

# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1997/0211(CNS) Procedure completed
United Nations Convention to combat desertification	
Subject 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection		
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>DEVE</b> Development and Cooperation		
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN</a>	<a href="#">2072</a>	09/03/1998

Key events			
24/07/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0410	Summary
19/09/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
08/10/1997	Vote in committee		
22/10/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0489/1997	Summary
09/03/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
09/03/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/03/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1997/0211(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision

Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1; EC before Amsterdam E 228-p2/3-a1; EC before Amsterdam E 130R; EC before Amsterdam E 130Y
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/09281

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(1997)0410</a> <a href="#">OJ C 299 30.09.1997, p. 0001</a>	25/07/1997	EC	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0489/1997 <a href="#">OJ C 339 10.11.1997, p. 0046-0056</a>	22/10/1997	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

Final act
<a href="#">Decision 1998/216</a> <a href="#">OJ L 083 19.03.1998, p. 0001</a> Summary

## United Nations Convention to combat desertification

**OBJECTIVE:** to approve, on behalf of the Community, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, especially in Africa.  
**SUBSTANCE:** on 14 October 1994, the Convention on desertification was signed by the Parties in Paris, and it came into force on 26 December 1996. The Convention, to which the Community is a party, aimed at combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels. These measures are based on international cooperation and partnership arrangements and involve an integrated approach consistent with Agenda 21 of the United Nations, with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in affected areas. The Convention consists of 40 articles and four annexes covering arrangements for its implementation in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and in the northern Mediterranean. The scope of the Convention falls, at least partly, within the Community's sphere of activities: - firstly, as regards environmental protection legislation, particularly under Council regulations and other Community initiatives, notably in the area of science policy (combating erosion and desertification), - secondly, as regards development cooperation, in the framework of the Lomé Convention, the Latin America, Asia and Mediterranean Regulations and other Community instruments dealing specifically with development cooperation. ?

## United Nations Convention to combat desertification

Parliament approved without debate the proposal for a Decision concerning the conclusion by the Community of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (Rule 99 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure).?

## United Nations Convention to combat desertification

**OBJECTIVE:** to approve, on behalf of the Community, the United Nations Convention of 1994 to combat desertification. **COMMUNITY MEASURE:** Council Decision 98/216/EC on the conclusion, on behalf of the Community, of the United Nations Convention to combat desertification in countries seriously affected by drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa. **SUBSTANCE:** The convention signed by the parties on 14.10.1994 has the aim of combating desertification and alleviating the impact of drought in countries seriously affected by this problem, particularly in Africa, by means of effective measures at all levels. These measures are to be based on arrangements for international cooperation and partnership, within the framework of an integrated approach compatible with the United Nations' Action 21 programme. It relates, in particular, to the attainment of sustainable development in the regions concerned and requiring parties, within the limits of their respective competences, to adopt preventive and aid measures to combat drought in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and the northern Mediterranean. The Decision extends the Convention to the Community. The Convention comprises fields of application for which the Community is at least partially competent, namely: -environmental protection and other Community measures in the field of science policy (combating erosion and desertification), -development cooperation in Africa, under the Lomé Convention, in Latin America, Asia and the Mediterranean, -other specific development cooperation instruments. The Community will take action in these fields in accordance with the aims of the Convention. **ENTRY INTO FORCE:** the Decision enters into force on 19.03.1998.?