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CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Eleventh meeting
Hyderabad, India, 8-19 October 2012
Items 1.7, 9 and 13 of the provisional agenda*

REPORT OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE ON THE WORK OF ITS FIFTEENTH MEETING

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ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. The fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (the Subsidiary Body) was held at the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) from 7 to 11 November 2011.
2. The meeting was opened at 10.10 a.m., on 7 November 2011, by Ms. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Chair of the Subsidiary Body. Ms. Barudanovic welcomed the participants, noting that this was the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body to be held after adoption by the Conference of the Parties of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the declaration by the United Nations General Assembly of the period 2011-2020 as the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity. Although it was not the first time the Subsidiary Body met in circumstances of economic constraint, the current economic problems were critical and more deeply rooted. At the same time, the new economic paradigm of “green growth” received considerable attention. Those difficult circumstances presented opportunities to promote the role of biodiversity in a more stable and sustainable economy. One of the key goals was to maximize the contributions of the Subsidiary Body by strengthening the science base for the implementation of the Strategic Plan. If the current deliberations were guided by the framework of the Strategic Plan, 2020 could be the light at the end of the tunnel. Giving a brief outline of the work before it, she said that, at its current meeting, the Subsidiary Body needed to review the updated technical rationales and indicators for the Strategic Plan, which would help assess progress in the implementation of the Plan and facilitate a better understanding, awareness and engagement by the full range of stakeholders that needed to be mobilized in order to achieve the vision of the Plan.
3. The Chair noted that the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2010 at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties had been set against a background of drastic depletion of global assets of natural capital in urgent need of restoration and increasingly frequent and severe natural disasters. In many instances, those disasters were a result of environmental mismanagement. There was growing awareness of the direct correlation between intact and resilient ecosystems and human well-being, as recognized in many aspects of the Plan. While the convergence of the global environment, development and economic agendas was encouraging, a common language should be developed in recognition of the role of ecosystem restoration as a cost-effective solution. At its fifteenth meeting, the Subsidiary Body must consider ways to ensure the full contribution of restoration to the Strategic Plan, and discuss options for strengthening the role of SBSTTA in light of the process to establish the International Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and how this could help enhance the operational efficiency and quality of work under the Convention. She thanked Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Japan, Norway and Spain for sponsoring participants from developing countries to attend the meetings. Participants should take cognizance of their unique responsibility for the future of the world, given the key role of the Subsidiary Body in the success of the Convention which, like few other instruments, facilitated partnerships across the board. She urged the Subsidiary Body to conduct its work in that spirit.
4. Statements were also made by the representative of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, Mr. Carlos Martin-Novella; Mr. Norbert Röttgen, Minister of the Environment of Germany; Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity; and Mr. Steve Whisenant, the representative of the Society for Ecological Restoration.
5. Mr. Martin-Novella noted that the Subsidiary Body had an important role to play in providing advice to the Conference of the Parties on the architecture for the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Work conducted by the United Nations Environment Programme in support of the Convention included monitoring activities by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC); ecosystem management through the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI); activities of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) study; the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES); support provided to States in developing proposals for the Global Environmental Fund (GEF); and logistical support for the Sustainable Communities Programme Board (SCPB). More broadly, the Programme worked to enhance the integration of the work of the Convention into its Medium-term Strategy and Programme of Work and to

promote the integration of biodiversity-related issues throughout the United Nations system. In order to further the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, synergies between biodiversity-related instruments, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) had to be enhanced. The work of the Subsidiary Body would also provide essential input for the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in 2012.

6. Addressing the meeting by video, Mr. Röttgen said that the world was facing major challenges as a result of the global economic and financial crisis, but that ongoing climate change and the loss of biodiversity ultimately posed a greater threat to our survival. Forests were especially fundamental to life, yet 13 million hectares of forest were still being lost every year. New approaches to energy policy and resource use were required. As an investment in our future, deforestation had to be reversed and ecosystems restored. During the Bonn Conference of September 2011, the German Government and its partners, including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), had launched the Bonn Challenge – an initiative aimed at restoring by 2020 150 million hectares of lost and degraded forests. The Challenge contributed both to the Aichi Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity and to the implementation of the REDD+ mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. A Global Restoration Council had been established to support high-level policymakers in their efforts to achieve the target and Germany's private stakeholders had announced their intention to make considerable investments. Overall, the conference had demonstrated that the restoration of forests and their ecosystems was ambitious but that it could, and had to, be achieved. Germany would support the ongoing development of the political, scientific and technical framework conditions for successful ecological restoration. The fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body was an opportunity to further efforts in that regard.

7. Welcoming participants, Mr. Djoghlaif said that as the current meeting was the first one held since the adoption of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, it was fitting to focus on the scientific and technical aspects of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Translating the strategic plan into national and local reality was a challenge. To that end, Parties were invited to discuss the technical rationales and indicators for the Strategic Plan, and in that connection, revising national biodiversity strategies and action plans was a matter of urgency that had to be given high priority.

8. He expressed his gratitude to the Government of Japan for establishing the Japan Biodiversity Fund which had allowed twelve regional or subregional workshops to be organized since the Nagoya meetings. Another three workshops would take place before the end of the year. Those workshops were designed to assist Parties and their partners in initiating the revision of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans to integrate the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by identifying and agreeing on national biodiversity targets tailored to their specific needs and circumstances.

9. Ecosystem restoration was to be discussed by the Subsidiary Body for the first time, and Parties' guidance on the scientific and technical aspects of ecosystem restoration was vital to enable countries, Governments at all levels and other stakeholders, including the private sector, to make informed decisions so as to produce food and energy for a growing population without further accelerating biodiversity loss, thus achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 14 and 15.

10. One year had already gone by since the Strategic Plan had been agreed upon. Only nine years were left to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. He urged participants to keep in mind that it was critical to move forward, and to use the abundant guidance that existed to establish strategies, to plan and implement actions, to monitor progress and report on it at the Hyderabad Biodiversity Summit to be held in one year's time as a means of living up to the historic commitments made in Nagoya. In order to remind the international community of the urgency of the task ahead, the Secretariat had opened a new webpage indicating the number of days left before the deadline for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets arrived.

11. He praised the leadership of Mr. Kalemani Jo Mulongoy, who had served with dedication at 12 meetings of the Subsidiary Body. As it was Mr. Mulongoy's last meeting before his retirement, he thanked him for his outstanding contribution to the scientific work of the Convention.

12. Finally, he informed participants that the post of Executive Secretary had been advertised and that he had been invited to apply for this position. Since 2006, and despite having been subject to unprecedented challenges, he had served the Convention with commitment and zeal. He informed the meeting that, after consideration, and in view of the many requests he had received from friends and colleagues, he had offered his candidacy for the post and if appointed, he would continue to serve this unique United Nations treaty, the sole objective of which was to protect life on Earth.

13. The statement by the Executive Secretary was followed by a round of applause from participants in the meeting, after which the Chair congratulated the Executive Secretary on his exemplary performance and assured him that he had the full confidence and support of all Parties.

14. Mr. Steve Whisenant, Chair of the Society for Ecological Restoration, announced that the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity had been selected as the winner of the Society's 2011 Special Recognition Award. The award recognized the vital work of the Convention on Biological Diversity in promoting biodiversity through preservation and restoration. It acknowledged the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and Aichi Targets 14 and 15 in particular, as a significant advance in integrating ecological restoration into global biodiversity policy. Those, and corresponding national and regional targets, would significantly benefit the planet by restoring harmony between nature and culture.

15. Participants applauded as the award was handed to the Chair. The Chair thanked Mr. Whisenant on behalf of the Parties to the Convention and Mr. Djoghlaif gave him an apple marked with the logo of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity.

16. Following the introductory statements, Mr. Kalemani Jo Mulongoy, Principal Officer for Scientific, Technical and Technological Matters at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, made a keynote presentation on Mobilizing the Scientific Community for the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity. In his presentation Mr. Mulongoy said that the scientific community had to be better mobilized during the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (the Decade) and that the tasks listed in the strategy for the Decade represented only some of the issues that should be addressed by the scientific community. All the scientific disciplines, including traditional knowledge and citizen science, should be involved, and not only those associated with Botanical Gardens, Zoos and Natural History Museums; institutions that were traditionally species centred and did not include microorganisms and ecosystems and their services, or the dynamic complexes formed, in space and time, which included human beings.

17. Some in the scientific community had already been mobilized through the Subsidiary Body which, pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 25 of the Convention, was "to provide the Conference of the Parties and, as appropriate, its other subsidiary bodies with timely advice relating to the implementation of this Convention". A wide range of scientific organizations attended meetings of the Subsidiary Body despite concerns regarding it being an initial negotiating platform where the scientific community was sometimes squeezed out of the discussions in favour of negotiation of texts while striving to reach a 'delicate' consensus.

18. Mr. Mulongoy also drew attention to the work of the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES) which represented a promising mechanism to address the gaps in the science-policy interface on biodiversity, including ecosystem services. However, he noted IPBES was perceived as "intergovernmental" and that some scientists might feel out of place in such an intergovernmental set-up.

19. The mobilization of the scientific community required commitment from Governments as well as the revision and adjustment of the criteria used by agencies and donors that fund scientific research to include relevance to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity among selection criteria. There were also a number of possible ways of mobilizing the scientific community, including at the national level, and it

would be useful to collate that information and share it on the Convention's clearing-house mechanism. However, many scientists who were carrying out research of relevance to the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 were not involved in the Convention processes and their mobilization required innovative strategies and incentives, while those scientists who were aware of the Convention processes, were often focused on their research "bubbles".

20. In closing he said that the efficiency of Subsidiary Body could be improved and its role as the science-policy interface established under the Convention should be enhanced. The requests from the Conference of the Parties, which determined its activities, should include a request for the Subsidiary Body to develop its plan of action for the Decade and give it the means to intersessionally mobilize the scientific community. The sessions of the Subsidiary Body should have enough time to carefully review the assessments prepared for it and, where draft recommendations were needed, they should be accompanied with the scientific rationales or drafted in the form of clear policy alternatives. The Subsidiary Body should also develop an indicative budget to cover its meetings and the proposed budget should be part of the budget to be discussed and adopted by the Conference of the Parties. The Subsidiary Body could contribute effectively to the mobilization of the scientific community but to do so it would have to fulfil its role of interface between the scientific community and policy and decision makers.

21. At the 6th plenary session of the meeting, on 9 November 2011, Mr. Mulongoy thanked participants warmly for their positive comments on his presentation. He thanked the past and present Chairs of the Subsidiary Body for their wisdom and excellent collaboration throughout his time of involvement.

ITEM 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Attendance

22. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following Parties and other Governments: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

23. Observers from the following United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, convention secretariats and other bodies also attended: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations University, World Bank.

24. The following were also represented by observers:

African Indigenous Women Organization (Nairobi)
 Andes Chinchasuyo
 ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
 BirdLife International
 Botanic Gardens Conservation International
 CAB International
 Canadian Biotechnology Action Network
 Canadian Environmental Network
 CBD Alliance and Kalpavriksh
 Center for International Forestry Research
 Centre for International Sustainable Development
 Law
 Chibememe Earth Healing Association
 Collège International Marie de France
 Concordia
 Congruence LLC
 Conservation International
 Conservation International - Japan
 Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna
 Convention on the Conservation of European
 Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern
 Convention), Council of Europe
 DIVERSITAS
 Ecologistas en Acción
 Ecometrica
 EcoNexus
 ECOROPA
 ETC Group
 Federation of German Scientists
 Forest Peoples Programme
 Friends of the Earth
 Fur Institute of Canada
 Global Biodiversity Information Facility
 Global Forest Coalition
 Harvard Medical School
 Institute for Biodiversity Network
 International Center for Integrated Mountain
 Development
 International Fund for Animal Welfare
 Inuit Circumpolar Council
 Island Conservation
 IUCN - International Union for Conservation of
 Nature
 Japan Bioindustry Association
 Japan Committee for IUCN
 Japan Wildlife Research Center
 McGill School of Environment
 Metis National Council
 Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests
 in Europe (Forest Europe)
 Nagoya City University
 National Institute of Biological Resources
 Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
 (PBL)
 New England Biolabs Foundation
 Office of the Auditor General of Canada
 One Drop Foundation
 Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association
 Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
 Practical Action
 Prince Charles Foundation - Rainforests Project
 Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
 Red de Cooperacion Amazonica
 Red de Mujeres Indigenas sobre biodiversidad
 Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh
 Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the
 North (RAIPON)
 Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment
 Programme
 Simul International Inc.
 Society for Ecological Restoration
 Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future
 SWAN International
 Tebtebba Indigenous Peoples' International Centre
 for Policy Research & Education
 Terralingua
 The Center for Food Safety
 The Nature Conservation Society of Japan
 TRAFFIC International
 Twin Dolphins Inc.
 Université de Montréal (Canada)
 Université du Québec à Montréal -UQAM
 University of Georgia, Center for Integrative
 Conservation Research (CICR)
 University of Oxford
 USC - Canada
 Waikiki Hawaiian Civic Club (WHCC)
 World Federation for Culture Collections
 World Future Council
 World Resources Institute
 WWF International

B. Election of officers

25. In accordance with the elections held at the thirteenth and fourteenth meetings of the Subsidiary Body, the Bureau of the fifteenth meeting of SBSTTA comprised the following members:

Chair: Ms. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Vice-Chairs: Mr. Alexander Shestakov (Russian Federation)
Ms. Tone Solhaug (Norway)
Ms. Gabriele Obermayr (Austria)
Mr. Ignatius Makumba (Zambia)
Mr. Nabil Hamada (Tunisia)
Ms. Larissa M. Lima Costa (Brazil)
Ms. Joyce Thomas Peters (Grenada)
Mr. Krishna Chandra Paudel (Nepal)
Mr. Monyrak Meng (Cambodia)

26. It was agreed that Mr. Nabil Hamada (Tunisia) would act as Rapporteur for the meeting.

27. At the 10th session of the meeting, the Subsidiary Body elected the following four new members to serve on the Bureau for a term commencing at the end of its fifteenth meeting and ending at the end of its seventeenth meeting to replace the members from Grenada, Nepal, Norway and Tunisia.

Mr. Maadjou Bah (Guinea)
Ms. Nenenteiti Teariki-Ruatu (Kiribati)
Mr. Floyd Homer (Trinidad and Tobago)
Mr. Ole Hendrickson (Canada)

C. Adoption of the agenda

28. At its 1st plenary session, on 7 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Bureau (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/1/Rev.1).

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Scientific and technical issues of relevance to the implementation of, reporting on, and follow-up to, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020:
 - 3.1 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020: updated technical rationales and indicators;
 - 3.2 Ways and means to support ecosystem restoration;
 - 3.3 Draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.
4. Matters arising from other decisions adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:
 - 4.1 Invasive alien species: proposals on ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food;
 - 4.2 Inland water biodiversity: implications of changes in the water cycle, and freshwater resources in the implementation of the programmes of work;

- 4.3 Sustainable use of biodiversity: revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, including options for small-scale food and income alternatives, and report on how to improve sustainable use in a landscape perspective;
- 4.4 Arctic biodiversity.
5. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.
6. Draft provisional agenda, and dates and venue for the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.
7. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting.

D. Organization of work

29. In considering the organization of work, the Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Chair on improving the scientific, technical and technological debate during the present meeting (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/1/Add.2).

30. The Subsidiary Body decided to set up two open-ended sessional working groups for its fifteenth meeting as provided in annex I to the document entitled "Organization of Work" (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/Add.1/Rev.1).

E. Work of the sessional working groups

31. Working Group I met under the chairmanship of Ms. Joyce Thomas Peters (Grenada) and Mr. Ignatius Makumba (Zambia) to consider items 4.1 (Invasive alien species: Proposals on ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food) and 4.3 (Sustainable use of biodiversity: revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat including options for small-scale food and income alternatives, and report on how to improve sustainable use in landscape perspective). The Working Group held four meetings, from 8 to 11 November 2011. It adopted its report at its fourth meeting, on 11 November 2011.

32. As decided by the Subsidiary Body at its 1st plenary session, on 7 November 2011, Working Group II met under the chairmanship of Mr. Alexander Shestakov (Russian Federation) and Ms. Gabriele Obermayr (Austria) to consider items 4.2 (Inland water biodiversity: Implications of changes in the water cycle, and freshwater resources in the implementation of the programmes of work) and 4.4 (Arctic biodiversity). The Working Group held four meetings, from 8 to 11 November 2011. It adopted its report at its fourth meeting, on 11 November.

33. At its 5th plenary session, on 9 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body heard progress reports from the co-chairs of the working groups.

F. Poster session

34. At the 2nd plenary session, on 7 November 2011, Mr. Eric Chivian, Nobel Peace Prize winner and founder of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School, introduced the poster session by giving a presentation on ecosystem restoration, human health and the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

35. At the 10th plenary session, on 11 November 2011, the representative of the Secretariat announced the winners of the poster session.

ITEM 3. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ISSUES OF RELEVANCE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF, REPORTING ON, AND FOLLOW-UP TO, THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

3.1 *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020: updated technical rationales and suggested indicators*

36. Agenda item 3.1 was taken up by the Subsidiary Body at its 2nd plenary session on 7 November 2011. In considering the item, the Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on suggested indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2); and on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020: Provisional technical rationales, possible indicators and suggested milestones for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/3). The Subsidiary Body also had before it the Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6) and information notes by the Executive Secretary on adequacy of biodiversity observation systems to support the Convention on Biological Diversity 2020 targets (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/8), national indicators, monitoring and reporting for global biodiversity targets (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/9) and possible indicators for water and water-related ecosystem services for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/10). It had also before it recommendation 7/7 of the Working Group on Article 8(j) on development of indicators relevant for traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use, the draft of which had been circulated as document UNEP/CBD/WG8J/7/L.7, which the Working Group had recommended should be brought to the attention of the Subsidiary Body.

37. Mr. Andrew Stott (United Kingdom), Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, also speaking on behalf of his fellow co-chair, Ms. Teresita Borges Hernandez (Cuba), outlined the key findings of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group convened from 20 to 24 June 2011 as contained in the report (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6).

38. The representative of the Secretariat informed participants that the indicators identified by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group had been compiled in a database that had been incorporated into the website on the Convention on Biological Diversity, which could be found under the heading: "Strategic Plan Indicators" (<http://www.cbd.int/sp/indicators/>).

39. Statements were made by representatives of Belgium, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Canada, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Switzerland, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

40. At its 3rd plenary session, on 8 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 3.1.

41. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cuba, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, India, Jordan, Malawi (on behalf of the African group), Russian Federation (on behalf of the Central and Eastern Europe region), South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, and Uruguay.

42. A statement was also made on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

43. Statements were also made by representatives of the CBD Alliance, DIVERSITAS, International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

44. Following the exchange of views the Chair established an open-ended contact group, chaired by Ms. Tone Solhaug (Norway) and Ms. Larissa Lima Costa (Brazil) to develop a common understanding of how the indicators could be flexibly implemented and to revise the draft recommendations contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2.

45. At its 5th plenary session, on 9 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body heard a progress report from the Chair of the contact group.
46. At its 7th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body heard a progress report from Ms. Larissa Lima Costa (Brazil), co-chair of the contact group, speaking also on behalf of her fellow co-chair, Ms. Tone Solhaug (Norway).
47. At its 9th plenary session of the meeting, on 11 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body resumed consideration of agenda item 3.1 to consider the draft recommendation submitted by the Chair.
48. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Peru, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Zambia.
49. During consideration of the draft recommendation submitted by the Chair, the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed that the text should include language recognizing the potential role of IPBES but said that it would not insist in its inclusion in the final draft.
50. At its 10th plenary session, on 11 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body resumed consideration of the draft recommendation submitted by the Chair.
51. Statements were made by representatives of Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Finland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Switzerland and Zambia.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

52. At its 10th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body adopted the draft recommendation, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/1. The text of the recommendation as adopted is contained in the annex to the present report.

3.2 Ways and means to support ecosystem restoration

53. Agenda item 3.2 was taken up by the Subsidiary Body at its 3rd plenary session, on 8 November 2011. In considering the item, the Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on ways and means to support ecosystem restoration (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/4).
54. An opening statement was made by Mr. Steve Whisenant, Chair of the Society for Ecological Restoration. After introducing the Society, he affirmed that conservation remained a global priority. While ecological restoration was addressing pressing challenges, it should not be seen as a justification for degrading or damaging ecosystems. Preventing further degradation and facilitating restoration involved both a continuum of biophysical activities and policies to shape human influences. The Society was ready to assist the Convention on Biological Diversity in developing the ways and means to support ecosystem restoration, within the framework of the Aichi Targets and in line with its own vision for a sustainable future. He invited participants to consider and comment on the Society's call for action, from the 4th World Conference on Ecological Restoration (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/13).
55. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, European Union, Finland, France, Guatemala, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Thailand, Uganda and United Kingdom.
56. At its 4th plenary session, on 8 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 3.2.
57. Statements were made by representatives of Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Ghana, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Sudan and Uruguay.
58. Statements were also made by representatives of the Center for International Forestry Research, Diversitas, ECOROPA, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

59. The Chair thanked the delegates for their interventions and advised that these would be taken into account within a Chair's text for their consideration. On the proposal of the Chair, it was decided to establish a group of the Friends of the Chair, co-chaired by Mr. Krishna Chandra Paudel (Nepal) and Mr. Horst Korn (Germany), to discuss the draft Chair's text. In addition to any other delegations that wished to participate, the Chair invited Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Uganda and United Kingdom to attend.

60. At its 7th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, Mr. Krishna Chandra Paudel (Nepal), co-chair of the group of the Friends of the Chair, speaking also on behalf of his fellow co-chair, Mr. Horst Korn (Germany), reported that the group had completed its work and the revised draft recommendation for consideration by the plenary was available.

61. At its 7th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body took up a draft recommendation submitted by the Chair.

62. Statements were made by representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Germany, Ghana, India, Jordan, Malawi, Mexico, the Netherlands, Niger, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago and Turkmenistan.

63. Following the exchange of views, the draft recommendation, as orally amended, was approved for formal adoption by the Subsidiary Body as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.2.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

64. At its 10th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body adopted draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.2, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/2. The text of the recommendation as adopted is contained in the annex to the present report.

3.3 Draft capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative

65. Agenda item 3.3 was taken up by the Subsidiary Body at its 1st plenary session on Monday, 7 November 2011. In considering the item, the Subsidiary Body had before it a draft capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5), the Standard Format for Taxonomic Needs and Capacity Assessments for Use by Parties (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/4), the Terms of Reference for the Coordination Mechanism for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/5), and the Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6).

66. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Malawi (speaking on behalf of the African Group), Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Yemen.

67. At the 2nd plenary session of the meeting, on Monday 7 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body continued consideration of the agenda item.

68. Statements were made by representatives of Colombia, the Cook Islands (speaking on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Cuba, Ghana, Niger, South Africa, Saint Lucia and Syrian Arab Republic.

69. Statements were also made by representatives of the CBD Alliance, Diversitas, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the World Federation for Culture Collections.

70. The Chair thanked the delegates for their interventions and advised that these would be taken into account within a Chair's text for their consideration.

71. At its 6th plenary session, on 9 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body took up a draft recommendation submitted by the Chair.

72. Statements were made by representatives of Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland and United Kingdom.

73. At its 8th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body continued consideration of the draft recommendation submitted by the Chair at the 7th plenary session.

74. Following the 8th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, the Chair requested Mr. Mark Graham to facilitate informal consultations among interested Parties in order to advance discussions on the draft text.

75. The representative of the Secretariat reported that the informal group had completed its discussions and produced a non-paper containing proposed amendments to the draft Chair's text to facilitate the work of the plenary.

76. Statements were made by representatives of Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, Finland, France, India, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

77. Following the exchange of views, the Secretariat produced a non-paper, which took into account amendments proposed during the 8th plenary session and informal consultations.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

78. At its 10th plenary session, on November 11, 2011, the Subsidiary Body considered the second non-paper as introduced by Mr. Mark Graham. Following an exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body adopted the draft recommendation, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/3, the text of which is contained in the annex to the present report.

ITEM 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED AT THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

4.1. Invasive alien species: proposals on ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food

79. Working Group I took up item 4.1 at its 1st meeting, on 8 November 2011, under the chairmanship of Ms. Joyce Thomas Peters (Grenada). In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on proposals on ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/6); a report on how Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations are addressing gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework in invasive alien species (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/7), the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group meeting on addressing the Risks Associated with the Introduction of Alien Species as Pets, Aquarium and Terrarium Species, as Live Bait and Live Food (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/1), and the joint work programme to strengthen information services on invasive alien species as a contribution towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/14).

80. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cook Islands (speaking on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Cuba, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Saint Lucia, South Africa, Swaziland, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

81. A statement was made by a representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

82. Statements were also made by representatives of the Council of Europe, the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

83. The Chair thanked the delegates for their interventions and advised that these would be taken into account within a Chair's text for their consideration.

84. On the proposal of the Chair, at its 2nd meeting on 9 November 2011, the Working Group agreed to establish a group of the Friends of the Chair, to be chaired by Mr. Hesiquio Benitez (Mexico). In addition to any other delegations that wished to participate, the Chair invited representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Finland, India, Mexico, South Africa, Sweden and Thailand to attend.

85. At its 7th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body heard a progress report from Mr. Hesiquio Benitez, chair of the group of the Friends of the Chair.

86. Working Group I resumed consideration of agenda item 4.1 at its 3rd meeting, on 10 November 2011, to consider the draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chairs, incorporating the results of the discussions held by the group of the Friends of the Chair.

87. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia and the United Kingdom.

88. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.3.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

89. At its 10th plenary session, on 11 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body took up draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.3 submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I and adopted it, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/4, the text of which is contained in the annex to the present report.

90. The representative of the United Kingdom drew the attention of SBSTTA to the Pets Pathway toolkit, produced by the pet industry Joint Advisory Council and the GISP following decision IX/4 adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, held in Bonn in 2008. The toolkit was available on the web at: www.petpathwaytoolkit.com. It was a living document, and therefore comments, case-studies, details of legislation or initiatives that are not yet recorded could be included directly through the website. Funding for the toolkit was provided by the Governments of the United Kingdom, the United States of America and four pet-trade associations. It provided advice and real examples of a diverse range of initiatives aimed at managing risks of invasive alien species in pet sector ranging from simple and clear measures to more elaborate campaigns. Governments and pet industry bodies may wish to use the toolkit as a source of information for joint work on invasive alien species.

4.2. Inland water biodiversity: implication of changes in the water cycle, and freshwater resources in the implementation of the programmes of work

91. Working Group II took up agenda item 4.2 at its 1st meeting, on 8 November 2011. In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on the implications of changes in the water cycle, and freshwater resources, in the implementation of the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8); the report of the Executive Secretary and the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on the assessment of ways and means to address relevant inland water biodiversity needs in coastal areas (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/9); the report on the assessment of the status of implementation of the River Basin Initiative (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/10); the progress report on the work in addressing paragraphs 39 to 41 of decision X/28 on review of information, and the provision of key policy relevant messages, on maintaining the ability of biodiversity to continue to support the water cycle (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/11); and a note by the Executive Secretary containing further details of the work of the expert group on maintaining the ability of biodiversity to continue to support the water cycle (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/15).

92. Introducing the item, the representative of the Secretariat drew particular attention to the recommendations contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8, as well as document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/15, which was an update of the progress report contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/11. The document contained more details on the nature of work undertaken by the expert group, building on the terms of reference given by the Conference of the Parties. The Secretariat would issue a notification in the week following the present meeting requesting Parties to provide written feedback on the document.

93. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Botswana, Canada, Colombia, China, Finland, France, India, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.

94. Statements were also made by representatives of the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network, the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

95. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair, Ms. Gabriele Obermayr said that she would prepare a conference room document based on the views expressed by participants and written submissions to the Secretariat for consideration by the Working Group at a subsequent meeting.

96. At its 3rd meeting, on 10 November 2011, the Working Group considered a Chair's text containing revised suggested recommendations.

97. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, European Union, Finland, Kenya, India, Malawi, Mexico, Norway, Peru, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

98. A statement was also made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

99. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.4.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

100. At its 10th plenary session, on 11 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body took up consideration of draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.4 submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I and adopted it, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/5, the text of which is contained in the annex to the present report.

101. The representative of Malawi said that recommendations XV/4, XV/5 and XV/6 made no reference to the dangers posed by genetic pollution arising from the introduction of invasive alien genes from a number of potential sources, including genetically modified fish and other organisms, to inland water biodiversity. His delegation reserved the right to raise its concerns regarding the matter at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

4.3. Sustainable use of biodiversity: revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, including options for small-scale food and income alternatives, and report on how to improve sustainable use in a landscape perspective

102. Working Group I took up item 4.3 at its 2nd meeting, on 9 November 2011, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ignatius Makumba (Zambia). In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on options for small-scale food and income alternatives in tropical and sub-tropical countries and revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12); the report on how to improve sustainable use of biodiversity in a landscape perspective (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/13); the report on livelihood alternatives for the unsustainable use of bushmeat (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/7); and the draft recommendation of the

Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity on Article 10, With a Focus on Article 10(c), as a major component of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/7/L.6).

103. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Saint Lucia, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Uruguay. A statement was made by a representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

104. Statements were also made by representatives of the CBD Alliance, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and TRAFFIC International.

105. The Co-Chair thanked the delegates for their interventions and advised that these would be taken into account within a Chair's text for their consideration.

106. Working Group I resumed consideration of agenda item 4.3 at its 3rd meeting, on 10 November 2011, to consider the draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chairs.

107. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Japan, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Senegal, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay.

108. At its 4th meeting, on 11 November 2011, the Working Group continued its consideration of the draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chairs.

109. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ghana, Guatemala, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America.

110. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.7.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

111. At its 10th plenary session, on 11 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body took up consideration of draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.7 submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I and adopted it, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/6, the text of which is contained in the annex to the present report.

4.4 Arctic biodiversity

112. Working Group II took up item 4.4 at its 2nd meeting, on 9 November 2011. In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on Arctic biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/14) that had been prepared pursuant to paragraph 3 of decision X/13 which had invited the Arctic Council to provide relevant information and assessment of Arctic biodiversity.

113. Co-Chair Shestakov invited Ms. Courtney Price, Communications Officer of the Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group of the Arctic Council (CAFF), to make a presentation.

114. Ms. Price, giving a brief overview of the work and mandate of the Arctic Council and CAFF and their cooperation with the Convention, said that the profound changes affecting the rich Arctic biodiversity threatened the resilience of natural ecosystems, the cultural traditions of the indigenous peoples of the North and the livelihoods of Arctic residents. While climate change placed by far the greatest stress on Arctic biodiversity, contaminants, habitat change, industrial development and unsustainable harvest levels also had an impact. Climate change had affected the Arctic twice as fast as other areas of the globe, with immense implications for Arctic biodiversity. In a warming climate, certain ecosystems could no longer be considered truly Arctic and, as a result, many species might no longer be able to survive in the Arctic in the future. The Arctic played a fundamental role in supporting global biodiversity and the global climate system. In order to facilitate better understanding of changing

processes, leading Arctic scientists were currently engaged in a full and comprehensive Arctic Biodiversity Assessment, which was scheduled for completion by 2013. The Assessment would provide the baseline of the current state of Arctic ecosystems and biodiversity; create a baseline for use in global and regional assessment of biodiversity; provide up-to-date scientific and traditional ecological knowledge; identify gaps in the data record; identify key mechanisms driving change; and produce policy recommendations regarding Arctic biodiversity. The Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme (CBMP) of CAFF worked to harmonize and integrate efforts to monitor the Arctic's living resources, in an attempt to help shorten the gap between data collection and policy response. The knowledge about the effects of climate change on biodiversity, fauna and flora, natural resources and local peoples remained partial. However, detecting the changes and understanding the complex interactions between the climate and Arctic species was crucial for determining possible actions. The Arctic Biodiversity Assessment and the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme, in combination, provided the framework and tools necessary to create a baseline of current knowledge and provide dynamic assessments over time, thus producing more regular, timely and flexible analyses. As a regional forum for addressing biodiversity issues, the Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group of the Arctic Council welcomed cooperation with the Convention. CAFF could contribute to the Convention process by providing integrated circumpolar expertise, data and analysis to enable sound decision-making and place the status of Arctic biodiversity in a global context and, at the same time, apply international targets and tools developed under the Convention in a regional context.

115. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark (also representing Greenland), France, Iceland, Malawi, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

116. A statement was also made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

117. Following the exchange of views, Co-Chair Shestakov said that he would prepare a conference room document based on the views expressed by participants and written submissions to the Secretariat for consideration by the Working Group at a subsequent meeting.

118. At its 4th meeting, on 11 November 2011, the Working Group considered a Chair's text containing revised suggested recommendations.

119. Statements were made by representatives of Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Liberia, Malawi, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Sweden (on behalf of the Arctic Council), the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

120. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.6.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

121. At its 10th plenary session, on 11 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body took up consideration of draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.6 submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I and adopted it, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/7, the text of which is contained in the annex to the present report.

ITEM 5. WAYS AND MEANS TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

122. Agenda item 5 was taken up by the Subsidiary Body at its 5th plenary session, on 9 November 2011. In considering the item, the Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on ways and means to improve the effectiveness of SBSTTA (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/15).

123. On the invitation of the Chair, Mr. Neville Ash (UNEP) gave a summary of the outcomes of the first session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an

intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES), held in Nairobi in October 2011.

124. Statements were made by representatives of Canada, Mexico, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

125. At its 6th plenary session, on 9 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body resumed consideration of agenda item 5.

126. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Ghana, India, Japan, Malawi, Peru, Poland, and the Republic of Moldova (on behalf of the Central and Eastern Europe region).

127. Statements were also made by representatives of the CBD Alliance, the ETC Group and IUCN.

128. The Chair informed participants that she would prepare a draft recommendation based on the comments received, for consideration in plenary.

129. At its 7th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body took up a draft recommendation on the subject submitted by the Chair. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, the European Union, Finland, Guatemala, Kuwait, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Uganda, and the United Kingdom.

130. At its 8th plenary session, on 10 November 2011, the Subsidiary Body resumed consideration of the draft recommendation submitted by the Chair. Statements were made by representatives of Canada, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, India, Malawi, the Philippines, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

131. Following the exchange of views, the draft recommendation, as orally amended, was approved for formal adoption by the Subsidiary Body as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.5.

Action by the Subsidiary Body

132. At its 10th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body adopted the draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.5, as orally amended, as recommendation XV/8, the text of which is contained in the annex to the present report.

ITEM 6. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA, AND DATES AND VENUE FOR THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

133. Agenda item 6 was taken up by the Subsidiary Body at its 10th plenary session, on 11 November 2011. In considering the item, the Subsidiary Body had before it the draft provisional agenda for the sixteenth meeting of SBSTTA (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/16).

Action by the Subsidiary Body

134. On the proposal of the Chair, the Subsidiary Body agreed that its sixteenth meeting would be held in Montreal from 30 April to 4 May 2012. It also took note of the draft provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/16) and the need to include an additional item, on the review of the draft Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative. It further requested the Executive Secretary, with the guidance of the SBSTTA Bureau, to finalize the provisional agenda and make it available no later than three months before the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body.

ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

135. The present report was adopted, as orally amended, at the 10th plenary session of the meeting, on 11 November 2011, on the basis of the draft report prepared by the Rapporteur (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.1) and the reports of the working groups (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/L.1/Add.1 and 2).

136. At the closing session of the meeting, Ms. Gabriele Obermayr (Austria), speaking on behalf of the Bureau, said the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body should forever be remembered as “Jo’s meeting”, in tribute to Mr. Kalemani Jo Mulongoy. She thanked Mr. Mulongoy for his advice, wisdom, diplomacy, humour, dedication and, above all, his smile. He had been a father figure for the Subsidiary Body, successfully guiding it through even the most difficult of times, and his inspirational ideas would have a long-lasting impact on its work.

137. Participants applauded as Bureau members presented Mr. Mulongoy with gifts and flowers.

138. The representatives of Cambodia (speaking on behalf of the countries of the Asia Pacific region), Canada (speaking on behalf of JUSCANZ), Ghana (speaking on behalf of the African Group), Grenada (speaking on behalf of the countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region), Poland (speaking on behalf of the European Union and its member States) and Ukraine (speaking on behalf of the countries of the Central and Eastern European region) paid tribute to Mr. Mulongoy for his long-standing, dedicated and selfless work for the Secretariat of the Convention and the future of the planet.

139. The representatives of Staff of the Secretariat and of the host organization, UNEP added their own tributes.

140. Mr. Kalemani Jo Mulongoy expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the kind words and the support over the years afforded by the Secretariat, Parties and others.

141. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice was closed at 6.25 p.m., on 11 November 2011.

Annex

**RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC,
TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE AT ITS FIFTEENTH MEETING**

Montreal, 7-11 November 2011

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XV/1. Indicator framework for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Takes note* of the updated provisional technical rationales for the Strategic Goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets contained in documents UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27/Add.1 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/3;
2. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6);
3. *Also welcomes* the contribution made by the Group on Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network, in collaboration with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre on the Adequacy of Biodiversity Observation Systems to Support the CBD 2020 Targets (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/8);
4. *Further welcomes* the review of National Indicators, Monitoring and Reporting for Global Biodiversity Targets commissioned by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of the United Kingdom and carried out by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/9);
5. *Takes note* of the indicative list of indicators identified by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group organized according to the Goals of the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as contained in annex I to the present recommendation which includes the following:
 - (a) A set of headline indicators to present policy relevant information on biodiversity to cover the ambitions set out in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; and
 - (b) Three categories of operational indicators as follows: Category A indicators are ready for use at the global level. Category B indicators could be used at the global level but require further development to be ready for use. Category C indicators are for consideration for use at the national or other sub-global level. The set of (A) and (B) indicators are those which should be used to assess progress at the global level while the (C) indicators are illustrative of some of the additional indicators available to Parties to use at the national level according to their national priorities and circumstances.
 - (c) Initial baselines should be established for operational indicators to provide a reference point against which performance (trends) can be assessed.
 - (d) The Aichi Biodiversity Targets and proposed indicator framework provide a flexible framework for Parties which can be adapted, taking into account national priorities and circumstances. Parties are likely to use different metrics and methodologies for their indicators depending on national targets and available data and methods.
 - (e) Countries with limited capacities and resources for developing and applying indicators based on national data will require financial resources and technical support to develop and apply such indicators as well as to design and carry out priority monitoring activities required at the national level. Members of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, among others, could have a role in providing technical assistance as appropriate.
6. *Also takes note* of the other conclusions of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group concerning the indicator framework for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as contained in annex II to the present recommendation, which supports communication of biodiversity information around the following overarching policy questions: How is the status of biodiversity changing? (*State of biodiversity*); Why are we losing biodiversity? (*Pressures on biodiversity and their underlying causes*); What are the implications? (*Benefits from biodiversity*); and What do we do about it? (*Responses to address biodiversity loss at all levels*);

7. *Welcomes* the development of the online database of indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity containing the outcomes of the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group and *requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other relevant partners to further develop, maintain, and periodically update it with a view to maximizing its usefulness to Parties and other stakeholders;

8. *Further takes note* of recommendation 7/7 of the seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions on the development of indicators relevant for traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/7, annex I);

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to initiate work on the tasks listed in paragraphs 10 (g) and 10 (h) below;

10. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting adopts a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

(a) *Expresses its gratitude* to the European Union for its financial support to the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to the Government of Canada, the European Environment Agency, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom for their support to the International Expert Workshop held from 20 to 22 June 2011 in High Wycombe, United Kingdom, in support of the AHTEG on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

(b) *Takes note* of the indicative list of indicators available to assess progress towards the goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as contained in Annex I to this recommendation, the indicator framework developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group¹ as well as the work of the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions on the development of indicators relevant for traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use and *recognizes* that these provide a starting point to assess progress in the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at various scales;

(c) *Recognizes* that the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and proposed indicator framework provide a flexible basis for Parties which can be adapted, taking into account different national circumstances and capabilities and *urges* Parties to prioritize the application at the national level of those indicators that are ready for use at the global level where feasible and appropriate, and also *urges* Parties to consider using the flexible framework and the indicative list of indicators, *inter alia* in their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans and in reporting, including through the fifth national report as far as possible, and subsequent national reports;

(d) *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to contribute to, update, verify and maintain relevant national data in regional and global data sets as a contribution to optimize and coordinate the production of indicators for monitoring and reporting at various scales and to promote the public availability of the data;

(e) *Decides* that the indicator framework for the Strategic Plan should be kept under review with a view to enabling the future incorporation of relevant indicators developed by Parties and other Conventions and processes that are relevant for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

(f) *Recognizes* the need to strengthen technical and institutional capacities and to mobilize adequate financial resources for the development and application of indicators, especially for developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States as well as countries with economies in transition;

¹ See UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6.

(g) *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, regional centres of excellence and other relevant organizations, as appropriate and subject to the availability of resources, to:

- (i) Compile technical guidance materials for capacity-building and provide support to Parties for the further development of indicators and monitoring and reporting systems, including the information contained in the annexes to document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6, and to make it accessible in the form of a toolkit, building on the material already available on the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership web pages;
- (ii) Assist Parties, especially those with limited resources and capacities and/or not yet using systematically produced indicators in their official reports and at their request, to initially establish and apply a few simple, cost-effective and easily applicable indicators for priority issues; and
- (iii) Include capacity-building on the indicators framework in regional workshops, as appropriate, to support implementation of the indicators framework by allowing Parties to update on progress, the sharing of information and lessons learned as well as areas of synergy and collaboration;
- (iv) Support review of the use of the indicator framework in order to identify gaps and priorities in national and regional institutions for future capacity-building, technical support and financial support by donors and partner organizations;

(h) *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, the Group on Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO-BON), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other partners including the Indicators Working Group of the International Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity, as appropriate and subject to the availability of resources, to:

- (i) Develop practical information on the indicators, including the rationale behind the indicators, their development status, the scale at which they are applied and information on data sources and methodologies, to assist in the application of each of the indicators;
- (ii) Further develop global indicators identified in annex I below with a view to ensuring that each Aichi Biodiversity Target can be monitored by at least one global indicator by 2014, taking into account indicators that are already in use by, or relevant to, other conventions, regional agreements and processes;
- (iii) Propose a limited number of simple, easily applicable and cost-effective indicators that can potentially be implemented by all Parties;
- (iv) Explore options for the further harmonization of global indicators and their use between the Convention on Biological Diversity and other conventions, regional agreements and processes, and promote further collaboration including through the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions;
- (v) Promote the further collaboration on biodiversity monitoring and indicators with the forestry, agriculture, fisheries and other sectors on the global, regional and national levels;
- (vi) Further develop and maintain the online database on indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; and

- (vii) Develop an explanatory practical toolkit on each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including possible steps for measuring progress towards these targets;

and to report to a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

- (i) *Invites* GEO-BON to continue its work on the identification of essential biodiversity variables and the development of associated data sets as presented in document CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/8 and report to a meeting of SBSTTA prior to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

- (j) *Invites* relevant organizations, including funding bodies, to encourage and support further development of indicators and reporting progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to provide regular progress reports on the development and use of indicators to a meeting of SBSTTA prior to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties until 2020. This should include the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan, as well as the experience in using the indicators in the fifth national reports and in the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. This will provide opportunities to review progress in developing and using indicators and to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the indicator framework for monitoring progress, at national and global levels, towards the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

Annex I

INDICATIVE LIST OF INDICATORS PROPOSED BY THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON INDICATORS FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 identified three categories of operational indicators. Indicators which are ready for use at the global level are denoted by the letter (A). Indicators which could be used at the global level but which require further development to be ready for use are denoted by the letter (B). Additional indicators for consideration for use at the national or other sub-global level are denoted by the letter (C) and formatted in italics. The set of (A) and (B) indicators are those which should be used to assess progress at the global level while the (C) indicators are illustrative of some of the additional indicators available to Parties to use at the national level according to their national priorities and circumstances.

Aichi Target	Headline indicators (in bold) and most relevant operational indicators
Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	
<p>Target 1 - By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.</p>	<p>Trends in awareness, attitudes and public engagement in support of biological diversity and ecosystem services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Trends in awareness and attitudes to biodiversity (C)</i> • <i>Trends in public engagement with biodiversity (C)</i> • <i>Trends in communication programmes and actions promoting social corporate responsibility (C)</i>
<p>Target 2 - By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.</p>	<p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefits sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in number of countries incorporating natural resource, biodiversity, and ecosystem service values into national accounting systems (B) • <i>Trends in number of countries that have assessed values of biodiversity, in accordance with the Convention (C)</i> • <i>Trends in guidelines and applications of economic appraisal tools (C)</i> • <i>Trends in integration of biodiversity and ecosystem service values into sectoral and development policies (C)</i> • <i>Trends in policies considering biodiversity and ecosystem service in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment (C)</i>
<p>Target 3 - By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.</p>	<p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefits sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in the number and value of incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity, removed, reformed or phased out (B) • <i>Trends in identification, assessment and establishment and strengthening of incentives that reward positive contribution to biodiversity and ecosystem services penalize adverse impacts (C)</i>
<p>Target 4 - By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.</p>	<p>Trends in pressures from unsustainable agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in Ecological Footprint and/or related concepts (A) (decisions VII/30 and VIII/15) • Trends in population and extinction risk of utilized species, including species in trade (A) (also used by CITES) • <i>Ecological limits assessed in terms of sustainable production and</i>

	<p><i>consumption (C)</i></p> <p>Trends in pressures from habitat conversion, pollution, invasive species, climate change, overexploitation and underlying drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Trends in biodiversity of cities (C) (decision X/22)</i> <p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefits sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in extent to which biodiversity and ecosystem service values are incorporated into organizational accounting and reporting (B)
<p>Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use</p>	
<p>Target 5 - By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.</p>	<p>Trends in extent, condition and vulnerability of ecosystems, biomes and habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extinction risk trends of habitat dependent species in each major habitat type (A) • Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats (A) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • Trends in proportion of degraded/threatened habitats (B) • Trends in fragmentation of natural habitats (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • <i>Trends in condition and vulnerability of ecosystems (C)</i> • <i>Trends in the proportion of natural habitats converted (C)</i> <p>Trends in pressures from unsustainable agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Trends in primary productivity (C)</i> • <i>Trends in proportion of land affected by desertification (C) (also used by UNCCD)</i> <p>Trends in pressures from habitat conversion, pollution, invasive species, climate change, overexploitation and underlying drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population trends of habitat dependent species in each major habitat type (A)
<p>Target 6 - By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.</p>	<p>Trends in pressures from unsustainable agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in extinction risk of target and bycatch aquatic species (A) • Trends in population of target and bycatch aquatic species (A) • Trends in proportion of utilized stocks outside safe biological limits (A) (MDG indicator 7.4) • <i>Trends in catch per unit effort (C)</i> • <i>Trends in fishing effort capacity (C)</i> • <i>Trends in area, frequency, and/or intensity of destructive fishing practices (C)</i> <p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefits sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in proportion of depleted target and bycatch species with recovery plans (B)
<p>Target 7 - By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Trends in pressures from unsustainable agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in population of forest and agriculture dependent species in production systems (B)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in production per input (B) • <i>Trends in proportion of products derived from sustainable sources (C) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15)</i> <p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefits sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15)
<p>Target 8 - By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Trends in pressures from habitat conversion, pollution, invasive species, climate change, overexploitation and underlying drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in incidence of hypoxic zones and algal blooms (A) • Trends in water quality in aquatic ecosystems (A) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • Impact of pollution on extinction risk trends (B) • Trends in pollution deposition rate (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • Trends in sediment transfer rates (B) • <i>Trend in emission to the environment of pollutants relevant for biodiversity (C)</i> • <i>Trend in levels of contaminants in wildlife (C)</i> • <i>Trends in nitrogen footprint of consumption activities (C)</i> • <i>Trends in ozone levels in natural ecosystems (C)</i> • <i>Trends in proportion of wastewater discharged after treatment (C)</i> • <i>Trends in UV-radiation levels (C)</i>
<p>Target 9 - By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.</p>	<p>Trends in pressures from habitat conversion, pollution, invasive species, climate change, overexploitation and underlying drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in the impact of invasive alien species on extinction risk trends (A) • Trends in the economic impacts of selected invasive alien species (B) • Trends in number of invasive alien species (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • <i>Trends in incidence of wildlife diseases caused by invasive alien species (C)</i> <p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefits sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in policy responses, legislation and management plans to control and prevent spread of invasive alien species (B) • <i>Trends in invasive alien species pathways management (C)</i>
<p>Target 10 - By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.</p>	<p>Trends in pressures from habitat conversion, pollution, invasive species, climate change, overexploitation and underlying drivers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extinction risk trends of coral and reef fish (A) • Trends in climate change impacts on extinction risk (B) • Trends in coral reef condition (B) • Trends in extent, and rate of shifts of boundaries, of vulnerable ecosystems (B) • <i>Trends in climatic impacts on community composition (C)</i> • <i>Trends in climatic impacts on population trends (C)</i>

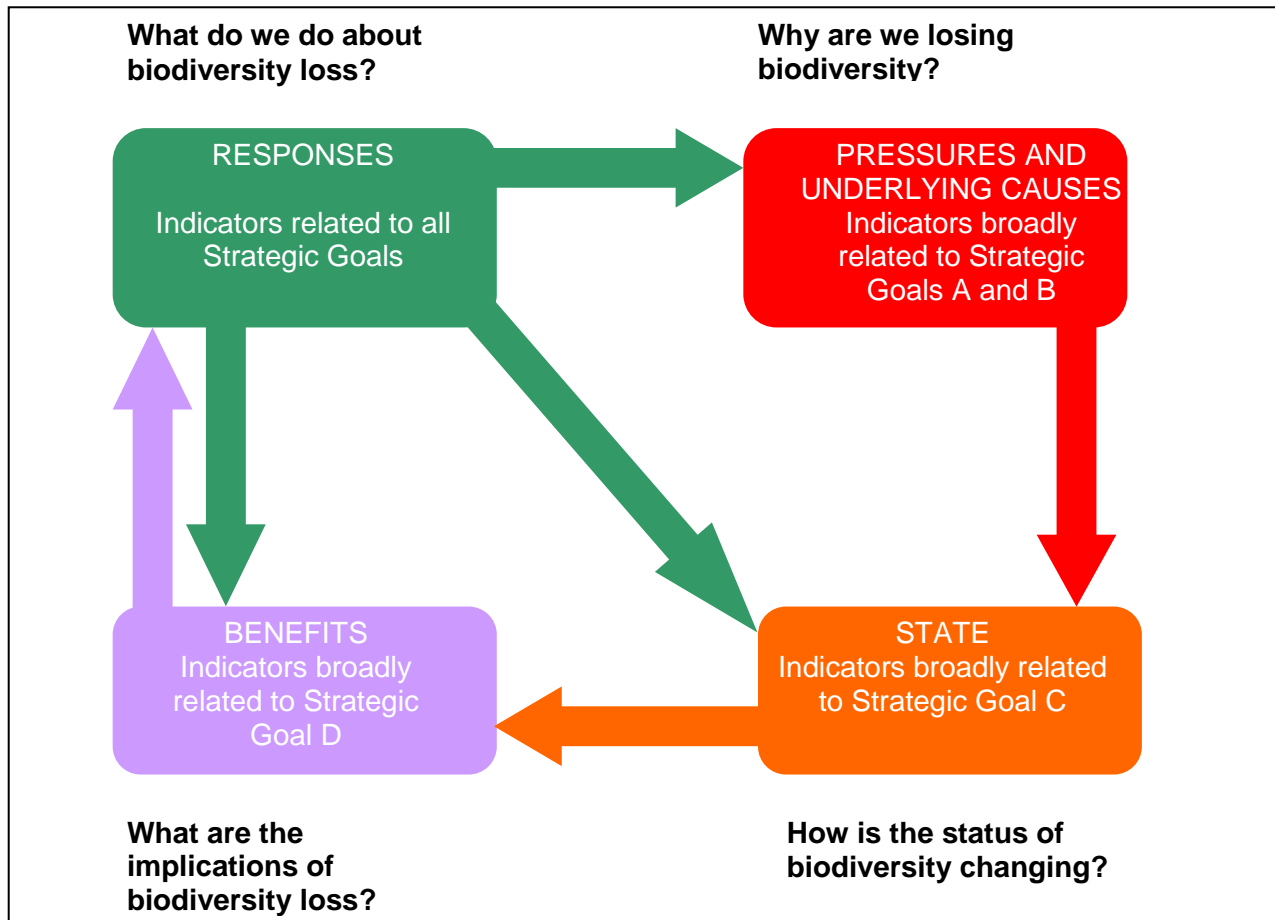
Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity	
<p>Target 11 - By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.</p>	<p>Trends in coverage, condition, representativeness and effectiveness of protected areas and other area-based approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in extent of marine protected areas, coverage of key biodiversity areas and management effectiveness (A) • Trends in protected area condition and/or management effectiveness including more equitable management (A) (decision X/31) • Trends in representative coverage of protected areas and other area based approaches, including sites of particular importance for biodiversity, and of terrestrial, marine and inland water systems (A) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • Trends in the connectivity of protected areas and other area based approaches integrated into landscapes and seascapes (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • <i>Trends in the delivery of ecosystem services and equitable benefits from protected areas (C)</i>
<p>Target 12 - By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.</p>	<p>Trends in abundance, distribution and extinction risk of species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in abundance of selected species (A) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) (UNCCD indicator) • Trends in extinction risk of species (A) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) (MDG indicator 7.7) (also used by CMS) • Trends in distribution of selected species (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) (also used by UNCCD)
<p>Target 13 - By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.</p>	<p>Trends in genetic diversity of species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in genetic diversity of cultivated plants, and farmed and domesticated animals and their wild relatives (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • <i>Trends in genetic diversity of selected species (C)</i> <p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefits sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in number of effective policy mechanisms implemented to reduce genetic erosion and safeguard genetic diversity related to plant and animal genetic resources (B)
Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	
<p>Target 14 - By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.</p>	<p>Trends in distribution, condition and sustainability of ecosystem services for equitable human well-being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in proportion of total freshwater resources used (A) (MDG indicator 7.5) • Trends in proportion of the population using improved water services (A) (MDG indicator 7.8 and 7.9) • Trends in benefits that humans derive from selected ecosystem services (A) • Population trends and extinction risk trends of species that provide ecosystem services (A) • Trends in delivery of multiple ecosystem services (B) • Trends in economic and non-economic values of selected ecosystem services (B) • Trends in health and wellbeing of communities who depend

	<p>directly on local ecosystem goods and services (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in human and economic losses due to water or natural resource related disasters (B) • Trends in nutritional contribution of biodiversity: Food composition (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15) • <i>Trends in incidence of emerging zoonotic diseases (C)</i> • <i>Trends in inclusive wealth (C)</i> • <i>Trends in nutritional contribution of biodiversity: Food consumption (C) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15)</i> • <i>Trends in prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age (C) (MDG indicator 1.8)</i> • <i>Trends in natural resource conflicts (C)</i> • <i>Trends in the condition of selected ecosystem services (C)</i> • <i>Trends in biocapacity (C)</i>
	<p>Trends in coverage, condition, representativeness and effectiveness of protected areas and other area-based approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in area of degraded ecosystems restored or being restored (B)
<p>Target 15 - By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.</p>	<p>Trends in distribution, condition and sustainability of ecosystem services for equitable human well-being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status and trends in extent and condition of habitats that provide carbon storage (A) <p>Trends in coverage, condition, representativeness and effectiveness of protected areas and other area-based approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Population trends of forest-dependent species in forests under restoration (C)</i>
<p>Target 16 - By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.</p>	<p>Trends in access and equity of benefit-sharing of genetic resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABS indicator to be specified through the ABS process (B)
<p>Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building</p>	
<p>Target 17 - By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.</p>	<p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefit-sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including development, comprehensiveness, adoption and implementation (B)
<p>Target 18 - By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.</p>	<p>Trends in integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and benefit-sharing into planning, policy formulation and implementation and incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities (B) (decision X/43) • Trends in the practice of traditional occupations (B) (decision X/43) <p>Trends in accessibility of scientific/technical/traditional knowledge and its application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in which traditional knowledge and practices are respected through their full integration, safeguards and the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the national

	<p>implementation of the Strategic Plan (B)</p> <p>Trends in accessibility of scientific/technical/traditional knowledge and its application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages (B) (decision VII/30 and VIII/15)
<p>Target 19 - By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.</p>	<p>Trends in accessibility of scientific/technical/traditional knowledge and its application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in coverage of comprehensive policy-relevant sub-global assessments including related capacity-building and knowledge transfer, plus trends in uptake into policy (B) • <i>Number of maintained species inventories being used to implement the Convention (C)</i>
<p>Target 20 - By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.</p>	<p>Trends in mobilization of financial resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators agreed in decision X/3 (B)

Annex II

CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR COMMUNICATING THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF INDICATORS FOR ASSESSING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020



XV/2. Ways and means to support ecosystem restoration*The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice*

1. *Takes note* of the indicative list of available practical guidance on ecosystem restoration in section III of the note by the Executive Secretary on ways and means to support ecosystem restoration (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/4);

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to availability of funding, in collaboration with relevant international organizations and other partners to initiate work to:

(a) Compile the information on practical guidance or guidelines developed by government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sector, indigenous and local communities, and academic and research institutions for the restoration of specific landscapes, ecosystems, habitats, and their components; and identify gaps, if any, and suggest ways for filling those gaps;

(b) Consolidate the existing guidance to address the needs of, and prepare materials for different targeted end-users such as policymakers, implementing agencies, and on-the-ground practitioners, including indigenous and local communities;

(c) Compile information on all relevant tools and technologies, including lessons learned (both positive and negative), and experiences used at different spatial scales and for specific ecosystems and make this information available to support:

(i) Informed decision-making on ecosystem-restoration policy, legislation, and regulation;

(ii) Use of best practices for ecosystem restoration among implementing agencies; and

(iii) The effective design, implementation, and monitoring of ecosystem restoration projects/programmes on the ground;

(d) Compile information on the application of new and emerging technologies [such as synthetic biology] among others for ecosystem restoration;

(e) Compile the most used definitions/descriptions of key terms and highlight their links to targets 14 and 15 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and targets 4 and 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; and

(f) Report on progress in undertaking the above activities for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting;

3. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties, in light of its examination of the progress report prepared by the Executive Secretary, considers the need for any further work on ecosystem restoration as well as the possible establishment of an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) for this purpose;

4. *Further recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting adopts a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting the key messages contained in section IV of the note by the Executive Secretary on ways and means to support ecosystem restoration prepared for the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/4), in particular that ecosystem restoration is not a substitute for conservation, nor is it a conduit for allowing intentional destruction or unsustainable use. Rather, ecosystem restoration is the last resort for ameliorating degraded ecosystems to the benefit of all life on Earth,

Emphasizing that the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide the overall framework for the Convention towards 2020 and should guide the future work of all of the Convention's cross-cutting issues and thematic areas,

(a) *Urges* Parties and *encourages* other Governments and relevant organizations to make concerted efforts to achieve targets 14 and 15 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and targets 4 and 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and to contribute efficiently to the achievement of all the other Aichi Biodiversity Targets through ecosystem restoration by:

- (i) Effectively implementing the ecosystem restoration-related provisions in previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties and relevant thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work;
- (ii) Identifying, analysing and addressing both underlying and direct causes of ecosystem degradation or fragmentation and using the knowledge gained for preventing or reducing activities which cause further degradation, deterioration or destruction;
- (iii) Improving the status and resilience of ecosystems;
- (iv) Supporting indigenous and local communities in appropriate ecosystem restoration activities in accordance with Article 10(c) and (d) of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (v) Taking into consideration strategic goal D of enhancing benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services when making decisions regarding the allocation of resources to ecosystem restoration;

(b) *Invites* Parties, other Governments, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the Society for Ecological Restoration, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the World Resources Institute, the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration, the International Tropical Timber Organization and other relevant organizations and initiatives such as the Sub-Global Assessment Network, as appropriate, to support countries in implementing ecosystem restoration by:

- (i) Making available tools such as e-learning programmes;
- (ii) Compiling and disseminating case-studies, best practices, lessons learned, and information on socioeconomic aspects, and methods for assessing the success of restoration projects;
- (iii) Facilitating the sharing of knowledge and publicly available information and supporting existing networks, subject to the domestic legislation of the Parties;
- (iv) Supporting and/or coordinating capacity-building workshops;
- (v) Convening regional/subregional technical training on key themes;
- (vi) Enhancing partnerships and exchange programmes among agencies and restoration practitioners for their mutual benefit;
- (vii) Developing and implementing communication programmes highlighting the economic, ecological and social benefits of ecosystem restoration including awareness-raising among the general public, policymakers and environmental managers not only on the crucial role that ecosystems play in providing ecosystem services, but also on the costs associated with ecosystem degradation, lost incomes, compensation, increased expenses in production; and the cost savings, benefits and the potential solutions that restoration can contribute to common political challenges;
- (viii) Supporting the development and implementation of regional, subregional or national plans or programmes for restoration of ecosystems taking into account the ecosystem approach and the integration of ecosystem restoration into broader planning processes, such as spatial planning;

- (ix) Supporting the large scale replication of projects and programmes that implement the recommendations of research on ecosystem restoration, including their monitoring;
- (c) *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funding, and making use of intersessional work described in paragraph 2 of SBSTTA recommendation XV/2 to:
- (i) Convene regional and subregional capacity-building and training workshops and expert meetings;
 - (ii) Facilitate the further development, based on information requested by SBSTTA in paragraph 2 of SBSTTA recommendation XV/2, of a range of implementation tools and practical guidance for ecosystem restoration aimed at different audiences and translated into all United Nations languages, and make it available through the clearing-house mechanism;
 - (iii) Facilitate in collaboration with relevant partners the development of a user-friendly, comprehensive central webpage on ecosystem restoration;
 - (iv) Compile all decisions of the Conference of the Parties and associated actions related to ecosystem restoration for wider dissemination to Parties;
 - (v) Facilitate development and maintenance, in collaboration with partners, of an issue-based module on ecosystem restoration, such as TEMATEA among others;
 - (vi) Identify opportunities of collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and other multilateral environmental agreements in order to enhance and harmonize efforts in ecosystem restoration and avoid duplication;
 - (vii) In collaboration with partners, facilitate the development of a tool for collating and presenting baseline information on ecosystem condition and extent in order to facilitate the evaluation of Aichi Target 15 and to assist Parties to identify ecosystems whose restoration would contribute most significantly to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- (d) *Urges* Parties, and *invites* other Governments, organizations and donors in a position to do so:
- (i) To provide adequate financial technical and other support to the Executive Secretary for the capacity development and implementation initiatives;
 - (ii) Taking note of extreme weather events, to support implementation of ecosystem restoration towards mitigation and management of the impacts of natural disasters.

XV/3. Draft Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative

I. RECOMMENDATION OF SBSTTA

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Emphasizes* that the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets (decision X/2 of the Conference of the Parties, annex) provide the overall framework for the Convention towards 2020 and should guide the future work of all of the Convention's cross-cutting issues and thematic areas, and *acknowledges* the importance of the draft Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5, annex) in this context;
2. *Welcomes* the draft Strategy in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:
 - (a) Invite Parties and observer institutions, bodies and organizations and indigenous and local communities, to provide further inputs to the draft Strategy;
 - (b) Revise the draft Strategy, taking into account the comments from Parties at the fifteenth meeting of the SBSTTA, additional submissions from Parties and observers, institutions, bodies and organizations and indigenous and local communities;
 - (c) Make the revised Strategy available for consideration and finalization by SBSTTA at its sixteenth meeting for subsequent submission to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

II. RECOMMENDATION TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

4. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties, at its eleventh meeting, adopts a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Emphasizes* that the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide the overall framework for the Convention towards 2020 and should guide the future work of all of the Convention's cross-cutting issues and thematic areas, and *acknowledges* the importance of the draft Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative in this context;
2. *Welcomes* the revised GTI Capacity-building Strategy in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;²
3. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to integrate, as appropriate, in a timely manner, the actions of the GTI capacity-building strategy in their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), noting that taxonomic capacity-building requires multidisciplinary participation, including participation of indigenous and local communities, as appropriate;
4. *Invites* taxonomic and other relevant organizations, including, *inter alia*, taxonomic networks, natural history museums and other scientific institutions and partners that contribute to the capacity-building strategy for the GTI to pay particular attention to the achievement of the outcome-oriented deliverables for the implementation of the programme of work for the GTI annexed to decision IX/22;
5. *Further invites* these organizations and Parties to make particular efforts to train, sustain, enhance and increase human resources for creating inventories, monitoring biodiversity and further taxonomic information, as well as to build and maintain publicly available information systems and facilities for biological collections subject to national legislation of Parties, as appropriate;

² The document will be reviewed by the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

6. *Recognizing* the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to the study of biodiversity, *encourages* collaboration between taxonomic and other institutions and organizations and application of new methodologies and techniques to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 19;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of increasing the scientific standing of taxonomic research, strengthening taxonomic expertise, in particular, on lesser studied or known groups, and that creating the demand for taxonomic information is an important step to respond to decision X/39 that, *inter alia*, encourages job opportunities and incentives for young taxonomists;

8 *Encourages* the scientific community to give more recognition to taxonomic publications;

9. *Requests* Parties to report on the effectiveness of their capacity-building efforts to support the implementation of the GTI through their fifth and sixth national reports to the Convention and *requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress of implementation of the GTI, based on the national reports received from Parties to the corresponding meetings of the Conference of the Parties;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to organize and facilitate, as far as feasible in partnership with academic organizations, biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements and relevant international organizations:

(a) Regional workshops to assist Parties and their GTI national focal points, and others CBD focal points and other stakeholders to use the GTI capacity-building strategy to integrate taxonomy in updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Partners in these workshops may include other relevant stakeholders such as indigenous and local communities;

(b) Workshops in collaboration with GTI national focal points and partners to provide practical tools to improve the taxonomic and related skills of human resources and to raise awareness of a wide range of stakeholders on the usefulness of taxonomic information in the context of the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources;

(c) The development, in collaboration with the GTI Coordination Mechanism and partners of a practical learning kit for the CBD and GTI national focal points to promote the GTI and facilitate their communication with all relevant stakeholders, including indigenous and local communities to strengthen the engagement of all relevant sectors and to support the actions of the GTI capacity-building strategy;

11. *Invites* Parties, academic institutions and relevant organizations to support long term training programmes, including internships, fellowships and under- and post-graduate trainings to improve taxonomic and related skills of human resources;

12. *Recognizing* that taxonomic research may involve the movement of genetic resources between countries and access to traditional knowledge, *emphasizes* the need for these activities to be undertaken in line with the provisions on access and benefit-sharing of the Convention and, where applicable, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefit Arising from Their Utilization, and subject to their domestic legislation or regulatory requirements;

13. *Notes* the importance of traditional taxonomic knowledge of indigenous and local communities in the context of the Global Taxonomy Initiative;

14. *Recognizing* the need for financial resources for capacity-building, including the consolidated guidance to the financial mechanism, *urges* Parties and *invites* other Governments, organizations and donors to provide adequate financial and technical support for Parties to carry out taxonomic projects and activities that prioritize the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

15. *Takes note* of the revised terms of reference for the Coordination Mechanism for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/5) as well as the questionnaires for taxonomic

needs and capacity assessments (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/4), which will be helpful for setting priorities for taxonomic capacity-building in updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

XV/4. Invasive alien species**I. RECOMMENDATION TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties adopts a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

Ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) meeting on addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/1);

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Co-Chairs and members of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) for their work and to the Governments of Spain and Japan for their financial support;

3. *Recognizing* the multi-sectoral nature of issues associated with invasive alien species, *reiterates* that the Guiding Principles adopted in decision VI/23* continue to provide relevant guidance for addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food;

4. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to ensure, at the national level, effective collaboration among national authorities and focal points that deal with the Convention on Biological Diversity and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO-SPS Agreement), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), to address threats from invasive alien species, and, as appropriate, when addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien animal species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food to make full use of existing standards;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, with further inputs from Parties as well as members of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) and other experts as required, in collaboration with the members of the inter-agency liaison group, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, and drawing upon the collaborative work of national authorities and industry groups, to prepare proposals for more detailed guidance for Parties on the drafting and implementation of national measures associated with the introduction of alien animal species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, in order to complete the tasks set out in the annex to decision X/38, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice before the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

6. *Recognizing* trade and the changes of present-day trade patterns as one of the increasing pathways of invasive alien species and especially the rapid growth of international market places over the Internet, including for the sale and purchase of live animal species, *requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To compile and disseminate methodologies and instruments in use by law enforcement, customs and inspection agencies to monitor and control related trade and cross-border movements of alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food; and

* One representative entered a formal objection during the process leading to the adoption of this decision and underlined that he did not believe that the Conference of the Parties could legitimately adopt a motion or a text with a formal objection in place. A few representatives expressed reservations regarding the procedure leading to the adoption of this decision (see UNEP/CBD/COP/6/20, paras. 294-324).

(b) To collect information on best practices to raise public awareness and disseminate guidance to Internet traders;

7. *Recognizing* the potential risks of introduction and spread of invasive alien animal species from commercial zoos and safari parks, and breeding and trade centres, resulting from escapes of the animals, and the release and escape of animals used as live food, *requests* the Executive Secretary to compile information and work with experts to avoid and/or minimize the risks particular to these separate pathways;

8. *Concerned* about the potential risks associated with intentional and unintentional release and escapes of individuals of captive-bred alien populations and genotypes of pets, aquarium and terrarium species, species used as live bait and live food, impacting on native genetic diversity, and *noting* the need to document and develop guidance on how to deal with these risks, *requests* the Executive Secretary to collect case-studies and explore measures in collaboration with relevant international organizations on how to deal with such risks;

Ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species

Recalling paragraphs 2-6 of its decision IX/4 A,

9. *Encourages* members of the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization, and members of its recognized standard-setting organizations to further address, including by developing and improving international standards, the risks posed by introductions of invasive alien species that are a threat to biodiversity but not considered pests of plants, pathogens or parasites that affect domestic animals, or harmful to human health, and taking note that the risks associated with the introduction of alien species may include impacts on ecosystem functioning and biodiversity at the ecosystem, species and gene levels. The Convention on Biological Diversity could offer to collaborate with the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures on this matter;

10. *Encourages* the International Plant Protection Convention to:

(a) *Invite* its members to broaden their sanitary and phytosanitary measures for the protection of plants in marine environments in particular, as well as terrestrial and freshwater environments;

(b) Broaden the application of the International Plant Protection Convention to include the health of bryophytes and algae species; and

(c) Clarify whether its mandate also applies to the health and protection of fungi, with a view to identifying and, if necessary, addressing possible gaps;

11. *Recognizes* the important contributions of the World Organisation for Animal Health and *encourages* the Organization to pursue its efforts in considering the impacts of invasive alien species on ecosystems and animal health, and to update the OIE Aquatic Code and the OIE Terrestrial Code, and provide advice and guidance on the assessment of the risk of invasion of alien species on ecosystems;

12. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to pursue the tasks set out in paragraphs 11, 12 and 13 of decision IX/4 A and paragraph 13 of decision X/38, especially regarding progress in the relationship with standard-setting bodies of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other relevant organizations;

13. *Recognizing* the relevance, importance and applicability of existing international standards, guidelines and recommendations to address the risks associated with the introduction of alien species, and to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and spread in order to achieve target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, *requests* the Executive Secretary in line with paragraph 3 (c) of decision X/38, in collaboration with the relevant international organizations that set

international standards, guidelines and recommendations to develop a practical non-prescriptive toolkit for Parties regarding the application of existing international standards, guidelines and recommendations, and disseminate, *inter alia*, through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, no later than the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The toolkit should include:

- (a) Practical non-prescriptive advice on how the components of the international regulatory framework can be used by Parties in addressing the threats from invasive alien species;
- (b) Tools and information on relevant risk-analysis;
- (c) Information on how Parties have developed, integrated, and strengthened national invasive alien species strategies into their national policies;
- (d) Lessons learned from countries' use of lists and management of alien species for all stakeholders, including border-control officials, traders and consumers, regulating whether or not a particular species may be imported, kept, bred, applied for trade; as well as information on the relative strengths and limitations of listing systems;
- (e) Examples of voluntary measures that address specific circumstances;
- (f) Information on capacity development for the identification of potentially invasive alien species and assessment of relevant pathways;
- (g) Information on how national authorities and industry can develop close collaboration to ensure compliance with national regulations on the import of alien species; and
- (h) Information on how regional cooperation could harmonize policy on the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food;

[14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to renew the application of the Convention on Biological Diversity for observer status in the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization with a view to enhancing the exchange of information on deliberations and recent developments in bodies relevant to invasive alien species, in light of the increasing importance of the ecosystem level when establishing adequate standards;]

Other matters

15. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to explore methodologies for fostering awareness, promoting education and generating information on invasive alien species for a broad audience including Indigenous and local communities, the public and other stakeholders;

16. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, including local taxonomic institutions to develop capacity, *inter alia*, in line with the Capacity-Building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, for Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to meet target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Emphasis should be placed on developing tools to strengthen the capacity of border control and other competent authorities to identify invasive alien species or potentially invasive alien species, to assess risks and take steps to manage or minimize the risks;

17. *Recalling* paragraph 7 of decision X/38, *welcomes* the work of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) to improve the interoperability of online databases and networks and facilitate the use of information necessary to conduct risk and/or impact assessments and encourages Parties, Governments and relevant institutions and organizations to participate in developing interoperable information systems that can be used in developing early-detection and rapid-response systems;

18. *Recognizing* the vital importance of access to accurate information on invasive alien species in developing indicators to monitor the progress of achieving target 9 of the Strategic Plan for

/...

Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the need to maximize synergies among existing information services, welcomes the proposed the joint work programme to strengthen information services on invasive alien species as a contribution towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/14), and *requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate its implementation, and invites Parties, information services and other organizations to contribute to this work;

Considerations for future work

19. *Recognizing* invasive alien species as one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss, their increasing impact on biodiversity and on economic sectors, negatively affecting human well-being, *emphasizes* the need to continue to work on this issue, in order to achieve target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

20. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant partners, to:

(a) Assess progress in implementing decisions of the Conference of the Parties on invasive alien species, including decisions that address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework identified in decision VIII/27;

(b) Prepare a preliminary list of the most common pathways for invasive alien species, propose criteria or other ways by which they may be prioritized, and identify a range of tools that may be used to manage or minimize the risks associated with the pathways;

and to report thereon to a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice before the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in order to inform consideration of the need for future work.

II. REQUEST TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the members of the inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species, to prepare an information document on how the standards, guidance and relevant activities of the organizations referred to in paragraph 4 above could support Parties in addressing the threats from invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food, and to make it available before the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a report to be submitted to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the status of the application of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity for observer status to the World Trade Organization.

XV/5. *Biological diversity of inland water ecosystems*

I. CONCLUSIONS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice:

1. *Emphasizes* that the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide the overall framework of the Convention towards 2020 and should guide the future work of all of the Convention's cross-cutting issues and thematic areas;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the reports prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8; UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/9; UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/10; UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/11; and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/INF/15) and after considering them *concludes* that:

(a) The implications of the water cycle and freshwater resources in the implementation of all of the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets are far-reaching including, *inter alia*, that:

- (i) The water cycle is a bio-physical process underpinned by ecosystems and that changes in water availability and quality, including *inter alia* humidity, soil moisture and evapo-transpiration of plants, affect biodiversity, ecosystem functions and the delivery of ecosystem services;
- (ii) There are many and varied implications of the way in which the water cycle functions, making it necessary to consider water a “cross-cutting” subject under the framework of the ecosystem approach;
- (iii) The water cycle forges strong links between the various Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and it remains important to adequately capture the relevant aspects of the water cycle through the monitoring framework for the Strategic Plan under further development (decision X/7);
- (iv) Biodiversity is essential to guarantee ecosystems are self-supporting and meet human needs for water-related ecosystem services in a cost-effective manner;
- (v) Biodiversity plays an important role in sustaining water for human activities such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries, among others;
- (vi) Taking into consideration that water issues and solutions can be very much case and locality specific, and it is not possible to be prescriptive or exhaustive regarding priorities, some key areas for additional attention can be identified, such as: the role of vegetation in sustaining local and regional precipitation and humidity; the importance of soil biodiversity with regards to soil moisture and water balances and therefore in sustaining land functionality; the importance of the water cycle in sustaining desirable levels of sediment transfer and deposition and the substantial ecosystem services this underpins (particularly in coastal areas); the role of biodiversity and ecosystems in regulating the extremes of water availability (including both drought and flooding); and the importance of the water cycle in the exchange of organic matter, nutrients and energy between forests, soils and water, which, for example, occurs seasonally in particular ecosystems such as the Amazon; and
- (vii) Groundwater and aquifers are important components of the water cycle and require more attention as they are suffering severe depletion in many regions. Groundwater and surface-water resources are inter-linked, including through wetlands and the functionality of land cover, including by facilitating soil-water infiltration;

(b) Water use for different purposes may affect downstream ecosystems and groundwater supplies, with consequent impacts on terrestrial ecosystems;

(c) Regional initiatives that establish frameworks by legal and other effective means for integrated water management can serve as models for other regions to strengthen effective trans-national catchment management systems;

(d) The findings, tools and methods that are already available should be applied at local, national or regional levels in order to address threats faced by inland water ecosystems, their functions and services;

(e) The work within the framework of the study on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) and the application of economic-appraisal techniques to ecological resources present new opportunities to influence policies and decision-making at the national level. Economic assessments provide only a preliminary and limited approximation of the fiscal value of inland water ecosystems; they should not be taken as the definitive valuation of a given resource but serve only as a guide in the context of decision-making for developmental planning;

(f) Inland water ecosystems, including their watersheds, provide ecosystem services which are important for sustaining biodiversity and human well being. Therefore, it is necessary to enhance technical, financial and other capacity in developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, in order to promote sustainable water management;

(g) Women are key stakeholders in sustaining family well-being, and using the biodiversity components of water-related ecosystem services and their knowledge related to water is a key factor in the implementation of the programme of work on inland waters biodiversity;

(h) Indigenous and local communities that maintain a very close, holistic, cultural and spiritual relationship with essential elements of biodiversity associated with the water cycle, as demonstrated in many cultural activities, including through indigenous languages, can help to promote sustainable water management based on their traditional knowledge;

(i) Nutrient loading, including from unsustainable agricultural production and other sectoral activities, is among the main threats to inland water and coastal biodiversity and is directly relevant to achieving targets 7, 8, 11 and 14, among others, of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. More attention should be paid to eutrophication in freshwater as well as in coastal ecosystems worldwide;

(j) In view of the increasing pressures on inland waters due to global changes, there is a need to better understand the impacts of these changes on inland waters biodiversity and how this affects ecosystem functions;

(k) The ongoing scientific work on this topic (as described in the progress report on the work in addressing paragraphs 39-41 of decision X/28 on review of information, and the provision of key policy-relevant messages, on maintaining the ability of biodiversity to continue to support the water cycle, (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/11 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/INF/15) will be a useful resource for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice to consider this topic further in its future work in many subject areas, including in the implementation and the future review of the programmes of work of the Convention;

(l) The 6th World Water Forum, to be held in Marseille, France, in March 2012, represents an opportunity to raise awareness on biodiversity and water issues.

II. REQUESTS TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *requests* the Executive Secretary, and *invites* the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands to:

(a) Based on discussion with potential partners and stakeholders, include under the Joint Work Plan with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands an assessment of opportunities for enhanced collaboration on solutions to water problems and to report on the options to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(b) Make the report of the expert group on maintaining the ability of biodiversity to continue to support the water cycle (as established in decision X/28, paragraph 39) available for the information of, and a summary report of its findings for the consideration of, the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(c) Further streamline their activities in order to make best use of available resources and to further explore the scope for greater integration of the work of the two Conventions across all relevant programmes of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in order to achieve the greatest synergy, including the potential for joint meetings, and to report on options to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting:

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the water cycle to most areas of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to achieving most of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and *considers* raising awareness of this, and thereby strengthening implementation of the Strategic Plan, through, *inter alia*, making biodiversity and water a cross-cutting issue under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

2. *Considers* the outcomes of the expert group on maintaining the ability of biodiversity to continue to support the water cycle (as established in decision X/28, paragraph 39);

3. *Notes* that the term “wetland”, as defined by the Ramsar Convention, offers flexible scope for national interpretation for addressing biodiversity challenges related to ecological inter-linkages between inland, coastal and marine areas, and *invites* Parties and other Governments to consider wider adoption of the term in implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, particularly for achieving target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; and

4. *Takes note* that the year 2013 will be the United Nations Year of Water Cooperation and that this provides, together with the current “International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015”, opportunities to bring water and biodiversity issues to broad public attention.

XV/6. Sustainable use of biodiversity

I. RECOMMENDATION TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Emphasizing that sustainable use of biodiversity is a precondition to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,

Noting the need for capacity-building and for adequate financial and technical support to developing countries to further promote the sustainable use of biodiversity,

Recalling existing guidance on sustainable use already developed within the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines, the ecosystem approach as well as relevant elements of the thematic programmes of work, selected targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, the recommendation from the Liaison Group on Bushmeat and ongoing work on customary sustainable use (Article 10(c)), including by the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions,

Acknowledging the importance of the work on the application of sustainable use carried out by international organizations in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the International Tropical Timber Organization, as well as under relevant conventions and international agreements,

1. *Takes note* of the guidance in the note by the Executive Secretary on how to improve the sustainable use of biodiversity in a landscape perspective (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/13) and the guidance on application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines to agriculture (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/34), and *invites* Parties to consider this guidance as useful complements to existing guidance under the Convention on Biological Diversity,

2. *Encourages* Parties to strengthen the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines and the ecosystem approach in all spatial planning and sectoral policies that relate to the wider landscape and seascape and its components;

3. *Welcomes* the Joint Work Plan of the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Phase 2 (2011-2020), as a framework to advance biodiversity initiatives of mutual interest;

4. *Welcomes* the new major component in the revised programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions, which focuses on Article 10(c) and will build on the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines;

5. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to apply the ecosystem approach in planning and implementing climate-change-adaptation activities in order to avoid and/or mitigate their impacts on biodiversity, including displacement of pressure on biodiversity from one area to another;

6. *Invites* relevant intergovernmental organizations, including members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to integrate existing guidance on sustainable use of biodiversity developed under the Convention into their work programmes;

7. *Invites* the United Nations Environmental Management Group, through its Issues Management Group on Biodiversity, in cooperation with other relevant organizations to promote existing guidance on sustainable use in key sectors as they relate to the organizations that are part of the Environmental Management Group, the Strategic Plan and each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

8. *Recalling* its decision X/32, *recognizes* the [potential] usefulness of the *Satoyama* Initiative as a platform for establishing synergies among the various existing landscape level initiatives, including the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Model Forest Network, and other initiatives that include community conservation areas that are developed and managed by indigenous and local communities, and *invites* Parties, other Governments, and relevant organizations to join the International Partnership for the *Satoyama* Initiative;

9. *Urges* Parties to acknowledge the important role of indigenous and local communities in the sustainable use of biodiversity, and to facilitate their full and effective participation in the design and implementation of policies and programmes at national and sub-national levels, according to national legislation;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to provide periodic updates, to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, on the progress made on customary sustainable use of biodiversity by indigenous and local communities, by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the support afforded to the work of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat by the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Central African Forests Commission, IUCN-International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Great Apes Survival Partnership (led by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), the Center for International Forestry Research, the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network (TRAFFIC) and the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation;

12. *Welcomes* the revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat (annexed to the present decision) as a potential complement to the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity related to sustainable wildlife management in tropical and sub-tropical countries;

13. *Takes note* of the outcome of the international symposium on 'The relevance of community-based natural resources management (CBNRM) to the conservation and sustainable use of CITES-listed species in exporting countries' (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/12), and *reiterates* the need for strengthening the cooperation between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora to enhance the sustainable use of species and livelihood benefits associated with community conservation programmes, with the potential for development of sustainable small-scale food production and income-generating alternatives;

14. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:

(a) Implement the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat as annexed to this decision, where appropriate and as a potential complement to the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines, taking into account Article 10(c) of the Convention as well as national legislation;

(b) Further develop and adapt the recommendations for implementation in other countries, as appropriate;

(c) Develop and promote methods and systems, and build capacity to determine levels of sustainable harvest of wildlife at national and other levels, with a particular view to monitor and improve sustainable wildlife management and customary sustainable use, consistent with national legislation;

(d) Develop and promote alternatives to unsustainable management and use of wildlife, depending on the local and national context, and engage with the scientific community and relevant other organizations working on sustainable development in relevant sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries in improving sustainable use;

15. *Invites* relevant organizations, in particular the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to assist tropical and sub-tropical countries in implementing the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat according to their national context;

16. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Support capacity-building initiatives in the management of wildlife for customary sustainable use, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities;

(b) Further develop the linkages between the work on Article 10(c) of the Convention and customary sustainable use of bushmeat;

(c) Facilitate the exchange of information and experience on sustainable wildlife management;

(d) Based on submission from Parties and relevant organizations, and with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, report to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, and on related capacity-building requirements.

II. REQUEST TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Report on the issue of bushmeat during the discussions at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties on Article 8(j) regarding the new proposed element on Article 10 with a focus on Article 10(c), in order for this issue to be taken into consideration when discussing the indicative Plan of Action developed the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions;

(b) Explore options for the development of a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management to enhance cooperation and coordination for implementation of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting.

*Annex***REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
LIAISON GROUP ON BUSHMEAT****I. NATIONAL LEVEL**

1. *Increasing capacity to fully evaluate the bushmeat issue and establish appropriate policies and management regimes.* National Governments should, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, evaluate the role of bushmeat and other wild animal products in national and local economies and cultures as well as the ecological services provided by harvested species and other biodiversity as an essential step towards conserving and sustainably using this resource. This can be done by:

(a) Increasing capacity to monitor levels of bushmeat harvest and consumption in national statistics to inform improved policy and planning;

(b) Incorporating a realistic and open assessment of wildlife consumption and its role in livelihoods and cultures into major policy and planning documents;

(c) Establishing mechanisms for full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the process, to ensure inclusion of their views on the role of bushmeat in their diets and their cultures, and the impacts of unsustainable bushmeat use on their livelihoods, and to include traditional knowledge and customary laws in policymaking and planning.

2. *Engaging the private sector and extractive industries.* Wildlife management, including bushmeat species management, should be an essential part of management or business plans for natural resource industries (oil, gas, minerals, timber, etc.) operating in tropical, sub-tropical forest, wetland and savannah ecosystems. Where possible identify and apply existing biodiversity safeguards and standards within extractive industry guidelines and policies (such as safeguards for sustainable forest management - SFM). The private sector should provide food alternatives for staff working in logging concessions (for example: stipulated in the contracts between government and extractive industries).

3. *Rights and tenure, and traditional knowledge:* Access, rights and associated accountability, as well as the responsibility to sustainably manage wildlife resources should be transferred whenever possible to indigenous and local communities and other local stakeholders who have a vested interest in maintaining the resources and who can deliver sustainable, desirable solutions. Capacity of these empowered indigenous and local communities should be built and strengthened to ensure that they have the capacity to exercise these rights. Conservation and sustainable use of wildlife resources would be enhanced through the incorporation of traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use into management and monitoring systems, as well as by favouring the use of the most ecologically friendly (e.g. species-specific), cost-efficient, and humane hunting methods.

4. *Review of national policies and legal frameworks:* States where bushmeat species occur are strongly encouraged to review existing policies and legal frameworks related to the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife. In addition to restricting harvesting in protected areas and of threatened species in accordance with existing legislation, it is recommended that States establish strategies, policies, capacity, and management systems that support the legal and sustainable hunting of targeted species. The review should ensure:

(a) That national regulatory frameworks take into consideration the established rights of indigenous and local communities as they pertain to the customary sustainable use of species for bushmeat;

- (b) The coherence of policy and legal frameworks through mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use of wildlife in the various sectoral and national planning exercises;³
- (c) That management schemes are practical and feasible for harvestable species as well as those in need of strict protection (e.g., endangered species);
- (d) Realistic approaches to enforcement in which control measures are consistent with capacity;
- (e) That legal and regulatory texts reflect current practices without compromising key conservation objectives;
- (f) Promotion of the sustainable harvest of low-risk species and of measures to enhance protection of high-risk species;
- (g) The full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, and include their views and proposals based on traditional knowledge, customary practices and laws.
- (h) That sanctions and penalties have a deterrent effect.

5. *Landscape-level management:* An effectively managed and coherent network of protected areas is essential to conserve wildlife, including threatened species. In order to conserve wildlife populations outside protected areas, management should consider the landscape level.

6. *Science, traditional and indigenous knowledge and monitoring.* Management decisions should be made based on the best available and applicable science, the precautionary approach and the practices and traditional knowledge of indigenous and local communities. Further research is crucial and better information management is needed. Appropriate monitoring systems of bushmeat harvest and trade and wildlife habitats should be developed based on an integration of traditional, indigenous and scientific knowledge and implemented at national level, and allow for comparability of bushmeat harvest and trade at the regional level. International support and guidance should be provided for harmonization of monitoring and reporting. Standardized methods to assess and monitor the status of wildlife populations should be developed and implemented. New, updated and additional reliable data on populations of harvested species and on levels of use and trade should be made available for consideration within the Convention on Biological Diversity – Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (CBD-SBSTTA), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Animals Committee, the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) Scientific Council, other relevant international conventions, the Great Apes Survival Partnership led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-GRASP) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red Listing Process

7. *Substitution and other mitigative measures:* The development of culturally acceptable and economically feasible alternative food and income sources is essential where wildlife alone cannot be sustainably used to support current or future livelihood needs. Alternative food and income sources, however, need to take into account local realities, cultures and preferences and should be developed and implemented with local communities or support community-based income projects. Mitigative measures (farming, ranching, captive breeding, etc.) may play a role in conserving wildlife resources.

8. *Capacity-building, training, education and awareness-raising:* To achieve conservation and sustainable use of wildlife resources, sufficient capacity-building and public awareness-raising activities targeting relevant audiences need to be implemented and where possible institutionalized at international, national and local levels across a range of themes, including:

³ Including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP), forest management plans, national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAP), national forest programmes (NFP), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), national adaptation programmes of action (NAPA), plans related to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD-plus), national bushmeat action plans, national wildlife management plans and regulations, species-specific national management and conservation plans.

- (a) Governance and law enforcement including customary laws;
- (b) Wildlife monitoring and management, including non-detriment findings;
- (c) Monitoring and management of bushmeat harvest and trade;
- (d) The role of indigenous and local communities;
- (e) The impacts of unsustainable bushmeat harvesting and trade on indigenous and local communities and their livelihoods;
- (f) Livelihood alternatives; and
- (g) Collaboration across government, private and public sectors, educational training institutions and indigenous and local communities.

9. *Health and epidemiology:* (a) Where wildlife hunting and bushmeat trade is regulated, a national strategy for disease surveillance including those transmitted by wildlife should be implemented. Appropriate public health information and capacity-building should emphasize prevention of disease and protection of both human and animal health. Furthermore, wildlife, domestic livestock and human health need to be monitored and legislation, regulations, and enforcement need to be developed and implemented to reduce the threat of epizootics from newly emerging infections in an environmentally friendly manner; (b) in regions with bushmeat trade, sanitary control and biosecurity measures are necessary to prevent the sale of tainted meat or contaminated animal products that may lead to the spread of harmful pathogens.

10. *Climate change:* REDD-plus⁴ programme development at a national level including biodiversity safeguards should take into account the importance of wildlife for maintaining healthy ecosystems and ecological services, and for the permanence of forest carbon stocks and forest adaptation capacity.

11. *Special management areas:* Where they do not already exist, specific areas for wildlife management should be designated at national and local levels, with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and in full respect of their rights (in line with decision VII/28⁵ of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the programme of work on protected areas, in particular programme element 2 on governance, participation, equity and benefit-sharing), similar to permanent forest estates designated to manage timber resources. These may span existing protected area systems and multi-use landscapes (e.g., game-management areas or districts).

12. *Law enforcement:*

- (a) Strengthen investigative capacity, enhance control, inspection and arresting procedures and methods, including domestically and at border-crossing points;
- (b) Improve knowledge and capacity of prosecutors and judges to prosecute and sentence illegal bushmeat harvest and trade cases, ensure that sentences are served in full and publicize arrests, prosecutions and sentences;
- (c) Enhance cooperation and coordination among wildlife trade enforcement officers and officials, prosecutors and judges and other relevant personnel in the implementation of the respective law;

⁴ With reference to decision 1/CP.16 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), REDD-plus comprises reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

⁵ Decision VII/28, paragraph 22: “*Recalls* the obligations of Parties towards indigenous and local communities in accordance with Article 8(j) and related provisions and *notes* that the establishment, management and monitoring of protected areas should take place with the full and effective participation of, and full respect for the rights of, indigenous and local communities consistent with national law and applicable international obligations.”

(d) Assure that citizens, including indigenous and local communities, are aware of national, regional and local laws.

13. *National strategies and action plans to address bushmeat:* (a) support and strengthen national political will to plan and take action on key bushmeat and existing conservation commitments; (b) Governments should develop or strengthen participatory and cross-sectoral processes in formulating and implementing the sustainable management and harvesting of wildlife.

II. INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

14. *National, regional and international strategies to address bushmeat:* Such strategies could include:

(a) Supporting and strengthening national political will to take action on key bushmeat and existing conservation commitments at a transboundary and regional level;

(b) Supporting, strengthening and monitoring the implementation of existing international commitments and agreements and encouraging new ones concerning the conservation and sustainable use of transboundary and shared wildlife resources;

(c) Effectively integrating wildlife-conservation strategies into relevant development assistance such as poverty-reduction strategies;

(d) Creating regional or subregional bushmeat working groups in cooperation with relevant regional bodies to be technically supported by the Secretariat.

15. *Participatory processes:* The international community should support national Governments to develop or strengthen participatory and cross-sectoral processes in formulating and implementing the sustainable management and harvesting of bushmeat species, in particular participation of indigenous and local communities, and the private sector.

16. *Impacts of international trade in natural resources.* International policy processes and institutions concerning trade and development should take steps to better assess, communicate, and mitigate impacts of extraction and trade in natural resources (e.g., timber, minerals, oil) on wildlife, wildlife-dependent communities, and resulting bushmeat demands to ensure that all international trade is based on sustainable principles.

17. *International trade in bushmeat.* Concerned with the potential threat that a growing international trade in bushmeat may have on wild populations and wildlife-dependent communities, the international community should take action to discourage trade in illegally harvested bushmeat, including through the close monitoring of such trade. The international community should provide the means to implement such actions and communicate law-enforcement successes. Close cooperation between Parties, including with regard to law enforcement, and between the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) on this topic is required.

18. *International policy environment:* In order to optimize the sustainability of hunting, the international community should support integrated local, national, and transboundary action to build partnerships among relevant organizations and institutions to:

(a) Build enforcement and monitoring capacity;

(b) Develop and implement protein and income alternatives;

(c) Increase awareness and education regarding bushmeat hunting and trade;

(d) Increase collaboration between the relevant conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

(CITES), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and other relevant organizations.

These actions taken together have the potential to support communities to sustainably manage their wildlife resource and reduce the demand for bushmeat.

19. *Science:* Research should assure to include and integrate ecology, health, development, economics and social science to inform future policy.

20. *Incentives:* The international community should ensure that financial mechanisms and payments for ecosystem services such as REDD-plus take into account the importance of ecosystem functioning and the role of forest fauna in forest health and resilience, including the well-being of forest-dependent indigenous and local communities.

21. *Forest certification:* Forest certification schemes and standards should take into account the role of conservation and sustainable use of wildlife in maintaining healthy forest ecosystems, as well as the well-being of forest-dependent indigenous and local communities.

XV/7. Arctic biodiversity

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Welcomes* the report on Arctic biodiversity prepared by the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group of the Arctic Council for the consideration of the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/14);

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to include in documentation on ecologically or biologically significant areas in marine areas being prepared for the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice reference to the work carried out under the OSPAR Convention and by the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission on this subject;

3. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting adopts a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the Resolution of Cooperation between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group of the Arctic Council, *encourages* the continued collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Working Group, including with regard to monitoring and assessments of status and trends as well as stressors to biodiversity;

1. *Welcomes* the report on Arctic biodiversity prepared by the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group of the Arctic Council for the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/14) and *notes* in particular its key findings;

2. *Notes* that:

(a) The Arctic plays host to a vast array of biodiversity, including many globally significant populations of fauna and flora;

(b) A significant proportion of Arctic species are migratory; such populations are thus shared by numerous non-Arctic Parties and other Governments whose cooperation is needed for their conservation;

(c) Arctic ecosystems provide essential services including for the livelihoods of indigenous and local communities;

(d) Climate change is emerging as the most far-reaching and significant stressor on Arctic biodiversity;

(e) Changes in Arctic biodiversity have global repercussions, since Arctic ecosystem processes play a key role in the physical, chemical and biological balance of the planet;

(f) The conservation and sustainable use of Arctic biodiversity contributes to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

3. *Invites* relevant non-Arctic Parties, other Governments, international organizations and multilateral environmental agreements and processes, which either play host to migratory Arctic species for part of their life-history and/or which collate information about the status of such species, to collaborate with the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group of the Arctic Council by, *inter alia* contributing to the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme within its available capacity, and with relevant multilateral environmental agreements concerned with the conservation of migratory Arctic species, and to share their data on monitoring and/or assessment of such species;

4. *Welcomes* progress in the implementation of the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group of the Arctic Council Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme, including on the more rapid detection and communication of significant biodiversity-related trends and pressures affecting the Arctic environment;

5. *Encourages* the development of further Arctic ecosystem resilience assessments and reports;
6. *Welcomes* the work carried out by the working groups of the Arctic Council on the identification of ecologically and biologically significant areas in the Arctic, and *encourages* them to continue this work in cooperation with adjacent regional conventions and commissions including the OSPAR Convention and the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission;
7. *Encourages* the Arctic Council working groups to progress in the work of identifying Arctic areas of high ecological and cultural significance;
8. *Urges* Parties and *invites* other Governments and relevant organizations, as appropriate, to promote the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and relevant programmes of work of the Convention in relation to the Arctic environment;
9. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to make available through their national clearing-house mechanisms, as appropriate, data and information generated through research and monitoring activities in the Arctic, including those contributing to the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme, the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment and other relevant Arctic Council assessments, and to make full use of it in their reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity and other conventions, where relevant;
10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make Parties aware of biodiversity- related information and reports generated by the Arctic Council, including from the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme, the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment and the other relevant Arctic Council assessments;
11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make use of data and information generated by the Arctic Council as appropriate, *inter alia*, in the preparation of future editions of Global Biodiversity Outlook;
12. *Appreciating* the collaboration of the Arctic Council with indigenous peoples of the Arctic, *encourages* Parties and *invites* other Governments and relevant organizations to have full and effective participation with indigenous and local communities in research projects and programmes regarding Arctic biodiversity.

XV/8. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the relevant academic and scientific institutions, to prepare scientific reports and papers in response to decision VIII/10, annex III, appendix B, paragraph 1 (ii);
2. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary and *encourages* host countries, host institutions and donors, when preparing meetings of ad hoc technical expert groups on particularly complex and wide-ranging issues, to consider whether to hold such meetings separately or in conjunction with larger expert meetings, including relevant meetings already being planned, and to develop associated guidance;
3. *Recalling* decision X/11, *also requests* the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the COP Bureau to identify issues, modalities and options for collaboration with the intergovernmental science-policy platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES), taking into consideration the views presented at the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, and to prepare a report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at its sixteenth meeting;
4. *Encourages* the participation of the Chair of the Subsidiary Body at future IPBES meetings and related events;
5. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties:
 - (a) *Request* SBSTTA to continue implementing decisions VIII/10 and X/12 and focus its work on the scientific and technical aspects of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the multi-year programme of work, as a means to improve its effectiveness and to report on its work to each future meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
 - (b) *Recall* its decision X/13 regarding the established procedure to include new and emerging issues into the agenda of SBSTTA;
 - (c) *Note* the role of the peer-review process for SBSTTA documents in mobilizing scientific communities and strengthening SBSTTA document quality;
 - (d) *Recognize* the role of regional, subregional and national centres with scientific expertise relevant to the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
 - (e) *Invite* Parties, other Governments, and relevant organizations to provide additional resources for the translation of scientific and technical documents, including CBD Technical Series and executive summaries of information documents prepared for meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in the official languages of the United Nations;
 - (f) *Invite* Parties and relevant organizations to facilitate side-events and roundtables, including on new and emerging issues, so as to provide relevant, balanced and best available scientific and technical evidence and/or information for consideration by SBSTTA focal points at the meetings of the Subsidiary Body;
 - (g) *Further invite* Parties and relevant organizations to support the elaboration of the reference manual for guidance to SBSTTA focal points, Bureau members and delegates referred to in decision X/12, paragraph 4, including translation into United Nations official languages;
 - (h) *Welcome* the contribution from the Consortium of Scientific Partners in providing scientific and technical support to SBSTTA including with regards to the activities referred to in this recommendation;

(i) *Invite* the Consortium of Scientific Partners and other organizations such as IUCN and its commissions to support implementation of activities mentioned in subparagraphs (f) and (g) above;

(j) *Noting* the report on progress and suggestions for further actions in response to decision X/12 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/15, table 2), *requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to:

- (i) Make available web-based tools and training in their use to focal points of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and other CBD focal points in order to facilitate regional consultations;
- (ii) Develop training programmes for focal points to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice taking into consideration the assessment of needs as compiled by the Executive Secretary through notification 2011-104 and the capacity needs assessment of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Liaison Group;
- (iii) Prepare background documents, whenever feasible, to accompany notifications to SBSTTA focal points requesting input and information;
- (iv) Continue to include, in each pre-session document prepared for SBSTTA, a list of relevant elements of the Strategic Plan;
- (v) Continue to explore options for closer collaboration between the relevant bureaus among the biodiversity related conventions through the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-Related Conventions (BLG) and the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the Biodiversity-Related Conventions (CSAB);
- (vi) Provide information notes on relevant items on the agenda of the Subsidiary Body to the chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the other biodiversity-related multilateral conventions and attend meetings of those bodies when feasible;
- (vii) Maintain through the Convention's website a table with an updated list of requests from the Conference of the Parties to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and links to relevant sections of the Convention website and to circulate such an updated list to the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body prior to each meeting for its consideration and guidance.
