



# THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ES/III/2

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Convention to Combat Desertification

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

SUBMITTED BY: United States, Japan, Greece, Venezuela, The Netherlands, Brazil, United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Iran, Denmark, Republic of Korea, Georgia, Rwanda, Croatia, Nepal, Italy, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Angola

## *The Economic and Social Council*

1 *Recognizing* the problem of land degradation which is occurring worldwide as a result of: poor irrigation,  
2 overgrazing, over-cultivation, deforestation, droughts, fires and population growth, among other causes,

3 *Noting* that proper land use would benefit the well-being of both donor and affected countries,

4 *Taking* into consideration that degradation affects food security, downstream flooding, water quality,  
5 migration, the physical well-being of the citizens, and the overall political stability of affected states,

6 *Emphasizing* the importance of preventative measures that must be taken to help affected states  
7 following the precedents established during the Convention to Combat Desertification,

8 1. *Encourages* the agricultural developers of the world to maximize use of available land  
9 properly, through agricultural improvements;

10 2. *Calls* for food aid relief to nations as an incentive to utilize new agricultural methods;

11 3. *Supports* the people of the world as a whole to use environmentally sustainable land use  
12 practices;

13 4. *Strongly affirms* the need for education, including but not limited to technological and  
14 scientific research, to increase land productivity as an effective means to combat  
15 desertification;

16 5. *Congratulates* nations that have taken the initiative in the creation of national action  
17 programs and further encourages other affected nations to do the same;

18 6. *Recommends* that the United Nations follows the suggested approach of bottom-up  
19 resolution building as outlined by the Convention to Combat Desertification, placing  
20 emphasis on local and regional action such as increasing citizen awareness and participation

- 21           partnered along with responsibility to the UN for assessment;
- 22       7.    *Acknowledges* that funding, education and awareness is needed to repair land already  
23       damaged and to prevent future damage, noting funding and awareness can come from the  
24       following, but is not limited to:
- 25           a.     UN Agriculture Fund
- 26           b.     Monies from national, regional and sub-regional agencies within the particular  
27           country in need
- 28           c.     The Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- 29           d.     Thematic Program Network (TPN)
- 30           e.     Donor countries
- 31       8.    *Calls upon* the council to include the Food and Agricultural Organization's extensively  
32       researched report in any future discussions as it relates to any plan of action for  
33       desertification;
- 34       9.    *Encourages* implementation of education for utilization of proper funding;
- 35       10.   *Requests* that annual reports be distributed by the nations receiving monetary funds to donor  
36       countries and ECOSOC, along with the request that NGOs work together in concert to  
37       ensure its progress, and if necessary, a follow-up meeting.

Final Vote: Passed by Consensus

Abstentions: Angola, Austria, Benin, Bolivia, Cuba, China, Indonesia, Morocco, Mexico, Nigeria,  
South Africa, Sudan, Syria, Russian Federation