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TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND COOPERATION

Draft strategy for the implementation of the programme of work

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 4 of decision VIII/12, on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation, the Conference of the Parties established an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group to:

(a) Collect, analyse and identify ongoing tools, mechanisms, systems and initiatives to promote the implementation of Articles 16 to 19 of the Convention; and

(b) Propose strategies for practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation adopted by the Conference of the Parties in decision VII/29.

2. Also in paragraph 4 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties further decided that the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group would undertake this work "with the mandate as set out in decision VII/29, paragraph 7", in which the Conference of the Parties had requested the Executive Secretary, with the assistance of an expert group on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation:

(a) To prepare proposals on options to apply institutional, administrative, legislative and policy measures and mechanisms to facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and in particular of means and mechanisms that:

(i) Foster an enabling environment in developing and developed countries for cooperation as well as the transfer, adaptation and diffusion of relevant technologies;

(ii) Present obstacles that impede transfers of relevant technologies from developed countries;

* UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1.

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(iii) Provide, in accordance with existing international obligations, incentives to private-sector actors as well as public research institutions in developed country Parties, to encourage cooperation and transfer of technologies to developing countries, through, e.g., technology transfer programmes or joint-ventures;

(iv) Promote and advance priority access for Parties to the results and benefits arising from technologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties, in accordance with Article19, paragraph 2 of the Convention, and to promote the effective participation in related technological research by those Parties;

(v) Promote innovative approaches and means of technology transfer and cooperation such as Type 2 partnerships, in accordance with the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, or transfers among actors, involving in particular the private sector and civil society organizations; and

(b) To explore possibilities and mechanisms of cooperation with processes in other conventions and international organizations, such as the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

3. In accordance with this earlier decision, the Executive Secretary established the expert group and the results of the work were submitted to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties as document UNEP/CBD/8/19/Add.2. In paragraphs 2 and 5 of decision VIII/12, the Conference of the Parties took note of the proposals contained in this document, and invited Parties to make submissions thereon to the Executive Secretary no later than four months prior to the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group. In paragraph 6 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to analyse the views submitted and to forward the results together with the proposals and the views of Parties to the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group for its work. By paragraph 8, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to invite relevant conventions and international organizations and initiatives to contribute to the work.

4. Further to decision VIII/12, the Executive Secretary, by notifications 2006-056 and 2006-057 of 5 June 2006, invited Parties as well as relevant conventions and international organizations and initiatives to, respectively, nominate experts or communicate names of representatives acting as observers, and to submit views on document UNEP/CBD/8/19/Add.2. Reminder notifications were issued on 6 December 2006 and 1 March 2007. Notification 2007-073 of 11 June 2007 informed Parties on nominations received as well as on experts selected. The selection from among government-designated experts was based on expertise and taking into account gender balance and balanced geographical distribution.

5. The meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation was held in Geneva from 10 to 12 September 2007, with the generous financial assistance from the Government of Spain, and in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The full report of the meeting is available as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/1). A final list of participants is provided in annex I to the report. A summary of the collection, analysis and identification of ongoing tools, mechanisms, systems and initiatives to promote the implementation of Articles 16 to 19 of the Convention, undertaken by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, is provided under item 3 in this document.

6. As requested by the Conference of the Parties, the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group developed a strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation. The suggested strategy, contained in annex III of the report of the meeting, is reproduced verbatim in the annex to the present note.

II. EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES OF DEVELOPING A BIODIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

7. In paragraph 15 of decision VIII/12, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to "explore possibilities of developing a 'Biodiversity Technology Initiative', taking into account the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI)". A draft report thereon was brought to the attention of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group. The Group addressed the issue in section VI of its suggested strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work, noting *inter alia* that the establishment of a Biodiversity Technology Initiative would be useful and welcome if effectively contributing to the implementation of the suggested strategy. The group identified several open questions, and suggested inviting Parties and relevant organizations to provide their views on these open questions. Comments that were subsequently received were taken into consideration in the finalization of the exploration, which is available as an addendum to the present document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18/Add.1).

III. OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK

A. Technical study on the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer in the context of the Convention

8. In paragraph 13 of decision VIII/12, the Conference of the Parties took note of the progress made in the preparation of a technical study that further explores and analyses the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer in the context of the Convention, and invited the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant organizations, and requested the Executive Secretary, to finalize the study, in accordance with activity 3.1.1 of the programme of work. The study was finalized accordingly and is available as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/7). It was also brought to the attention of the meeting of the *Ad hoc* Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

9. The study provides a succinct review of the different impacts, and the associated benefits and costs, of intellectual property rights that may arise during the different phases of technology transfer under the Convention, that is, at the stage of technology development, when identifying transfer opportunities, during the actual transfer, and during the phase of adapting the transferred technology to local needs and conditions. The study draws a number conclusions, both of a general nature and applying to the individual phases considered, and also identifies potential options to increase synergy and overcome barriers to technology transfer and cooperation, a number of which were integrated by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group into the suggested strategy for implementation of the programme of work.

10. The study also identified several opportunities for further research:

(a) More in-depth analysis of the role of intellectual property rights within new open-source based modes of innovation, which are increasingly evolving in the marketplace and are also proposed to be applied in the field of biotechnology;

(b) More empirical studies on the extent of use of patent data information in research and development in different sectors, both in developed and developing countries;

(c) Further empirical analysis on the scope and extent of patent clustering on technologies that are necessary inputs to desired technology development processes, as a potential obstacle to innovation ('patent thickets'), and on how prospective technology users in developing countries cope with patent clustering;

(d) Further examination of the overall trends in the application of the relief provided by the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) in cases where intellectual property owners are not willing to provide technology on reasonable commercial terms and conditions, by prospective users in developed and in developing countries.

B. Information systems

11. In paragraph 10 of decision VIII/12, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, and requested the Executive Secretary, to carry out activities for the enhancement of the clearing-house mechanism as a key mechanism in technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation, and, in paragraph 9, requested the Executive Secretary to continue the compilation of pertinent information on needs assessment methodologies, and to also collect pertinent information on technology-related impacts assessments and risk analyses.

12. The website of the Convention on Biological Diversity is the clearing-house mechanism's key instrument to promote and facilitate scientific and technological cooperation and information exchange. Consistent with the strategic plan of the clearing-house mechanism, the Convention website (www.cbd.int) was revamped and re-launched on the occasion of the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May. 1/ Further work is ongoing to maintain its quality and make it available in several languages, with support from Parties.

13. In addition, a number of activities were undertaken to further enhance the online database of technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation, including: (i) amendments of the searchable keyword lists and compilation of pertinent information on new keywords, consistent with the requests of the Conference of the Parties (for example, on impact assessments and risk analysis); (ii) further development of the database of technology databases, consistent with the recommendation of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group, (iii) establishment of a database of available technologies, including by initiating work on pilot interoperability mechanisms with select partners (the European Innovation Relay Centres Network, the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its database on local coping strategies, and the Cleaner Production Germany technology database).

IV. SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION

14. In considering this agenda item, the Conference of the Parties may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines.

(a) With respect to the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work, the Conference of the Parties may wish to

> Note with appreciation the work of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, the cooperation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and of the United Nations Environment Programme, and the financial support provided by the Government of Spain;
>
> Adopt the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation as attached to the present note;

1/ See decision VIII/11 annex and document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/23.

Consider following the suggestions of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group contained in paragraph 35 of the suggested strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work, on funding mechanisms;

(b) With respect to *developing a 'Biodiversity Technology Initiative' (BTI)*, the Conference of the Parties may wish to

Take note of the exploration contained in document the note by the Executive Secretary on exploring possibilities of developing a Biodiversity Technology Initiative, taking into account the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI) (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18/Add.1);

Identify activities to be included in a prospective BTI and, as necessary and appropriate, further develop the elements identified in the exploration to be taken into consideration in the establishment of a BTI;

Invite interested Parties to establish such an initiative, taking into consideration the elements as identified in the exploration and further developed by the Conference of the Parties;

(c) With regard to the *technical study on the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer in the context of the Convention*, the Conference of the Parties may wish to:

Take note of the technical study on the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer in the context of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/7);

Note with appreciation the cooperation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Intellectual Property Organization, in the preparation of the study;

Invite relevant international organizations and initiatives, as well as research institutions at all levels, to undertake further research on the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer in the context of the Convention, along the lines provided in paragraph 10 above.

(d) On *information systems*, the Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the progress made in enhancing the clearing-house mechanism as a key mechanism in technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation.

Annex

SUGGESTED STRATEGY FOR THE PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION

I. OBJECTIVES AND BACKGROUND

1. The present framework identifies strategic activities for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation. The programme of work was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, in Kuala Lumpur, in February 2004, in order to develop meaningful and effective action to enhance the implementation of Articles 16 to 19 as well as related provisions of the Convention, by promoting and facilitating the transfer of and access to technologies from developed to developing countries as well as among developing countries and other Parties. According to Article 16 (1) of the Convention, relevant technologies under the Convention are those that contribute to meeting the three objectives of the Convention, that is, technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.

2. Biodiversity is under massive and increasing pressure as a result of global changes such as population growth, poverty alleviation, reduction of available arable land and water, environmental stress, climate change, and the need for renewable resources, and this requires that the full range of technologies, ranging from traditional to modern technologies, is made widely available in order to address the challenges associated with the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention. Much scientific and technological cooperation, including the transfer of technologies, is already undertaken, in particular on a smaller scale. This strategy aims to increase the visibility of such cooperation, and to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation under the Convention.

II. CONCEPTUALIZING AND DEFINING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION

3. It is important to recognize the crucial **links between technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation –** the two elements addressed by the programme of work. Technology transfer, in particular in the context of the third objective of the Convention, will not be effective as an on-off and one-way activity, but needs to be **embedded in a participatory decision-making process** as well as in **integrated, long-term scientific and technological cooperation**, which, as based on reciprocity, would also provide a key mechanism for the effective building or enhancement of capacity in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

4. The concrete process leading to technology transfer, as well as the cooperative mechanisms applied, will necessarily differ in accordance with the largely varying socio-economic and cultural conditions among countries, as well as the type of technologies transferred. Hence, this process needs to be **flexible, participatory, and demand-driven**, moving along different cells of matrices of potential types of technologies and cooperative mechanisms.

5. The concept of technology as generally understood under the Convention includes both **"hard" and "soft" technology**. The notion of hard technology refers to the actual machinery and other physical hardware that is transferred, while the category of soft technology refers to technological information or

know-how. Such "soft" technology is often transferred within long-term scientific and technological cooperation.

6. Consistent with the programme of work, **local solutions to local issues** should be identified and their transfer and use facilitated, as the most innovative solutions are often developed locally, but remain unknown to the a wider community of potential users even though they could be transferred comparatively easily.

7. Strategic activities can be distinguished according to whether they focus on fostering the *provision* of technologies or on the *reception, adaptation and diffusion* of technologies. While many countries may be mainly providing or mainly receiving technologies, it has to be borne in mind that individual countries may sometimes simultaneously provide and receive technologies from abroad. The programme of work recognizes that **enabling environments are necessary in both developed and developing countries** as a tool to promote and facilitate the successful and sustainable transfer of technologies for the purpose of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Consequently, the strategic elements identified below cover measures to be taken both on the providing as well as on the receiving end.

8. Development of a strategy for implementing the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation suggests applying a rational, structured approach. However, the reality of effective technology transfer is to take advantage of opportunities as they arise, implying that the **implementation of the strategy should not delay the immediate transfer of relevant technologies** in those cases where technology needs and opportunities are identified and the institutional, administrative, policy and legal environment does not prevent their successful transfer and adaptation.

III. ENABLING ENVIRONMENT ON THE RECEIVING END

9. Based on knowledge of the range of available technologies, **assess priority technology needs through consultative multi-stakeholder processes** on the national or regional level, possibly in collaboration with regional or international organizations such as for instance FARA, IICA, CGIAR, or others.

10. Design and implement **policies and regulations** of relevance to the transfer and application of technology that are **consistent, clear to all relevant actors, and conducive** to the transfer of technology.

11. Design and implement an **institutional and administrative framework and governance system** which is **conducive to technology transfer** by ensuring, *inter alia* through effective **internal coordination**, that administrative processes do not put an onerous administrative burden on prospective technology users and providers.

12. Consider the designation of appropriate existing institutions that could act, in close cooperation with National Focal Points to the Convention and to its clearing-house mechanism, as a **central consulting point on technology access and transfer** for other national or international actors to turn to. This function could also be assumed, as appropriate, by the National Focal Points to the clearing house mechanism.

13. Consider the use of **incentives** to encourage foreign actors to provide access to and transfer of technology to domestic public or private institutions.

14. Generate an **environment conducive to the application of a participatory approach**, including by establishing mechanisms for effective public information and public participation.

IV. ENABLING ENVIRONMENT ON THE PROVIDING END

15. Provide, through multiple channels, **information on available technologies**, including on projected costs, risks, benefits, constraints; necessary infrastructure, personnel, capacity; sustainability, etc. (see also section V below).

16. **Pre-assess the adaptability of prospective technologies** to be transferred.

17. **Be aware, foster understanding of, and comply with relevant regulations** of recipient countries – build trust.

18. **Recognize, and act on, any capacity-building needs** of recipients and ensure sustainability of the transferred technology.

19. Consider the designation of appropriate existing institutions that could act, in close cooperation with National Focal Points to the Convention and to its clearing-house mechanism, as a **central consulting point on technology access and transfer** for other national or international actors to turn to. This function could also be assumed, as appropriate, by the National Focal Points to the clearing-house mechanism.

20. Establish or strengthen programmes that **enhance access to capital markets**, in particular for small and medium enterprises in recipient countries, for instance through the establishment of small-scale loan facilities that provide seed capital, the bundling of projects, or the provision of collateral and/or performance guarantees.

21. Consider the use of measures and mechanisms that **provide incentives** to the private sector to enhance the transfer of pertinent technology, in accordance with international law, for instance:

(a) The use or adaptation of existing provisions in domestic tax systems on **tax breaks or deferrals for charitable activities**, with a view to provide adequate incentives for private companies to engage in the transfer of relevant technologies and related capacity-building activities;

(b) The adaptation of existing guidelines for eligibility to **research-oriented tax breaks or deferrals** with a view to generate incentives for private-sector actors that engage in research making use of genetic resources, to implement adequate mechanisms for the promotion and advancement of priority access to the results and benefits arising from the biotechnologies that result from such research, in accordance with Article 19, paragraph 2 of the Convention;

(c) The application of **subsidized export credits or loan guarantees** that act as insurance against risks in international transactions with a view to provide incentives to private sector actors to engage in technology transfer for the purpose of the Convention.

22. Review the **principles and guidelines that govern the funding of public research institutions** and develop them further with a view to provide adequate incentives to follow the pertinent provisions and guidance of the Convention on technology transfer. In particular, the guidelines could foresee the implementation of adequate mechanisms for the promotion and advancement of priority access to the results and benefits arising from the biotechnologies that result from such research, in accordance with Article 19 (2) of the Convention.

23. Incite relevant institutions to **provide funds** (see also section VII below).

V. FACILITATING MECHANISMS

24. Generate and disseminate **information on available relevant technologies**, including small-scale technologies that were developed locally, by, *inter alia*:

(a) Establishing or strengthening relevant **databases**;

(b) **Strengthening the clearing house mechanism** of the Convention as a central gateway for technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation, in accordance with element 2 of the programme of work, by **linking relevant databases** to the clearing house mechanism, **establishing interoperability** as appropriate, and by the more active use of the clearing house mechanism as a **communication platform**;

(c) Using **offline tools for information dissemination**, such as print material as well as CD-Roms;

(d) Convening **technology fairs** and **workshops**, such as the planned technology fair on the margins of COP/MOP-4 and COP-9.

25. Encourage the work of **intermediate institutions** and **networks** with pertinent experience in different areas, such as CGIAR, which can assist in the establishment of partnerships by, *inter alia*: translating priority needs of countries into clearly formulated requests for technology transfer, facilitating fact-based negotiations of transfer agreements, and facilitating access to financing facilities.

26. The Executive Secretary could be requested to compile and analyse, in cooperation with relevant organizations and initiatives and with assistance by the expert group on technology transfer, existing **technology transfer agreements** or **technology transfer provisions/clauses** in other agreements such as for instance contractual agreements relating to access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their utilization. This compilation and analysis could also include existing templates for standard technology transfer agreements/provisions/clauses, and could be used to develop **international guidance** that could act as reference for good/best practice on the application of technology transfer agreements/provisions/clauses.

27. Encourage the development of **cooperative partnerships** involving governmental agencies, public and private research institutions, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, indigenous and local communities and national and local stakeholders, including south-south cooperation, through, among others:

(a) Support the establishment of **research consortia** among research institutions in developing countries, including through for instance the establishment and work of patent pools or intellectual property commercialization agents;

(b) Foster cooperation between universities and other research institutions of developed and developing countries through for instance the establishment and financing of **twinning arrangements**;

(c) Promote the interaction between universities and other institutions of education and training as well as of research and development on the one side and the private sector on the other side, through **alliances, joint ventures** or **public-private partnerships**;

(d) Support the set-up of long-term technological cooperation between private firms in developed and developing countries, including the co-financing of local businesses with little or no

access to long-term investment capital, through for instance the establishment and strengthening of so-called **matchmaking programmes**.

28. Establish or strengthen **cooperation with relevant processes** in other conventions and international organizations, with a view to ensure consistency and mutual supportiveness, maximize possible synergy, and avoid duplication of work, by requesting the Executive Secretary to:

(a) **Link relevant existing systems** of national, regional and international information exchange to the clearing-house mechanism, including, as appropriate, through interoperability mechanisms;

(b) Continue to **exchange information** on activities with other relevant expert bodies, such as the Expert Group on Technology Transfer under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as through the joint liaison groups of the three Rio conventions and the biodiversity-related conventions;

(c) Explore options for **joint workshops** with other conventions, for instance on technologies of joint interest and relevance;

(d) Cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to explore the nature and scope of the **Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-Building** with a view to identify possible collaborative activities and options to synergize.

VI. THE ROLE OF CHAMPIONS AND THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BIODIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

29. Committed Parties and organizations that act as **champions of technology transfer** can play an important role in promoting and supporting the effective implementation of Articles 16 to 19 and the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation, in particular if competitive mechanisms are put in place. For example, the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI), which was launched in 1995 by 23 OECD/International Energy Agency member countries and the European Commission to support the technology-related objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, indicates the useful role of such an international network of champions for the effective implementation of provisions on technology transfer. The establishment of a similar **'Biodiversity Technology Initiative'** would be useful and welcome if effectively contributing to the implementation of the present strategy. Several open questions remain, including on the funding needs, the potential portfolio of activities, and other questions as identified in the draft report prepared by the Executive Secretary for consideration by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. 2 Parties and relevant organizations could be invited to provide their views on these open questions, for inclusion into the report.

30. A **Biodiversity Award** could be established for the best contribution made by projects, individuals, non-governmental organizations, Governments (including local governments) etc, to attaining the 2010 biodiversity target, including best practices on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation. The international award would highlight and recognize relevant good practices that could be replicated (with modifications as appropriate) by others in the future.

2/ UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18/Add.1.

VII. FUNDING MECHANISMS

31. After a decade of continuous recognition of the continual need for the effective transfer of technologies of relevance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment, including biotechnology and traditional technologies, the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation is amazed to note that:

(a) Implementing the objectives of the Convention has not been the aim of many existing technology transfer activities and mechanisms;

(b) There is a lack of synergy among existing funding mechanisms dedicated to technology transfer for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention; and

(c) The long-standing needs of many countries with regard to the implementation of the objectives of the Convention have not been well-addressed.

32. Underlining the need for a **diversity of sustainable funding mechanisms**, such as the Global Environmental Facility, bi- and multilateral funding organisations, private charitable foundations, and others, there is a need to:

(a) **Think creatively** about fund-raising, for instance by mobilizing *pro bono* activities; use technology fairs for mobilizing seed money, etc;

(b) **Cluster funding needs** with other Rio conventions and biodiversity-related conventions, at all levels;

(c) **Integrate technology transfer** modules into existing capacity building and training programmes;

(d) **Raise the biodiversity agenda**, and subsequent funding needs, within existing funding programmes;

33. Generate **information on potential funding sources** for different sectors, thus creating awareness of available funding.

34. Sustainable funding *inter alia* needs to be provided:

(a) For **training of technology transfer personnel**;

(b) For the **establishment and maintenance of databases** on available technologies as well as on transactional instruments;

(c) For the proposed **Biodiversity Technology Initiative**.

35. The Conference of the Party may wish to consider:

(a) Ensuring that the **strategy for resource mobilization** fully reflects the technology needs, and related capacity-building needs, for effective implementation of the Convention;

(b) Encouraging Parties and other Governments to honour their **commitments under Agenda 21**, and reiterated at the World Summit, by intensifying their contribution to technology transfer

and scientific and technological cooperation, and thereby implementing their obligations under Articles 16 to 19 of the Convention;

(c) Providing **guidance to the Global Environmental Facility**, acting as financial mechanism of the Convention, to the effect that:

(i) GEF provides support the preparation of **national assessments of technology needs** for implementation of the Convention, analogous to the support provided to the preparation of Technology Needs Assessments (TNA) under UNFCCC;

(ii) GEF establishes a programme to **support ongoing national programmes** for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through improved technologies.

(iii) GEF establishes a **fast-track programme in order to provide training** on (i) technologies for conservation and sustainable use; (ii) legal aspects associated with technology transfer and negotiation skills; (iii) design and implementation of relevant public policies.
