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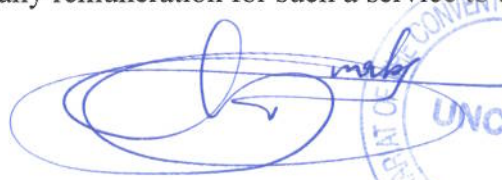
**To whom it may concern**

On behalf of the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and in my capacity as the Executive Secretary, I would like to confirm that Prof. Mihajlo Markovic was elected Vice-Chair of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) during the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 21 September to 02 October 2009.

As current Vice-Chair of the CST9 Bureau and member of the Delegation from Bosnia-Herzegovina to the UNCCD, Prof. Mihajlo Markovic has contributed to achieving global awareness on the UNCCD objectives and in providing valuable advice on science and technology matters relating to combating desertification, Land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought (DLDD). Through the able guidance of Prof. Mihajlo Markovic, the work of the CST has very much helped advancing the Land Agenda.

The CST Bureau contribution is critical to the UNCCD especially the CST at large, which has increased over the last 2 years, as a result of various decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties. The role of the CST Bureau requires its members to meet regularly and provide guidance on the progress made under the current workplan of the CST.

I wish to thank Prof. Mihajlo Markovic for his valuable contribution and express my sincere appreciation for his effort and time in leading, advising and contributing to the preparations and organization of the work of the CST Bureau. It is worth noting that Prof. Mihajlo Markovic is not receiving any remuneration for such a service to the UNCCD process.



Luc Gnacadja  
Executive Secretary