Addressing drought in the context of the UNCCD

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What is our business as the UNCCD?

- To combat desertification and land degradation
- To mitigate the effects of drought
  - Affects all regions of the world, but prevalent in the drylands – arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas
What are the associated challenges?

- Poverty
- Climate Change and Variability
- Loss of Bio-Diversity
- Water Scarcity
- Natural Resources Conflicts
- Food Insecurity, hunger and starvation
- Forced Human Migration
Are these issues intricately related?
How about Drought Issues?

• **HMNDP – decision 9/COP.10 para 2**
  -Acknowledged UNCCD role, provisions and principles in particular Parts II and III of the Convention, to assist in combating drought and desertification;

• **APF on Drought (including water scarcity) – decision 9/COP. 10 para 11 a**
  -The APF on drought: Policy relevant tools and approaches for assisting countries in addressing drought issues;
  -The overarching goal of the APF: development and adoption of national policies;

• **Capacity building initiative on national drought management policies (NDMP)**
  -collaboration with UN-Water- DPC, WMO, FAO and CBD;
High Level Meeting on National Drought Management Policy

- **Organizers**: UNCCD, WMO and FAO supported by UN agencies and a number of international organizations.

- **Findings**: - Slowly creeping-in disaster and difficult to tell the exact time it sets in
  - Most countries do not have comprehensive national drought management policies

- **Conclusions**: Without a coordinated national drought policy, countries will continue to respond to drought in a reactive, crisis management mode.
What are the follow up actions?

- To provide concerted support to countries in developing national drought management policies
- UNW-DPC, WMO, UNCCD and FAO, (CBD and UNESCO to join) to build capacity at national level to enable countries to develop their NDMPs
- To facilitate the development of an NDMP, UNCCD developed an advocacy policy framework on drought, -an instrument to assist countries in developing their NDMP
Why NDMP?

TO facilitate:

- standard approaches to drought vulnerability and impact assessment;
- Implementing of effective drought monitoring and early warning systems;
- Enhancing drought preparedness and mitigation measures; and
- implementing emergency response and relief measures that reinforce national drought policy goals.
Thank you

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