

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

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling articles 3, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of the Convention, Also recalling decisions 5/COP.9, 5/COP.10, 5/COP.11, 5/COP.12, 5/COP.13 and 5/COP.14,

Welcoming the celebration of the open dialogue sessions organized by the civil society organizations as part of the official agenda of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Also welcoming the organization of the youth and gender caucus organized on the sidelines of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, giving an opportunity to those that are more affected by desertification/land degradation and drought to provide inputs to the decision-making process,

Taking note of the recommendations made at the Open Dialogue Session by civil society organizations for Parties to further support the integration of land tenure into the implementation of the Convention and to recognize community-driven agroecological approaches and regenerative agricultural practices as solutions for implementing the UNCCD and achieve LDN,

1. Encourages those countries with no or few civil society organizations accredited to the Conference of the Parties to promote the involvement of their 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 and its subsidiary bodies;
2. Requests the secretariat to continue working with the key stakeholders, including youth, indigenous peoples, local community organizations, farmers organizations, women's organizations, peoples with disabilities, local governments and parliamentarians;
3. Also requests the secretariat to develop a youth engagement strategy and the modalities for its implementation to ensure a stronger, effective and meaningful participation of youth in the meetings and processes of the Convention;
4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to facilitate the renewal of the membership of the Civil Society Organization Panel for two years starting immediately after fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with previous decisions;
5. Urges developed country Parties, international and financial organizations, civil society organizations and private sector institutions to consider contributing

substantially and promptly to the Supplementary Fund and Special Fund of the Convention with the aim of ensuring wider participation of civil society organizations in meetings and processes of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification as well as in the work undertaken by the Civil Society Organization Panel;

6. Requests to civil society organizations accredited to the Convention to continue their work to provide information on community-driven agro-ecological approaches and regenerative agricultural practices, and to develop recommendations for better integration of these approaches and practices into the implementation of the Convention.

7. Requests the Civil Society Organization Panel, through the secretariat, to report to the Conference of the Parties at future sessions on its activities during the forthcoming biennium;

8. Also requests the secretariat to report at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of this decision.