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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
TO ELABORATE A CONVENTION TO COMBAT
DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR
DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA (INCD)
First session
24 May-3 June 1993
Agenda item 1

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda

Note by the secretariat

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
2. Election of officers
3. Sharing of technical information and assessments, including the following elements:
 - (a) Desertification, drought and the global environment
 - (b) Causes, general extent and consequences of land degradation in arid, semi-arid and sub-humid areas
 - (c) Social and economic dimensions
 - (d) Pattern of bilateral and multilateral assistance programmes
 - (e) Experiences with international, regional, subregional and national programmes to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in developing countries

(f) Experiences of developed countries

(g) Some possible elements of a new strategy to promote sustainable development in countries experiencing drought and desertification

4. Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

5. Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds:

(a) Special Voluntary Fund to support the participation of developing countries affected by drought and desertification, particularly the least developed countries;

(b) Trust fund for the negotiating process.

6. Adoption of the provisional agenda for the second session

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its first session

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Annotations to the agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The Committee, at its organizational session (New York, 26-29 January 1993) approved the provisional agenda for the first session, as contained in document A/AC.241/L.2/Rev.1.

The provisional agenda for the first session is submitted for adoption.

The Committee should consider the first list of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which are recommended for accreditation for the negotiation process of the Convention (A/AC.241/9). It is advisable to decide on this matter at an early stage of the session in order to allow NGOs to attend the session. Other requests for accreditation will be submitted later during the session.

The work programme (annex I) provides further details on the organization of the present session.

The Committee should also decide on the work programme of each working group.

2. Election of officers

The Committee should elect the rapporteur.

It should also elect the remaining officers of the two Working Groups established at the organizational session (A/AC.241/4, para. 15).

3. Sharing of technical information and assessments

The Committee, at its organizational session, spelled out seven elements to be considered under this agenda item. The secretariat, with the advice of the panel of experts and following consultations with concerned international organizations, provided further details for those elements and invited individual experts and organizations to prepare specific presentations. These oral presentations will be accompanied by written documents made available by the presentators.

The note on technical information and assessments on drought and desertification (A/AC.241/6) provides a detailed programme for the presentations by individual experts, organizations and countries.

4. Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa

The Committee will have before it the document prepared by the secretariat (A/AC.241/7). It may also take into consideration other proposals that may be submitted by Governments during the discussions. It should be recalled that the Committee, at its organizational session, invited Governments to make proposals for the text of the Convention and to submit these to the secretariat not later than 1 July 1993.

In addition the Committee may want to give further guidance with regard to the format of the Convention and its possible contents.

5. Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds

(a) Special Voluntary Fund to support the participation of developing countries affected by drought and desertification, particularly the least developed countries;

(b) Trust Fund for the negotiating process.

At its organizational session the Committee took note of pledges made by several countries to both the Special Voluntary Fund and the Trust Fund.

The Committee will have before it the document (A/AC.241/8) submitted by the secretariat indicating the present status of the two funds.

6. Adoption of the provisional agenda for the second session
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its first session

List of Documents for the first session of the Committee

A/AC.241/5	Provisional agenda
A/AC.241/6	Technical information and assessments on drought and desertification
A/AC.241/7	Format and possible elements of the Convention
A/AC.241/8	Report on the status of the extrabudgetary funds
A/AC.241/9	List of non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation

Annex I

WORK PROGRAMME

May 24	a.m. 10:00	Meeting of the INCĐ Bureau
	p.m. 15:00	Opening of the First Session of INCĐ
		Agenda Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
		Agenda Item 2. Election of officers
		Agenda Item 3. Sharing of technical information and assessments
May 25	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
May 26	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
May 27	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
May 28	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
May 29	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 3. (continuation)
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 3. (conclusions)
May 31	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 4. Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa
June 1	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 4. (continuation)
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 4. (continuation)

June 2	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 1.	(resume)
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 5.	Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds
		(a)	Special voluntary fund to support the participation of developing countries affected by drought and/or desertification, particularly the least developed countries
		(b)	Trust fund for the negotiating process
June 3	a.m. 10:00	Agenda Item 6.	Adoption of the provisional agenda for the second session
	p.m. 15:00	Agenda Item 7.	Adoption of the report of the Committee on its first session
