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### SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Sixteenth meeting  
Montreal, 30 April - 5 May 2012  
Agenda item 15

### REPORT OF WORKING GROUP I

1. As decided by the Subsidiary Body at its 1st plenary session, Working Group I met under the chairmanship of Mr. Maadjou Bah (Guinea) and Mr. Ole Hendrickson (Canada) to consider agenda items 4 (Global Biodiversity Outlook: preparation of the fourth edition), 7.1 (Advice on the application of relevant REDD+ safeguards for biodiversity, and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts of REDD+ measures on biodiversity), 7.2 (Integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information), 7.3 (Geo-engineering: impacts on biodiversity and gaps in regulatory mechanisms), 11 (Biofuels and biodiversity: progress in implementing decision X/37), 12 (Incentive measures: progress in implementing decision X/44) and 13 (Reports on collaborative work in the areas of agriculture, forests and health). The Working Group held 10 meetings, from 30 April to 4 May 2012. It adopted the present report at its 10th meeting, on 4 May 2012.

#### ITEM 4. GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK: PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH EDITION

2. Working Group I took up agenda item 4 at its 1st meeting, on 30 April 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Maadjou Bah (Guinea). In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a plan for the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/3), together with the evaluation of the process for the preparation and production of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/1) and the draft communication strategy for the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/2).

3. Introducing the item, the representative of the Secretariat drew attention to paragraph 17 (d) of decision X/2 of the Conference of the Parties, which requested the Executive Secretariat to prepare a plan, to be considered by the Subsidiary Body prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, for the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4) on the basis of the fifth national reports, using headline global biodiversity indicators and other relevant information. The plan prepared accordingly was contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/3, which also included a summary of the main points arising from the review of the process of preparation and production of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.

4. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Sudan, Thailand and Uganda.
5. A statement was also made by a representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
6. Further statements were made by representatives of DIVERSITAS and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB).
7. The representative of Switzerland said that his country would provide financial support for the drafting of GBO-4, while the representative of Japan said that his country would translate the publication into Japanese.
8. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that he would prepare a revised version of the draft recommendation contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/3, reflecting the views expressed by participants and written submissions to the Secretariat, for consideration at a subsequent meeting.
9. The Working Group discussed the revised version of the draft recommendation at its 4th and 5th meetings, on 2 May 2012.
10. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, Ethiopia, the European Union, France, Germany, India, Mexico, Niger, Norway, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
11. The representative of the European Union requested that the following statement be included in the report of the meeting:

“Parties and other Governments should make timely financial contributions for the development of biodiversity indicators that build on and continue the work of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership in order to deliver global biodiversity indicators for the post-2010 period and support Parties in developing corresponding national indicators, in the framework of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (Aichi Targets 1-20). The European Union therefore supports the proposal made by UNEP in support of Parties’ implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (paragraph 14 (h) of document UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/7 on the financial mechanism: review of GEF-5 and needs for GEF-6).

“In 2011, the European Union provided financial support to the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and this year is providing financial support to UNEP for continuing the work of the Biodiversity Indicator Partnership.”
12. A statement was also made by a representative of IIFB.
13. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/L.3.

**ITEM 7. BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

*Item 7.1. Advice on the application of relevant REDD+<sup>1</sup> safeguards for biodiversity and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts of REDD+ measures on biodiversity*

*Item 7.2. Integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information*

14. Working Group I took up agenda items 7.1 and 7.2 together at its 2nd meeting, on 1 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Maadjou Bah (Guinea). In considering item 7.1, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on advice on the application of relevant safeguards for biodiversity with regard to REDD+, and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts on biodiversity of REDD+ measures (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8), submissions from Parties on REDD+ safeguards and assessment of impacts on biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/19), a submission by the CBD Secretariat to the UNFCCC Secretariat on methodological guidance for activities relating to REDD+, specifically related to systems for providing information on how safeguards referred to in appendix I to UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16 are addressed and respected (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/20), an analysis of possible indicators to measure impacts of REDD+ on biodiversity and on indigenous and local communities (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/21), a framework for integrating biodiversity concerns into national REDD+ programmes (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/22), Assessing REDD+ performance of countries with low monitoring capacities: the matrix approach (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/23), a review of three REDD+ safeguard initiatives (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/24) and a background report on improving forest biodiversity monitoring and reporting (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/25). In considering item 7.2, the Working Group had before it proposals on the integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/9), Biodiversity and Climate Change: examples of bioclimatic models (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/26), and the summary report on the Rio Conventions Pavilion (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/27).

15. With regard to item 7.1, the representative of the Secretariat expressed appreciation to those countries that had hosted or provided financial support for the four expert workshops on the findings of which the report contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8 was in part based. He also delivered a statement on behalf of the UNFCCC Secretariat, which is reproduced in the annex to this report.

16. Statements were made by representatives of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Finland, France, Guatemala, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Switzerland and Thailand.

17. Working Group I resumed its consideration of agenda items 7.1 and 7.2 at its 2nd meeting, on 1 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Bah.

18. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, the European Union, Ghana, India, Malaysia, Niger, Norway, South Africa and Uganda.

19. Statements were also made by representatives of FAO and the World Bank.

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<sup>1</sup> With reference to relevant decisions and documents of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the term REDD+ refers to “reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries”.

20. Further statements were made by representatives of DIVERSITAS, the Global Forest Coalition, IIFB and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO).

21. At the suggestion of the Co-Chair, it was decided to establish an open-ended group of the Friends of the Chair to continue deliberations on agenda item 7.1, in which the representatives of Australia, Brazil, China, Denmark, India, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa and Uganda were particularly invited to participate, with the aim of reaching consensus. Mr. Ignatius Makumba (Zambia) and Mr. Alan Reid (New Zealand) would act as facilitators for the group's discussions. The Co-Chair said that revised versions of the draft recommendations contained in documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/9 would be prepared, to be considered individually.

22. Under agenda item 7.1, the Working Group heard a progress report from Mr. Makumba and discussed a revised version of the draft recommendation contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8 at its 9th meeting, on 4 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ole Hendrickson (Canada).

23. Statements were made by representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, the European Union, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, Uganda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

24. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/L.12.

25. Under agenda item 7.2, the Working Group discussed a revised version of the draft recommendation contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/9 at its 5th meeting, on 2 May 2012, and its 6th meeting, on 3 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Hendrickson.

26. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, Ethiopia, the European Union, Finland, Guatemala, India, Japan, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, the Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia.

27. Statements were also made by representatives of DIVERSITAS and IIFB.

28. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/L.5.

***Item 7.3. Geo-engineering: impacts on biodiversity and gaps in existing regulatory mechanisms***

29. Working Group I took up agenda item 7.3 at its 2nd meeting, on 1 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ole Hendrickson (Canada). In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on technical and regulatory matters on geo-engineering in relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/10), information documents on impacts of climate related geo-engineering on biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/28), on the regulatory framework for climate-related geo-engineering relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/29) and on impacts of climate-related geo-engineering on biodiversity: views and experiences of indigenous and local communities and stakeholders (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/30).

30. Introducing the item, the representative of the Secretariat explained that the studies reported in information documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/28 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/29 had been carried out pursuant to decision X/33, paragraphs 9(l) and 9(m) respectively. She said that, to facilitate the preparation of the geo-engineering documents before the Subsidiary Body, the Executive Secretary had established an expert group and a legal liaison group and convened a consultative workshop and online

dialogue, thanks to the generous contributions of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Norway. She further explained that document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/30 had been prepared on the basis of an online consultation with indigenous peoples and local communities, hosted by UNESCO. The proposals prepared by the Executive Secretary were contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/10.

31. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, India, Norway, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Uganda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

32. Statements were also made by representatives of EcoNexus (speaking also on behalf of Biofuelwatch and the Global Forest Coalition), the ETC Group and Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education).

33. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that he would prepare a revised version of the draft recommendation contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/10, reflecting the views expressed by participants and written submissions to the Secretariat, for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

34. The Working Group discussed the revised version of the draft recommendation at its 8th and 9th meetings, on 4 May 2012.

35. Statements were made by representatives of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, the European Union, Finland, France, Guatemala, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Niger, Norway, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Sudan, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and also the United States of America.

36. Statements were also made by representatives of the ETC Group and the Royal Society.

37. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/L.11.

#### **ITEM 11. BIOFUELS AND BIODIVERSITY: PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING DECISION X/37**

38. Working Group I took up agenda item 11 at its 3rd meeting, on 1 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ole Hendrickson (Canada). In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by Executive Secretary on Biofuels and biodiversity: report on the work in response to decision X/37 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/14) and an information document on biofuels and biodiversity: further information on the work in response to decision X/37 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/32).

39. Introducing the item, the representative of the Secretariat said that the documents before the Working Group had previously been submitted for peer review, and comments received had been incorporated where feasible.

40. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, India, Japan, Mexico, the Philippines, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

41. Statements were also made by representatives of Biofuelwatch, EcoNexus (speaking also on behalf of USC Canada), the Global Forest Coalition and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

42. Given the divergent views expressed during the discussion, it was decided, at the suggestion of the Co-Chair, to establish a group of the Friends of the Chair to consider the matter.
43. At its 6th meeting, on 3 May 2012, the Working Group heard a progress report from Mr. Horst Korn (Germany), who acted as facilitator for the group of the Friends of the Chair.
44. At its 9th meeting, on 4 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Maadjou Dah (Guinea), the Working Group heard a further progress report from Mr. Korn, who introduced a revised version of the draft recommendation contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/14, prepared by the Secretariat. He explained that it represented a delicate balance achieved during consultations.
45. Statements were made by representatives of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Malaysia, Norway, the Philippines, South Africa, Switzerland and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
46. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/L.10.
47. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed a reservation regarding operative paragraph 1 of the proposed decision contained in the draft recommendation, specifically the references to “land tenure” and “including water”.

#### **ITEM 12. INCENTIVE MEASURES: PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING DECISION X/44**

48. Working Group I took up agenda item 12 at its 3rd meeting, on 1 May 2010, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ole Hendrickson (Canada). In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary containing a progress report on activities undertaken by Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and initiatives, and the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/15) and an information document on incentive measures: synthesis of information on progress in implementing decision X/44 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/36).
49. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, India, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
50. Statements were also made by representatives of EcoNexus and IUCN.
51. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that he would prepare a revised version of the draft recommendation contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/15, reflecting the views expressed by participants and written submissions to the Secretariat, for consideration at a subsequent meeting.
52. The Working Group discussed the revised version of the draft recommendation at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 3 May 2012.
53. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Australia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Germany, India, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Rwanda, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and also the United States of America.
54. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the revised version of the draft recommendation at its 9th meeting, on 4 May 2012.

55. Statements were made by representatives of Denmark and India.
56. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/L.9.

**ITEM 13. REPORTS ON COLLABORATIVE WORK IN THE AREAS OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTS AND HEALTH**

57. Working Group I took up agenda item 13 at its 3rd meeting, on 1 May 2012, under the chairmanship of Mr. Maadjou Bah (Guinea). In considering the item, the Working Group had before it a note by the Executive Secretary concerning the reports on collaborative work in the areas of agriculture, forests and health (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/16) and information notes on the report on collaborative work on biodiversity and agriculture (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/33) and on biodiversity and health: further information on the work in response to decision X/20, paragraph 17 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/34).
58. Statements were made by representatives of Austria, Brazil and Switzerland.
59. A further statement was made by DIVERSITAS (speaking also on behalf of the EcoHealth Alliance).
60. Working Group I resumed consideration of item at its 4th meeting, on 2 May 2012.
61. Statements were made by representatives of Canada, Ethiopia and the Philippines.
62. A statement was also made by a representative of FAO.
63. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that he would prepare a revised version of the draft recommendation contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/16, reflecting the views expressed by participants and written submissions to the Secretariat, for consideration at a subsequent meeting.
64. The Working Group discussed the revised version of the draft recommendation at its 7th meeting, on 3 May 2012, and its 8th meeting, on 4 May 2012.
65. Statements were made by representatives of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Ethiopia, the European Union, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway and Peru.
66. A statement was also made by a representative of DIVERSITAS.
67. The Working Group agreed to transmit the draft recommendation, as orally amended, to the plenary as draft recommendation UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/L.8.

*Annex***STATEMENT BY THE UNFCCC SECRETARIAT TO THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE  
SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL  
ADVICE OF THE CBD****Item 7.1 of the agenda****Advice on the application of relevant REDD+ safeguards for biodiversity, and on possible  
indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts of REDD+ measures on  
biodiversity**

The secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC secretariat) welcomes this opportunity to present a statement to the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its secretariat (SCBD) on the occasion of the sixteenth session of its Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) in Montreal, Canada from April 30 to May 5, 2012. The UNFCCC secretariat would like to take this opportunity to note its close collaboration with the SCBD on matters relating to biodiversity and climate change, in particular on issues relating to biodiversity, environmental and social aspects of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD-plus).

The UNFCCC secretariat would also like to express its appreciation to the SCBD for sharing the outcomes of its work, specifically the outcomes of the four expert workshops on the links between biodiversity and REDD-plus, including biodiversity safeguards, that took place between September 2010 and September 2011 with the Parties of the UNFCCC, through a submission<sup>2</sup> made to the UNFCCC in September 2011. Both secretariats collaborated on the inputs to these workshops. The UNFCCC secretariat shared with the SCBD and the participants of these workshops information, developments and guidance on REDD-plus arising from the UNFCCC process, which supported the discussions at these four expert workshops. In turn, the outcomes informed the discussions on safeguards for REDD-plus activities in the UNFCCC process.

The seventeenth session of the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) in Durban, South Africa last year made good progress on issues relating to REDD-plus. The COP adopted a decision on “Guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected and modalities relating to forest reference emission levels and forest reference levels as referred to in decision 1/CP.16” (decision 12/CP.17<sup>3</sup>). A second decision relating to financing options for the full implementation of results-based actions on REDD-plus was adopted by the COP as part of the package of decisions from the outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (decision 2/CP.17<sup>4</sup>).

This year, the Parties to the UNFCCC will continue their work on methodological guidance and financing options relating to REDD-plus. In particular, Parties will continue the consideration of modalities for measuring, reporting and verifying and national forest monitoring systems. In addition, the Parties will consider the need for further guidance to ensure transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness when informing how all safeguards are addressed and respected. It is expected that the outcomes will be reported to the COP at its eighteenth session.

In view of the further methodological work needed to enhance the implementation of REDD-plus activities, the UNFCCC secretariat looks forward to continuing its close working relationship with the

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<sup>2</sup> This submission is available on: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/smsn/igo/137.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> The full text of the decision can be found at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a02.pdf#page=16>

<sup>4</sup> The full text of the decision can be found at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a01.pdf#page=4>



SCBD on ongoing and future activities relating to biodiversity and REDD-plus. The two secretariats will continue to work together to help Parties reach consensus on these issues, in particular those relating to biodiversity conservation and REDD-plus, enhance synergies from the outcomes of both processes and build capacities to facilitate the implementation of REDD-plus actions while simultaneously conserving biodiversity in developing country Parties.

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