



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 18 June 2021

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COMMUNICATION

NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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Subject: Informal videoconference of the Members of the Working Party on
International Environment Issues - Desertification

Date: 23 June 2021

Time: 15.00

Venue: Videoconference

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
2. **High-level Dialogue on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought**
 - PGA's HLD on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought - by Tina Birmpili, Deputy Executive Secretary from the UNCCD
3. **Desertification and Drought Day: *Restoration. Land. Recovery***
 - Global observance of Desertification and Drought Day - by Tina Birmpili, Deputy Executive Secretary from the UNCCD
 - Sharing experiences of DDD celebrations among delegations
4. **Reports from UNCCD COP and CST Bureau Members**
 - Reports from the UNCCD COP and CST Bureau Members & discussion on the COP Bureau Meeting agenda on the 24 June
5. **The GEF8 replenishment**
 - Overview of fund distribution and development of focal area for land degradation: new Integrated Program on Land Restoration - by Ulrich Apel from the GEF

6. AOB

- Update on the state of art of the new EU Soil Strategy
- Disclosure of the Portuguese Presidency Webinar on “Land under Pressure”, 25 June

7. Wrap up of the Portuguese Presidency and handing over to the upcoming Slovenian Presidency

- Presentation of main topics covered by the Portuguese Presidency
 - Handing to the Slovenian Presidency
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NB: Council documents are available on Delegates Portal.

NB: Delegations are kindly invited to inform the Council secretariat

(WPIEI-desertification@consilium.europa.eu) by 12:00 on 21 June 2021 of the names of the persons participating.