Decision 14/COP.6

Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 25 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

Recalling also its decisions 23/COP.1, 17/COP.2, 13/COP.3, 17/COP.4 and 13/COP.5,

Bearing in mind the usefulness of the survey and evaluation for the implementation of the Convention,

Recognizing the efforts made by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and members of its consortium in this respect,

Having reviewed the positive results of the desk evaluation report of Phase 1 of the survey and evaluation of existing networks to support the implementation of the UNCCD,

Taking note of the lack of financial support for the proposal for Phase 2 as contained in ICCD/COP(4)/CST/3/Add.1,

Taking into consideration the request made by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) to UNEP on behalf of its consortium members, to submit a revised proposal on Phase 2 for consideration by the CST at its fifth session,

1.   *Accepts* the revised proposal put forward by UNEP on behalf of its consortium members, as contained in ICCD/COP(5)/CST/3;

2.   *Requests* the secretariat to enter into the necessary contractual arrangements with UNEP for the implementation of Phase 2 of the survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies, as soon as the necessary funding arrangements have been made;

3.   *Requests* UNEP on behalf of its consortium members to submit to the secretariat an interim progress report for presentation to the CST Bureau at its inter-sessional meeting, and to submit a final report to the CST at its seventh session;

4.   *Requests* the Global Mechanism and other funding agencies, in close collaboration with the secretariat, to mobilize additional resources for this initiative;

5.   *Encourages* Parties to the UNCCD and, in particular, donors and institutions, to volunteer contributions towards this initiative.

9th plenary meeting
3 September 2003