



POSITION
PAPER

INT

2014

TRAFFIC
the wildlife trade monitoring network

CBD COP-12

BIODIVERSITY & HUMAN HEALTH

21 August 2014

TWELFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
6 - 17 October 2014 - Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea

Biodiversity and Human Health under Agenda Item 16

WWF and TRAFFIC key messages

Regarding biodiversity and human health, WWF and TRAFFIC welcome the state of knowledge review on Biodiversity and human health, prepared by the CBD and WHO, and the development of recognition for linkages between biodiversity and human health, especially as relevant to the sustainable use and conservation of plants and animals that form the raw materials both of traditional and modern medicines. A practical example of such links is the work of WHO, WWF, TRAFFIC, and IUCN on the update and finalization of the WHO/IUCN/WWF/TRAFFIC guidelines on the conservation of medicinal plants. WHO recognizes the role of medicinal plants in delivering primary healthcare around the world, and WWF, TRAFFIC and IUCN would like to ensure that where the plants are used it is sustainable, emphasizing the biodiversity importance of these species survival, as well as their importance for sustainable livelihoods. Accordingly, we would like to see CBD Parties, Secretariat and stakeholders acknowledge and champion this work.

WWF and TRAFFIC urge COP-12 to adopt the draft decision, in particular one new paragraph in its final decision:

4bis. *Recognises* the importance of medicinal plants in the delivery of primary health care and their contribution to livelihoods, *welcomes* the ongoing revision of the WHO/IUCN/WWF/TRAFFIC guidelines on the conservation of medicinal plants undertaken by co-author organizations, and encourages their use by Parties and relevant organisations as soon as they are available.

WWF and TRAFFIC welcome the draft decision as set out in UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Add.2 on Biodiversity and Human Health, and call on COP-12 to consider for inclusion the following proposed text changes in its final decisions.

New text proposed by WWF and TRAFFIC is in bold and underlined. Text that we recommend to delete is highlighted with ~~strike through~~."

Item 16. Biodiversity and sustainable development

The following is taken from recommendation XVIII/14 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

Biodiversity and human health

The Conference of the Parties

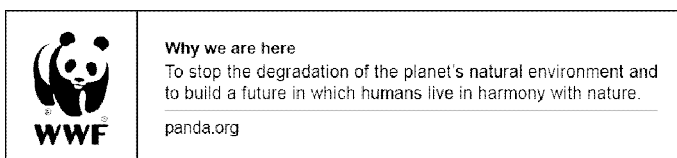
1. *Welcomes* the outcomes of regional capacity-building workshops, for Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, on the interlinkages between biodiversity and human health co-convened by the Secretariat and the World Health Organization, in collaboration with other FIOCRUZ and other partners, , and encourages the organization of additional workshops, in collaboration with relevant partners, in other regions;
 2. *Invites* relevant Parties to make use of the report of the workshops in the updating and/or implementation of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
 3. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to promote cooperation at the national level between sectors and agencies responsible for biodiversity and those responsible for human health;
 4. *{Recognises the value} {takes note}* of the “One Health” approach to address the cross-cutting issue of biodiversity and health as an integrated approach consistent with the ecosystem approach (decision V/6) that integrates the complex relationships between humans, animals, plants, wildlife and the environment;
- 4bis. *Recognises the importance of medicinal plants in the delivery of primary health care and their contribution to livelihoods, welcomes the ongoing revision of the WHO/IUCN/WWF/TRAFFIC guidelines on the conservation of medicinal plants undertaken by co-author organizations, and encourages their use by Parties and relevant organisations as soon as they are available.***
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report the results of collaborative work on biodiversity and health to the 68th World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization.

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice also recommended that the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting consider the state of knowledge review on the interlinkages between biodiversity and human health with respect to its implications for the work under the Convention, including, inter alia: national biodiversity strategies and action plans; the identification of further opportunities for mainstreaming the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including in the context of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals; and, opportunities to further promote knowledge and experience on the interlinkages between biodiversity and health among Parties and relevant partners. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary has prepared the following draft decision on the basis of document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/16.

For further information contact:

Dao Nguyen
Coordinator, Biodiversity Policy
WWF International
dnguyen@wwfint.org

Anastasiya Timoshyna
Medicinal Plants Programme Leader
TRAFFIC International
anastasiya.timoshyna@traffic.org



TRAFFIC
the wildlife trade monitoring network