



Summary of the 14th Meeting of the UNCCD CSO Panel (23 February 2021)

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Panel had its eleventh meeting on Tuesday 23 February 2021.

This meeting of the CSO panel was again dedicated to UNCCD CRIC19 preparation. As agreed during their 11th meeting, the CSO panel members should prepare short synthesis report to popularize the CRIC19 topics, based on the official preparatory documents:

- Simplified agenda
- Update on the implementation of the voluntary land degradation neutrality targets and related implementation efforts
- Operationalization of the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund
- Interim report of the intergovernmental working group on effective policy implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD. Report by the intergovernmental working group
- Follow-up on policy frameworks and thematic issues: gender, Drought Initiative and land tenure.

Their 14th meeting allowed them to review progress in the writing of these documents. Once completed the synthesis reports will be disseminated to accredited CSOs for them to familiarize more easily with the CRIC19 stakes.

The CSO Panel members also agreed on the dates (9th or 10th of March) for the international civil society preparatory online meeting. They furthermore requested the UNCCD Secretariat technical support with Zoom platform to ensure access to all accredited CSOs that wishes to attend. The CSO panel finally requested that the meeting be opened by the UNCCD Executive Secretary, M. Ibrahim Thiaw.

The CSO Panel members furthermore discussed the statements preparation for each of the CRIC19 plenaries. They agreed that raw drafts of statements will be prepared by panel members then circulated to the accredited CSOs for comments and complements.

During their 14th meeting, the CSO panel members also agreed to plan an online meeting between the accredited CSOs and the LDN fund representatives after the CRIC19.

They finally discussed the outline of the issue #6 of the CSO panel newsletter. It will include information on the CRIC19 preparation.