

Key outcomes of the COP 14 for
Action at National Level
Provisional in the UNCCD
COP 14 decisions

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Key Decisions for Follow up at National Level

1. Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF)
2. Policy Advocacy on Drought
3. Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Land Tenure
4. Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Migration
5. Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Gender
6. Integration of SDG 15 and related target 15.3 into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and land degradation neutrality
7. Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- Invites the **GEF to continue its support for countries** in programming GEF Land Degradation Focal Area resources to combat **desertification/land degradation and drought** and achieve their voluntary land degradation neutrality targets, including in the context of **LDN transformative projects and programmes**;
- Invites the GEF to continue **supporting Parties to meet their reporting obligations under the Convention** and encourages the GEF to provide adequate financial resources in a timely manner;
- *Invites* the GEF, within its mandate, to **support the implementation of relevant aspects of the national drought plans** and other drought-related activities within the scope of the Convention;

Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Cont...

- Encourages the GEF to continue and further enhance the means to harness opportunities for **leveraging synergies among the Rio conventions** and other relevant environmental agreements, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Policy Advocacy on Drought

- *Requests* the Secretariat and the Global Mechanism, and appropriate United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification bodies, within their respective mandates, to **build on the Drought Initiative during the biennium 2020–2021** by, inter alia:
- (a) Further **upgrading and expanding the Drought Toolbox**, recognizing national contexts, in collaboration with regional and subregional stakeholders, and **supporting country Parties in building capacity on its effective usage**, including on **early warning** and monitoring systems, **impact and vulnerability assessments** and **drought risk mitigation measures**;

Policy Advocacy on Drought Cont....

- (b) Expanding collaboration and partnerships with relevant agencies, organizations and platforms to **design and test innovative, gender-responsive and transformative approaches** to supporting countries in mitigating the impacts of drought;
- (c) **Engaging with humanitarian actors in the development and implementation of national drought preparedness plans** in order to ensure better complementarity and, where needed, operationalize a coordinated humanitarian and development response;

Policy Advocacy on Drought Cont...

- *Encourages Parties to use the Drought Toolbox*, developed within the framework of the Drought Initiative, to **strengthen their preparedness for drought**, including through enhanced regional efforts;
- *Also encourages Parties to enhance the integration and coherence at national and local levels with sustainable water management strategies* and actions, mindful of the respective needs of certain sectors;

Policy Advocacy on Drought Cont...

- *Invites* Parties to **use a variety of technical approaches**, such as **sustainable land and water management, agro-ecological approaches, ecosystem restoration and watershed management**, for addressing drought and increasing resilience of ecosystems and communities to extreme weather and *requests* **the secretariat**, in cooperation with partners, to support them by **making available related information, technical assistance and capacity-building, and promoting peer-to-peer knowledge-sharing**;
- *Encourages* Parties to **engage their respective stakeholder communities**, as appropriate, **in the implementation of their national drought planning processes and activities**;

Policy Advocacy on Drought Cont...

- *Decides* to **establish an intergovernmental working group**, subject to the availability of resources, **on effective policy and implementation measures for addressing drought under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**, with a view to presenting its findings and recommendations to Parties for their consideration at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties;

Policy Advocacy on Drought Cont...

- *Also decides* that this **intergovernmental working group will have the following terms of reference;**
- (a) The terms of reference of the intergovernmental working group are to **take stock of and review the existing policy, implementation and institutional coordination frameworks**, including partnerships, on drought preparedness and response and **to consider options for appropriate policy, advocacy and implementation measures at all levels for addressing drought effectively under the Convention, in the context of a wider holistic and integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and enhancing the resilience of communities and ecosystems;**
- (b) The intergovernmental working group will comprise **Parties, international organizations**, the Science-Policy Interface, **civil society organizations** and **key stakeholders**, as appropriate;

Policy Advocacy on Drought Cont...

- (c) The intergovernmental working group will consist of a **maximum of three Party representatives from each regional implementation annex** of the Convention nominated by the respective regional group on the basis of nominations by national governments;
- (d) The **secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, will nominate participants from key stakeholders**, including United Nations organizations, the Science-Policy Interface, and other scientific organizations, **regional organizations** and civil society organizations, with a maximum of 15 additional members;
- (e) At its **first meeting, the intergovernmental working group will select a chair from its members**;
- (f) The intergovernmental working group will prepare **an interim report for consideration by Parties at the nineteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention**;

Policy Advocacy on Drought Cont...

- *Invites* Parties, international organizations, and stakeholders to make submissions on:
- (a) Policy, implementation and institutional coordination frameworks and implementation measures for addressing drought under the Convention: and
- (b) Barriers, challenges, opportunities and implementation measures as well as preparing for, responding to, and recovering from drought;
- 14. *Requests* the intergovernmental working group to present its findings and recommendations to Parties for their consideration at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties;

Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Land Tenure

- Encourages the **Parties to follow the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security principles**, taking into account the principles of implementation, in the implementation of activities to combat desertification/land degradation and drought and achieve land degradation neutrality;
- Invites Parties to review and, where appropriate, **adopt national land governance legislation and procedures in order to support sustainable land use and land restoration**;

Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Land Tenure Cont..

- Encourages Parties to **recognize legitimate tenure rights**, including **customary rights**, consistent with the national legal framework;
- Invites Parties to **legally recognize equal use and ownership rights of land for women and the enhancement of women's equal access to land and land tenure security** as well as the **promotion of gender-sensitive measures to combat desertification/land degradation and drought and achieve** land degradation neutrality, taking into account the national context;
- Encourages the Parties to **provide effective, timely and affordable access to justice and transparent dispute resolution mechanisms**;

Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Land Tenure Cont..

- Also encourages the Parties to **recognize and promote fair and inclusive community-based conflict resolution mechanisms**;
- Invites the Parties to ensure that **measures to combat desertification/land degradation and drought are carried out in a non-discriminatory and participatory way so that they promote equal tenure rights and access to land for all, in particular vulnerable and marginal groups, within the national context**;
- Encourages Parties to **promote responsible and sustainable private and public investments in combating desertification/land degradation and drought**, including restoration programmes **that adhere to environmental and social safeguards** in line with the **Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security**, and national legislation;

Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Gender

- Encourages Parties, as appropriate, **to create enabling environments at the national level to make the implementation of the Convention gender-responsive and transformative;**
- Requests the **secretariat, the Global Mechanism** and appropriate United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification bodies, including the Science-Policy Interface, within their respective mandates, **to continue their support to United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification country Parties on gender mainstreaming and the implementation of the Gender Action Plan;**

Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: Gender Cont..

- Also requests the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to continue collaboration and partnership-building with the other Rio conventions, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, other United Nations entities, international organizations and other relevant organizations to explore further ways of **strengthening awareness-raising, improving the Gender Action Plan and developing further tools and guidelines for the use of Parties in the thematic areas of the Gender Action Plan** and the gender-responsive implementation of the Convention;

Participation and involvement of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

- Encourages those **countries with no or few civil society organizations accredited to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to promote the involvement of their civil society organizations in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification process at the international level to ensure more balanced participation of civil society organizations** in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and its subsidiary bodies;

Integration of SDG 15 and related target 15.3 into the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and land degradation neutrality

- *Also invites* Parties, that have committed to voluntary land degradation neutrality targets, to implement measures to accelerate their achievement, as appropriate, by:
 - (a) **Fostering synergies among the Rio conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements**, including the consideration of **joint programming activities** at the national and sub-national level;
 - (b) **Strengthening national-level coordination and cooperation** based on, inter alia, **integrated land use planning**, to guide the implementation of **transformative projects and programmes**;

Integration SDG 15 & target 15.3 Cont....

- (c) **Creating an enabling environment for the achievement of land degradation neutrality, including the responsible governance of land and tenure security, the engagement of stakeholders and the improved access of smallholders to advisory and financial services;**
- *Further invites* all Parties, as appropriate **and on a voluntary basis, to enhance the integration** of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular **Sustainable Development Goal target 15.3**, into their **national strategies, plans and programmes** to implement the **Convention;**

Integration SDG 15 & target 15.3 Cont....

- *Invites developed country Parties*, and others in a position to do so, **to provide financial and technical support for the implementation of the Convention and the achievement of land degradation neutrality;**

Follow up on the positive role that measures taken under the Convention can play to address desertification/land degradation and drought as one of the drivers that cause migration

- *Invites* Parties, as appropriate, to consider:
- (a) Promoting the restoration of degraded land as one way of changing the narrative in communities impacted by desertification/land degradation and drought, and **allowing United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification implementation to focus on new opportunities and solutions which offer hope to young people;**
- (b) **Reviewing development policies, including land-use policies and agricultural practices, with a view to promoting large-scale ecological restoration;**

Follow up to address desertification/land degradation as one of the drivers that cause migration Cont....

- (c) **Fostering renewable energy** within different national contexts, as appropriate, including through partnerships, as a means to catalyse **restoration of land and the development of rural enterprise**, taking into account all relevant Sustainable Development Goals;
- (d) **Promoting the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises in rural areas**, inter alia, by **creating sustainable value chains for local products, reducing pre- and post-harvest losses of agriculture and investing in clean rural industries**;
- (e) Encouraging **responsible and sustainable investment by the private sector** in land restoration, conservation and improvement, and livelihood development, as well as **exploring how to develop a business case**, including the consideration of **public funding to facilitate increased private investment**;

Follow up to address desertification/land degradation as one of the drivers that cause migration Cont....

- **(f) Supporting the Initiative on Sustainability, Stability and Security in Africa** as well as creating initiatives in other regions that **contribute to employment creation for rural communities by restoring degraded lands and facilitating access to land and land tenure security;**
- **(g) Organizing conferences on desertification/land degradation and drought and migration,** inter alia, to follow up on the recommendations of the Conferences of Almeria II **in order to move from policies to action within the scope of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;**

Follow up to address desertification/land degradation as one of the drivers that cause migration Cont....

- *Also invites* Parties from the Africa region that are interested and have not yet done so to join the Initiative on Sustainability, Stability and Security;
- *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to:
- (a) Support Parties, upon request, in implementing the actions mentioned in paragraph 1 above;
- (b) Also support regional and international cooperation and initiatives, within the scope of the Convention, that aim to promote the positive role sustainable land management can play to address desertification/land degradation and drought as one of the drivers that causes migration;

Follow up to address desertification/land degradation as one of the drivers that cause migration Cont....

- (c) Strengthen cross-sectoral cooperation with other United Nations agencies and programmes, regional and international organizations, and stakeholders to share information on the linkages between desertification/land degradation and drought and migration;
- (d) Present for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at future sessions a report on the progress made in implementing this decision.