



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/IX/31
9 October 2008

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Ninth meeting
Bonn, 19–30 May 2008
Agenda item 4.16

DECISION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AT ITS NINTH MEETING

IX/31. Financial mechanism

A. Third review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Article 21, paragraph 3, of the Convention,

Recalling also the Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility,

Having reviewed the report of the Global Environment Facility to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/9),

Having considered the independent report on the third review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism of the Convention,

1. *Notes* the reform measures introduced by the Global Environment Facility to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and responsiveness of the financial mechanism;

2. *Decides* to continue to explore ways and means to improve the effectiveness of providing guidance to the financial mechanism, including the four-year framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity, coinciding with replenishments of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility;

3. *Requests* the Council of the Global Environment Facility to take the following actions in order to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism:

(a) Improve results-based reporting on the total contribution of the Global Environment Facility to achieving the objectives of the Convention, including the Facility's contribution to incremental-cost financing and leveraging co-financing

(b) Report on implementation of the four-year framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(c) Enhance the role of the Global Environment Facility in providing and leveraging resources for activities to achieve the Convention's objectives;

(d) Address capacity constraints in developing countries Parties, especially Small Island developing States and least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition with regard to the implementation of the Resource Allocation Framework;

(e) Improve the project information system, including through data sets and web-based data tools, to increase the accessibility of project information and allow for better tracking against the guidance from the Conference of the Parties;

(f) Promote exchange of experience and lessons learned in addressing sustainability of funded projects on biological diversity;

(g) Elaborate and transmit to the Conference of the Parties, well-summarized evaluation products and full evaluation reports relevant to biological diversity and to the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties;

(h) Include in its regular report findings, conclusions and recommendations of all relevant evaluations of the GEF Evaluation Office;

4. *Encourages* the Executive Secretary, the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility and the Director of the GEF Evaluation Office to continue to strengthen inter-secretariat cooperation;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

(a) To invite Parties to submit assessments of their future funding needs based on their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

(b) To compile these national submissions;

(c) To prepare, in consultation with the Parties, draft terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultation with the GEF Council, a proposal on the terms of reference including cost options for the fourth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism, for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

B. Input to the fifth replenishment of the financial mechanism

The Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of the elements for the four-year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity, which were based on the existing guidance, the Strategic Plan of the Convention, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, GEF-4 strategy for biodiversity focal area, as well as findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,

Taking note of the report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/9),

Taking noting also of the terms of reference for the mid-term review of the resource allocation framework approved version from the Global Environment Facility (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/17),

Welcoming the dialogue between the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Bureau of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in Paris on 8 July 2007,

Noting that the Global Environment Facility is built on the principles of country-drivenness and country ownership,

Highlighting the important role of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAP) as a tool in identifying national needs and priorities for financing from the Global Environment Facility,

Taking note of the recommendations to enhance the process of formulating and consolidating guidance to the financial mechanism and recognizing the need to provide coherent and prioritized guidance to the Global Environment Facility,

Having considered recommendation 2/3 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation,

1. *Encourages* the Executive Secretary to maintain and strengthen the dialogue with the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility with a view to enhancing the implementation of the guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties during the fourth replenishment period of the Facility and onwards;

2. *Encourages* collaboration at national level between national focal points for the Convention, for related environmental agreements and for the Global Environment Facility, including through the projects supported by the Facility, and *invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue to promote such collaboration, including through regional and national workshops for the focal points;

3. *Suggests* the the four-year framework of programme priorities, as annexed to the present decision, for consideration during the fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, as related to utilization of Global Environment Facility resources for biodiversity for the period from 2010 to 2014;

4. *Acknowledges* the GEF-4 strategy for biodiversity is a useful starting point for GEF-5 and *requests* GEF, for the fifth replenishment period, to build on the GEF-4 strategy based on the the four-year framework of programme priorities in the annex to the present decision.

Annex

FOUR-YEAR FRAMEWORK OF PROGRAMME PRIORITIES RELATED TO UTILIZATION OF GEF RESOURCES FOR BIODIVERSITY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 2010 TO 2014

PROGRAMME PRIORITY AREA 1: PROMOTE CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, INCLUDING THROUGH CATALYZING SUSTAINABILITY OF PROTECTED AREA SYSTEMS

Outcome 1.1 Financing gap is reduced to meet protected area management objectives by securing increased revenue and diversification of revenue streams to meet total expenditures.

Outcome 1.2 Coverage of marine ecosystems globally and in national protected area systems is increased.

Outcome 1.3 Ecosystem coverage of under-represented terrestrial ecosystems areas as part of national protected area systems is improved.

Outcome 1.4 Management of terrestrial and marine protected areas is improved.

Outcome 1.5 Resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change is maintained and enhanced.

Outcome 1.6 Conservation status of threatened species is improved.

PROGRAMME PRIORITY AREA 2: PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY

Outcome 2.1 Pressures on biodiversity from habitat change, land-use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use are reduced.

Outcome 2.2 Sustainable use of biological diversity in terrestrial ecosystems including in forest ecosystems, dry and sub-humid lands, mountain ecosystems and islands, particularly Small Island Developing States is enhanced.

Outcome 2.3 Sustainable use of biological diversity in aquatic ecosystems, including in inland water ecosystems, marine and coastal ecosystems, and islands, particularly small island developing States is enhanced.

PROGRAMME PRIORITY AREA 3: MAINSTREAM BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY INTO VARIOUS NATIONAL AND SECTORAL POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS

Outcome 3.1 Policy and regulatory frameworks governing sectors outside the environment sector incorporate measures to achieve the three objectives of the Convention.

Outcome 3.2 Markets are created for ecosystem services as well as for locally value-added ecosystem goods derived from sources that are sustainably managed.

Outcome 3.3 Technically rigorous biodiversity standards are mainstreamed into certification systems for goods produced in agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and other sectors.

Outcome 3.4 Sustainable use, trade and consumption related to biological diversity are promoted.

Outcome 3.5 Social, economic and legal incentive measures are supportive of the Convention's three objectives.

Outcome 3.6 Agricultural biodiversity is promoted in agricultural systems and practices, and genetic resources important for food and agriculture are conserved and sustainably used and associated benefits are shared equitably.

Outcome 3.7 Forest and aquatic biodiversity is promoted in forestry and fishery systems and practices, and genetic resources important for human well-being are conserved and sustainably used and associated benefits are shared equitably.

PROGRAMME PRIORITY AREA 4: IMPROVE NATIONAL CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION AND THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY 1/

Outcome 4.1 National biodiversity planning is enhanced, including elaboration and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

Outcome 4.2 National biodiversity action plans are mainstreamed into development strategies and programmes.

Outcome 4.3 Implementation of the programme priorities is strengthened including through science, technology and innovation, clearing-house mechanism, and communication, education and public awareness.

Outcome 4.4 Developing countries' knowledge on all components of biodiversity, in particular through taxonomy, is improved.

Outcome 4.5 National compliance with reporting obligations under the Convention and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is promoted.

Outcome 4.6 Protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices is improved, and the involvement of local and indigenous communities in the achievement of the Convention's three objectives is strengthened.

Outcome 4.7 Transfer of and access to technologies are promoted and facilitated from developed to developing countries as well as among developing countries and other Parties.

Outcome 4.8 National biosafety frameworks are established as appropriate in line with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

PROGRAMME PRIORITY AREA 5: PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION'S THIRD OBJECTIVE AND SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND BENEFIT-SHARING 2/

1/ The programme priority needs for biosafety for the period 2010 to 2014 can be found in part C of the present decision, taken from decision BS-IV/5 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

2/ Without prejudging the relevant decision of the Conference of the Parties on the international regime on access and benefit-sharing.

Outcome 5.1 Measures to facilitate access to genetic resources in accordance with national legislation and in harmony with the relevant CBD provisions and are promoted.

Outcome 5.2 Measures to encourage the fair and equitable sharing of benefits, on mutually agreed terms, arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in harmony with the relevant CBD provisions and in accordance with national legislation are promoted.

Outcome 5.3 Development and implementation of national systems on access and benefit sharing in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties are promoted.

PROGRAMME PRIORITY AREA 6: SAFEGUARD BIODIVERSITY

Outcome 6.1 Threats to biological diversity from invasive alien species are controlled.

Outcome 6.2 Operational national biosafety frameworks contribute to the safe use of biotechnology and to the protection of the environment and human health.

C. Additional guidance to the financial mechanism

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting the compilation of the past guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties to the Global Environment Facility (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/15),

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to identify obsolete, repetitive and overlapping guidance, and prepare an updated compilation of the existing guidance to the financial mechanism, which should incorporate all decisions related to the financial mechanism, as a working document three months prior to the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation;

2. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation at its third meeting:

(a) To review the updated compilation with participation of representatives from relevant thematic areas and cross-cutting issues, as appropriate. This review shall provide recommendations on retirement, streamlining and consolidation of previous guidance;

(b) To propose a system for communicating a coherent, prioritized and clear set of programme priorities during the tenth and eleventh meetings of the Conference of the Parties and leading up to GEF-6 replenishment negotiation.

(c) To submit the results of its consideration to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting;

3. *Decides*, at its tenth meeting, to:

(a) Consider the recommendations of the Working Group on Review of Implementation at its third meeting;

(b) Consider requests for new guidance in light of the recommendations of the Working Group on Review of Implementation at its third meeting on streamlined guidance;

4. *Decides* to provide the following additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility in the provision of financial resources, in accordance with Article 20 and Article 21, paragraph 1 of the Convention and in conformity with decisions I/2, II/6, III/5, IV/13, V/13, VI/17, VII/20 and VIII/18 of the Conference of the Parties. In this regard, the Global Environment Facility should provide financial resources to developing country Parties, taking into account the special needs of the least developed

countries and the small island developing States amongst them, for country-driven activities and programmes, consistent with national priorities and objectives and in accordance with the mandate of the Global Environment Facility, recognizing that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries, and taking fully into consideration all relevant decisions from the Conference of the Parties;

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

5. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to consider the following guidance, submitted in its entirety in decision IV/5, paragraph 4, of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, noting that subparagraph (f) should be considered in the context of the programme priorities in the annex to decision IX/31 B, and to report back to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting:

(a) *Requests* the Global Environment Facility Evaluation Office to assess the impact of the Resource Allocation Framework on the implementation of the Protocol, and propose measures that can minimize potential resource limitations that may affect the implementation of the Protocol including measures that facilitate consideration of regional and subregional projects developed by the countries of the region;

(b) *Urges* the Global Environment Facility to make financial resources available with a view to enable eligible Parties to prepare their national report;

(c) *Urges* the Global Environment Facility to extend the UNEP-GEF Biosafety Clearing-House project, in its current form as a global project with a view to ensuring sustainability of national Biosafety Clearing-House nodes and providing more capacity-building support, with special attention to targeted stakeholders (e.g., customs departments and phytosanitary inspectors), and to provide additional funding for these activities from sources other than the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF) taking into consideration the global nature of the project;

(d) *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, at the request of developing countries Governments, to provide financial and other support to enable universities and relevant institutions to develop and/or expand existing biosafety academic programmes and provide scholarships to students from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition;

(e) *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, to cooperate with and support developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, in their efforts to build their capacities in the area of sampling and detection of living modified organisms, including the setting up of laboratory facilities and training of local regulatory and scientific personnel;

(f) *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to consider the following programme funding priority needs for biosafety during the period of its fifth replenishment (2010-2014), where appropriate, using the issue-specific approach and providing longer-term support for building, consolidating and enhancing sustainable human resource capacity:

- (i) Implementation of legal and administrative systems for notification procedures;
- (ii) Risk assessment and risk management;

- (iii) Implementation of enforcement measures including detection of living modified organisms;
- (iii) Implementation of liability and redress measures.

Global Biodiversity Outlook

6. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to assist with the preparation of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, and *invites* Parties, other Governments and donors, to make timely financial contributions for the preparation and production of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and ancillary products. These funds should be provided as early as possible so that the Global Biodiversity Outlook can be finalized in advance of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in all United Nations languages, and with a draft available for review at the fourteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;

Technology transfer and cooperation

7. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to:
- (a) Provide support to developing country Parties in the preparation of national assessments of technology needs for implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) Continue to support ongoing national programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through improved access to and transfer of technology and innovation;
 - (c) Consider possibilities to provide funding under enabling activities for the provision of capacity-building, where needed, on, *inter alia*:

Technologies for conservation and sustainable use;

Governance and regulatory frameworks associated with access and transfer of technology and innovation;

Clearing-house mechanism

8. *Urges* the Global Environment Facility and other donors to continue to provide funding to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, for the establishment and updating of their clearing-house mechanisms;

Biodiversity strategies

9. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, and *urges* Governments and other donors to provide funding to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, as well as countries with economies in transition, for the revision and implementation, through projects, of national, and where appropriate, regional biodiversity strategies;

Ecosystem approach

10. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, and other funding institutions and development agencies to provide financial support for the implementation of the ecosystem approach by developing countries, particularly the least developed and small island

developing States, and countries with economies in transition, and encourages bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to apply the ecosystem approach in providing aid assistance;

Engagement of stakeholders

11. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, and *invites* Parties, other Governments, and relevant organizations to support capacity-building in developing countries, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States and Parties with economies in transition, for engaging the business community in the implementation of the Convention;

Global Invasive Species Programme

12. *Reiterates* its invitation to the Global Environment Facility, Parties, other Governments and funding organizations to provide adequate and timely financial support to enable the Global Invasive Species Programme to fulfil the tasks outlined in many of its decisions;

Protected areas

13. *Urges* Parties, in particular developed country Parties, and *invites* other Governments and international financial institutions including the Global Environment Facility, the regional development banks and other multilateral financial institutions to provide the adequate, predictable and timely financial support, to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing states as well as countries with economies in transition, to enable the full implementation of the programme of work on protected areas;

14. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to:

(a) Continue to provide, and facilitate easier access to financial resources for protected areas in its biodiversity focal area including projects such as the UNDP/GEF project “Supporting Country Action on the CBD programme of work on protected areas”, so as to extend support to developing countries, in particular the small island developing States and least developed countries among them, and countries with economies in transition, taking into account the goals and targets set in the programme of work;

(b) To consider support for proposals that demonstrate the role-protected areas play in addressing climate change.

(c) To ensure that protected areas remain a priority of the Global Environment Facility for the foreseeable future.
