

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

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Montreal, 30 April – 5 May 2012

WORKING GROUP I

Agenda item 7.2

PROPOSALS ON INTEGRATING BIODIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS INTO CLIMATE CHANGE-RELATED ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING ADDRESSING GAPS IN KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION

Draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chairs

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, including national and international organizations responsible for funding and conducting research activities, to provide technical and financial support and strengthen capacity-building and build knowledge and information, including, with prior and informed consent, traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, on the linkages between biodiversity and climate change by:

(a) Promoting work that considers the outputs from a number of individual models (multi-model combinations), together with ground-truthing, including through field based observations, to generate accurate and fine-scale projections of the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, particularly on the most vulnerable ecosystems and species and with respect to various policy and socio-economic scenarios;

(b) Building knowledge, with comparable datasets, on the potential impacts of climate change and climate change response activities on biodiversity relevant for decision makers responsible for land-use planning and implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the specific needs of indigenous and local communities and other stakeholders, from local to regional scales;

(c) Improving the documentation, dissemination and use of local and traditional knowledge, innovations and practices related to biodiversity – climate change links with the prior and informed consent of indigenous and local communities and promoting the equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of this knowledge;

(d) Developing and improving regional programmes for bioclimatic modelling and monitoring the impacts of climate change on biodiversity;

(e) Addressing gaps in biodiversity modelling including, *inter alia*, the impacts of invasive alien species and overexploitation in terrestrial, coastal and marine systems; pollution and invasive species in freshwater systems; and land degradation and pollution in coastal and marine systems;

(f) Increasing research to strengthen knowledge on how the impacts of climate change on biodiversity affect the delivery of ecosystem services;

(g) Identifying data and information needs, availability and gaps in order to determine how to develop or improve the extent to which existing data collection and management systems support decision-making, adaptive management, national planning and reporting on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity;

(h) Enhancing the interoperability of relevant data sets and establishing or enhancing national data collection and management systems;

(i) Investing in higher education and training programmes, including for researchers across different biodiversity disciplines, on monitoring, field study tools and methodologies and bioclimatic modelling and climate-related disaster projections; and

(j) Establishing multi-purpose monitoring programmes for climate change impacts on biodiversity with the view to maximize the use of limited resources as well as to effectively address information gaps in both spatial and temporal scales.

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

“The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling in particular, decisions VIII/30, IX/16, annex II, and decision X/33,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Subsidiary Body (recommendation XVI/-, paragraph 1) to strengthen knowledge and information on the linkages between biodiversity and climate change;

2. *Reiterates* the importance of activities at all levels to integrate biodiversity into relevant climate change activities, to ensure coherence in national implementation of both the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity;

3. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations, and indigenous and local communities, when carrying out work on biodiversity and climate change, to consider the proposals to overcome obstacles contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/9;

4. *Welcomes* the collaboration among the secretariats of the Rio conventions, the Global Environment Facility and other organizations in the convening of the Rio Conventions Pavilion at meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Rio conventions as well as the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

5. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to explore options for further financing, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, to fill biodiversity and ecosystem services data gaps and for research studies at larger spatial scales, that are critical for climate-change planning and modelling;

6. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to

(a) Take into account the importance of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices related to biodiversity when addressing the impacts of climate change within national, sub-national and sector plans and strategies, especially when considering vulnerable communities;

(b) Strengthen knowledge and information on the linkages between biodiversity, climate change and human well-being in their educational programmes at all levels;

(c) Establish coherent national policies and measures integrating biodiversity and climate change issues; and

(d) Include protected areas systems and biological corridors as a key element of any national or sub-national climate change strategy to ensure concrete actions for ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation and/or mitigation;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, including through the Joint Liaison Group, to:

(a) Identify relevant workshops and activities under the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

and disseminate such information through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and other means with a view to enhancing knowledge sharing on ecosystem based approaches for mitigation and adaptation; and

(b) Continue discussions on the relevant activities presented in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/9 for further consideration and implementation as appropriate and based on their financial feasibility, and to explore options to enhance the interoperability of databases managed by the two Secretariats to enhance cooperation on ecosystem based approaches for adaptation and mitigation, especially in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate change;

8. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to promote educational activities on the synergies among climate change, biodiversity and desertification as well as their links livelihoods and development through the programme of work on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA);

9. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant organizations, to

(a) Build awareness of ongoing biodiversity data and modeling initiatives among organizations and programmes engaging in climate-change modelling; and

(b) Make use of the clearing-house mechanism to raise awareness of, and build capacity on, ongoing scenarios modelling and biodiversity data management initiatives ranging from data collection through to dissemination, among organizations and programmes engaging in climate-change studies.
