

Date: 09 October 2013
Ref.: MM/fcemi/accredcso
cc: MND/MC/GGL/AT

Dear Mr. Mahapatra,

Subject: Accreditation of your organization as observer to the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

We are pleased to inform you that the eleventh session of the Conference of Parties (COP 11) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) decided to grant observer status to your organization, following the recommendation made by the UNCCD secretariat. This accreditation is valid for all sessions of the COP and its Subsidiary Bodies.

As an accredited observer, your organization will automatically receive an official invitation to attend the sessions of the COP and its Subsidiary Bodies. The attached official document ICCD/COP(11)/20.Rev.1 contains a listing with the civil society organizations (CSO) that were accredited, including the name of your organization.

Your organization is requested to keep the UNCCD secretariat informed of any changes affecting your organization and/or any activities of relevance undertaken as part of the Convention process. Ongoing and updated information on the Convention process can be found on the UNCCD's website: <http://www.unccd.int>.

Furthermore, paragraph 2 decision 5/COP.10 states that "the civil society organizations accredited to the COP shall submit a report to the secretariat, with a copy to the national focal point, every five years on their activities and on contributions made to the implementation of the Convention". Please be reminded that the observer status will be withdrawn if your organization fails to comply with this obligation.

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Should you wish to indicate your status with the UNCCD on your letterhead, please use the following wording: "CSO with accredited status with the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD". The UNCCD logo may not be used for stationery use, or for any printed materials describing your organization. If you would like to use the UNCCD logo for any specific event or activity, you are kindly advised to send a request to arce@unccd.int describing the purpose of the same.

I would like to highly recommend that you visit the section of the UNCCD website devoted to the civil society organizations <http://www.unccd.int/en/Stakeholders/civil-society/Pages/default.aspx> where you can find updated information relevant to the CSOs working in the implementation of the UNCCD.

We look forward to a productive and rewarding collaboration with your organization and its representatives.

Yours sincerely,



Monique Barbut
Executive Secretary

