their interest on exploring the possibility to amend and improve templates for reporting accordingly.

Item 3. Preparation of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference: Economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas

4. The Secretariat presented information about the Conference and the possible related decisions. Annex IV countries appreciate the efforts made, noting furthermore that they have not been consulted on the appointment of the Scientific Committee. In addition, some countries invited the Secretariat to transmit to the organizers the possibility to incorporate in the Conference program issues related to the forest management.

Item 4. Provision of scientific advice to the UNCCD process

5. The Secretariat presented related documents. Regarding the knowledge management system, four options are envisaged. Annex IV countries considered these options, noting that the fourth option calls for the establishment for a new body external to the Convention, meanwhile the other three deal with the enhancement of existing internal resources. If the fourth option will be chosen, the COP could only recommend to an external, concerned institution to start this process and explore ways and means to establish such inter-governmental entity.

6. Regarding the knowledge management system, many comments were raised on how to use it.
7. The role and responsibilities of the Scientific and Technical Correspondents have been analysed and countries suggested to consider the opportunity to give to them an additional function dealing with the facilitation of the communication between scientific and the policy making level.
8. An additional sub-item on the maintenance of roster of experts has been discussed and Annex IV countries invited the Secretariat to better explore its use and requested to facilitate the possibility of also opening the door to expertise dealing with policy making processes, implementation activities, etc. The Secretariat invited countries to consider the possibility to also include regional communication experts.

Item 5. CRIC. Best Practices

9. The Secretariat presented the possibility to solve the dualism of CRIC and CST on best practices monitoring and assessment and opportunity to establish a mechanism for their peer review. Annex IV countries recommended to improve their promotion and facilitate their dissemination.

Item 6. The iterative process and the reporting procedures

10. Annex IV countries appreciated the PRAIS system utilised for the last cycle for reporting on performance indicators and agreed on the iterative process for their refinement and considered all packages as discussed during CRIC 9. All comments received by the Secretariat through all channels have been analysed but templates have not been modified yet. While this activity was planned, resource constraint did not allow the Secretariat to complete its work. Annex IV expressed concerns on not having a new proposed template and on what will be the future development.

Item 7. Multi-year work plans and performance of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies. (Assessment of implementation of the Convention against performance indicators of the operational objectives of The Strategy)

11. After the detailed presentation of the 4 year work plans of CST, CRIC and GM and the JWP, Annex IV countries strongly called for having a better connection and coherence between operational activities, work programmes and related budgetary issues. They also underlined the necessity to ensure a good communication of information on these issues during the COP 10 discussion.

Item 8. Assessment of Implementation

12. The Secretariat presented two costed options on the way and modalities to perform the mid-term evaluation of the Strategy. Annex IV countries requested to have a comparative analysis of the two options (the establishment of a new IIWG and the evaluation directly made by the CRIC Bureau) containing also information and comparison on the organizational arrangements.

Item 10. Regional Coordination Mechanisms

13. The Secretariat illustrated the state of the art of the existing RCU's and RCM's. Regarding the current Annex IV situation that up to now did not request any RCU establishment, each country will elaborate their decision "at home" and a common decision would be taken during the Annex IV meeting in Korea.

Item 11. Revised procedures for the accreditation of civil society organizations including the private sector

14. Regarding the two options on the revision of the NGO's participation, Annex IV countries expressed their interest in better exploring both solutions and their related impacts and costs.

Item 12. Global Issues

15. Annex IV countries appreciate the efforts made for improving the advocacy on policy framework and the focus on climate change, gender and food security. Annex IV countries furthermore recommended a better integration with the Convention objectives and 10 Year Strategy. In addition, they recommend the Secretariat to follow the framework contained in the related COP decision on partnership with other relevant conventions and international organizations.
16. Regarding the utilization of the new GEF replenishment, the Secretariat presented its proposal on having an umbrella project finalised to the PRAIS further implementation and to the NAP alignment. Annex IV countries expressed their concerns on the possibility on having a related decision as well as on the future operational development on these activities.
17. Information on High Level Meeting of the General Assembly on 20 September 2011 on "Addressing desertification, land degradation and drought in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication" have been appreciated by the participants.

Item 13. UNCCD Priorities for biennium 2012 -2013

18. This Item has been discussed together with Item 7. Comments and opinions expressed for Item 7 should be considered also for this Item.

Item 14. The COP 9 Bureau report on the evaluation of the GM

19. Due to the absence of a COP Bureau representative and a GM representative, unlike to other Regional Preparation Meetings, this Item has not be discussed. Annex IV countries expressed their disappointment for not having the opportunity to discuss such a sensitive issue.

Item 15. Other regional issues

20. Annex IV countries agreed on organising the next meeting during COP 10 and asked the Annex IV Chair to coordinate with the Secretariat for their assistance.

Item 16. Consideration and adoption of 16. the Final Report

21. Annex IV countries considered and approved this report, agreeing to follow the Item sequence as contained in the approved agenda, even if many changes on the sequence of the presentation were made by the Secretariat. In addition, the previews of Item 9 on the Changwon Initiative have been deleted and consequently not considered in the report. Annex IV countries requested the Secretariat to made available all the presentations in electronic format and disseminate to all Annex IV countries.

Closing remarks

22. We wish to thank the Secretariat staff for the work they invested in the Annex IV preparatory meeting. However, the difficulties in the availability of the Secretariat presenters gave us the feeling that the Secretariat was not appropriately prepared for serving the meeting of Annex IV and thus enabling the delegations to use time and resources effectively. We understand the stress the Secretariat is experiencing due to the upcoming events in NY and Changwon, nevertheless we wish to make this point.

ANNEX I – List of participants

Albania

Mr. Sajmir Hoxha
Director of Biodiversity
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Waters
Administration
Rr. Durresi, Nr. 27
Tirana, Albania
Tel : (355-4) 22 39849
Fax : (355-4) 22 39849
E-mail : shoxha@moe.gov.al
s_hoxha@yahoo.com

Israel

Prof. Uriel N. Safriel
Focal Point
Centre for Environmental Conventions
The Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research
Ben-Gurion University
Sede Boqer Campus
84990 Midreshet Ben-Gurion
Tel.: (972) 54 725 3646972 773006905
E-mail: uriel36@gmail.com

Italy

Ms Anna Luise
STC
ISPRA
Institute for Environmental Protection and
Research
Via Vitaliano Brancati 48
00144 Rome, Italy
Tel: (39) 06 50072553
Fax: (39) 06 50072651
E-mail: anna.luise@isprambiente.it

Spain

Ms Beatriz Bueno Gonzalez
NAP officer
Ministry of the Environment & Rural &
Marine Affairs

Julian Camarillo 6B 1^a B
28037 Madrid
Tel: (34-91) 322 63 09
E-mail: bbgo@tragsa.es

Turkey

Mr. Hanifi Avcı
General Director
General Directorate of combating
desertification and erosion
Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs
Söğütözü Cad. No: 14/E, Floor: 12
12 06560 Beştepe-Y. Mahalle / Ankara
Tel: (90-312) 207 57 76
Fax: (90 -312) 207 57 56
E-mail: havciagm@gmail.com

Turkey

Mr. Abdullah Yurtoglu
Assistant Expert
General Directorate of combating
desertification and erosion
Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs
Söğütözü Cad. No:14/E, Floor:12
12 06560 Beştepe-Y. Mahalle / Ankara
Tel: (90-312) 207 57 25
Fax: (90 -312) 207 57 56
E-mail: myurtoglu@cob.gov.tr
a_yurtoglu@hotmail.com

Turkey

Mr. Ismail Belen
Deputy General Director
General Directorate of combating
desertification and erosion
Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs
Söğütözü Cad. No: 14/E, Floor: 12
12 06560 Beştepe-Y. Mahalle / Ankara
Tel: (90-312) 207 57 04
Fax: (90 -312) 207 57 56
E-mail: ibelen@cob.gov.tr
ismailbelen52@gmail.com

ANNEX II

Draft Agenda for the Regional Meeting Preparatory to the Tenth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) for Annex IV¹

12 September 2011

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 08:30 – 09:00 | Registration |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | Welcome and Official Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opening statement – by the Executive Secretary of UNCCD |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | Item 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Officers of the meeting • Consideration and adoption of the agenda |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 10:15 – 11:45 | Item 2 CST Impact indicators to measure progress on Strategic Objectives 1, 2 and 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Consideration of the status of work on methodologies and baselines for an effective use of the subset of impact indicators on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 b) Status of the iterative process for the refinement of the set of the UNCCD impact indicators: Scientific peer review and pilot tracking exercise Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations |
| 11:45 – 13:00 | Item 3 Preparation of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference: Economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | Item 4 Provision of scientific advice to the UNCCD process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge management system • The role and responsibilities of STCs Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations |
| 15:30 – 16:30 | Item 5 CRIC Best Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Best practice on technology in SLM b) Best practices in funding and resources mobilization c) The scheduled for the review of best practices |
| 16:30 – 16:45 | <i>Coffee Break</i> |
| 16:45 – 18:30 | Item 6 The iterative process and the reporting procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Review of the iterative process relating to the assessment of implementation, including performance and impact indicators, methodology and the reporting procedures b) Reporting on SO 4 c) Guidelines for the preliminary analysis of official documents Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations |

¹ It's to be noted that agenda items were discussed according to availability of presenters and did not necessary follow the outlined sequence.

13 September 2011

- 08:30 – 10:30 **Item 7**
Multi-year work plans and performance of the Convention's institutions and subsidiary bodies. (Assessment of implementation of the Convention against performance indicators of the operational objectives of The Strategy)
- 4 year work plan of CST
 - 4 year work plan of CRIC
 - 4 year work plan of GM
 - 4 year work plan of Secretariat
 - Work plan of JWP
- 10:30 – 10:45 *Coffee Break*
- 10:45 – 12:30 **Item 8**
Assessment of Implementation
- The assessment of implementation
 - The performance review
 - Criteria and modalities for the mid-term review of The Strategy
 - CRIC 9 recommendations to COP 10
- Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations
- 12:30 - 13:00 **Item 9**
Presentation of the Changwon Initiative by COP 10 host country Representative
Questions & answers
- 13:00 -14:30 *Lunch*
- 14:30 – 16:00 **Item 10**
Regional Coordination Mechanisms
- Regional priorities
 - Enhancing synergies among the relevant regional and sub-regional institutions and other actors
- Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations
- 16:00 – 16:30 **Item 11**
Revised procedures for the accreditation of civil society organizations including the private sector
- 16:30 – 16:45 *Coffee Break*
- 16:45 – 18:00 **Item 12**
Global Issues
Draft advocacy policy frameworks that foster an enabling policy environment for addressing DLDD on thematic issues to enhance the implementation of The Strategy
- Recent development with the GEF and the way forward**
Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations

14 September 2011

- 08:30 – 10:30 **Item 13**
UNCCD Priorities for biennium 2012 -2013
- Programme and budget for the biennium 2012–2013
- 10:30 – 10:45 *Coffee Break*
- 10:45 – 11:30 **Item 14**
The COP 9 Bureau report on the evaluation of the GM
Discussion: Questions & answers and recommendations
- 11:30 – 13:00 **Item 15**
Other regional issues
- 13:00 – 14:00 **Item 16**

14:00

Consideration and adoption of the Final Report
Closure
