

## MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

This Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as the "Memorandum") is concluded between:

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
393 St.- Jacques, Suite 300  
Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 1N9, Canada

and

The Drylands Development Centre of the United Nations Development Programme  
P.O. Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter "the CBD Secretariat") and the Drylands Development Centre of the United Nations Development Programme herein after "UNDP-DDC")

1. *Recognizing* that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is the key international legal instrument for the promotion and coordination of efforts in the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources,
2. *Recognizing* the role of UNDP-DDC in promoting the development of dryland areas throughout the world through providing assistance to countries in the form of policy advice, technical support and institutional capacity development, advocacy, information and knowledge management support for integrating drylands issues into macro economic and national development planning frameworks,
3. *Recalling* decision VI/23 by which the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD established a programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands, and its paragraph 3, in which the COP urged Parties, other Government, international and regional organisations, major groups and other relevant bodies to implement it, to support scientifically, technically and financially its activities at the national and regional levels and to foster cooperation among countries within regions and subregions sharing similar biomes,
4. *Recalling* decision VI/20 of the COP to the CBD on cooperation with other organizations, initiatives and conventions in which the COP reaffirmed the importance of cooperation and the need to design and implement mutually supportive activities with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives,
5. *Recalling* recommendation VIII/4 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the Convention, which recommended to adopt the proposal made by the Executive Secretary for the further refinement of the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands and suggested collaborating partners (in the annexe to the recommendation),

6. *Recalling* the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development which recognizes that a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity by 2010 will require the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources for developing countries, and includes actions at all levels to, *inter alia*, integrate the objectives of the Convention into global, regional and national sectoral and cross-sectoral programmes and policies,

7. *Aware* that UNDP-DDC is committed to achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goal of halving world poverty by 2015 and other key development goals, including that the programmes of work on sustainable development are formulated in line with Agenda 21 and are coordinated and balanced to respond and contribute to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) follow-up requirements.

Have agreed as follows:

#### **Article 1. Statement of Objectives**

- (a) The purpose of this Memorandum is to establish a framework for cooperation between UNDP-DDC and the CBD Secretariat in the area of biodiversity conservation relevant to dry and sub-humid lands development and sustainable livelihoods. This cooperation should support the implementation of relevant programmes of work of the UNDP-DDC and the CBD Secretariat regarding dry and sub-humid lands, taking into account appropriate linkages and synergies that these programmes may have with the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar), and the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), and in particular with any joint programme of work established between the CBD Secretariat and these conventions such as the Joint Work Programme between the CBD and UNCCD.
- (b) This Memorandum covers sectoral and cross-sectoral aspects of biodiversity of relevance to promoting sustainable livelihoods in dry and sub-humid lands.

#### **Article 2. General Areas of Cooperation**

1. The CBD Secretariat and the UNDP-DDC will cooperate in several activities, in particular through:
  - a. Regular exchange of information on relevant issues and activities;
  - b. Participation of staff of each party in relevant meetings organized under the CBD and the UNDP-DDC, as possible; and
  - c. Collaboration in the preparation of official documents for meetings, as relevant.
2. The CBD Secretariat and UNDP-DDC will exchange information regarding activities of relevance to their respective mandates and on joint activities undertaken within the framework of this Memorandum, and will notify each other of decisions taken by their respective governing and subsidiary bodies, as appropriate, on issues of mutual concern.

3. As appropriate, the CBD Secretariat and UNDP-DDC will develop joint programmes of work for the implementation of this Memorandum, taking into account the elements of a joint work programme as appended in annex 1.

#### **Article 3. Consultation, communication and further guidance**

- (a) Subject to approval by their respective governing bodies and within the limits of their approved budgets, the CBD Secretariat and the UNDP-DDC will institute measures to ensure consultation on the implementation of this Memorandum.
- (b) The two sides will endeavour to provide each other with the opportunity to communicate the results of their activities to their respective governing bodies or any other appropriate organs.

#### **Article 4. Financial aspects**

Cooperative activities covered by this Memorandum are subject to the availability of funds for that purpose. The CBD Secretariat and UNDP-DDC will explore possibilities to identify extra-budgetary financial resources for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in support of drylands development and sustainable livelihoods.

#### **Article 5. Reporting and Further Guidance**

The CBD Secretariat and the UNDP-DDC will report to their respective governing bodies and subsidiary bodies, as appropriate, on progress made in the implementation of this Memorandum and seek further guidance regarding new areas of cooperation.

#### **Article 6. Entry into Force, Review and Termination**

This Memorandum will enter into force upon signature by the CBD Secretariat and UNDP-DDC.

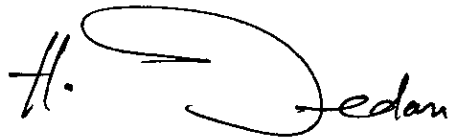
The Secretariat of the Convention and UNDP-DDC may, by mutual agreement, review and amend this Memorandum.

This Memorandum may be terminated by either Party giving three months written notice.

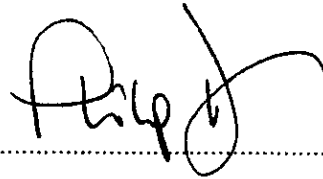
Signed this .....8..... day of .....August.....2003.

For and on behalf of the Secretariat of the  
Convention on Biological Diversity

On behalf of the Drylands Development  
Centre of United Nations Development  
Programme

Handwritten signature of Hamdallah Zedan in black ink, featuring a large, stylized loop and the name 'Zedan' written in a cursive script.

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Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

Handwritten signature of Philip Dobie in black ink, featuring a large, stylized loop and the name 'Dobie' written in a cursive script.

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Philip Dobie  
Director

#### Annex 1: Elements of a joint work programme

Based on mutual discussions between the CBD Secretariat and the UNDP-DDC, the following areas were identified for as initial departure points for collaboration:

- a. *Effective use of case-studies* - mechanisms for the documentation and collection of case-studies are already established, e.g. in collaboration with the UNDP-DDC Regional Offices, UNDP Equator Initiative, UNDP Country Offices and through CBD and UNCCD national Focal Points. These mechanisms could be used addressing various issues specified in the programmes of work on dry and sub-humid lands, agro biodiversity and other.
- b. *Assessments* - Although the UNDP-DDC does not have capacity to directly contribute to activities 1 to 3 of the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands, linkages with competent technical institutions could be fostered through the DDC, especially also in view of mapping socio-economic data, including e.g. poverty and vulnerability amongst people living in dry and sub-humid lands.
- c. *Meetings and workshops* - The CBD and the UNDP-DDC could contribute to meetings and workshops, through their participation, presentations, organisation, e.g. as discussed for the proposed "Practising Synergies" workshop of the CBD and UNCCD, or through the Agro biodiversity task group of the Millennium Development Goals, to meet in the margins of the World Park Congress or through side event discussions at the Global Biodiversity Forum-Cuba in order to identify themes for the proposed Biodiversity Challenge Paper Series.
- d. *Innovative farming practices* - Through the innovative farming practices project (technology transfer) aspects of the Programme of Work (PoW) on dry and sub-humid lands could be addressed, including especially eco-agriculture and reduction of degradation (rehabilitation),
- e. *Africa Drylands Forum* - A suggestion was made to support the formation of an "Africa Drylands Forum", which could bring together the scientific community with people on the ground. It was suggested, following the Kyoto Global Water Forum held in March 2003, to tie such fora together.
- f. *CGIARs* - The UNDP-DDC could address issues arising from the PoW on dry and sub-humid lands, Agro biodiversity and other during the CGIAR annual meeting, which will be held in Nairobi this year.
- g. *Biodiversity Challenge Paper Series* - Collaborate in support of producing a Global Drylands Imperative Challenge Paper series devoted to addressing issues relevant to Biodiversity and Drylands (including dry and sub-humid ecosystems, as appropriate) and prepare such in time for CBD COP 7.
- h. *GEF* - The UNDP-DDC is continuously developing its working relationship with the GEF. The Secretariat and the UNDP-DDC shall explore potential for developing funding proposals, especially for joint projects/programmes directly implementing key activities of the UNDP-DDC and the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands as well as other relevant work programmes.
- i. *OTHER* - Collaborate in the implementation of the Integrated Drylands Development Programme, collaborate on joint resource mobilization in support of joint CBD UNDP-DDC activities related to biodiversity and drylands development, including dry and sub-humid ecosystems as appropriate.