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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

**CONTRIBUTION OF THE CONVENTION TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL
SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (IPBES)
INTERSESSIONAL PROCESS**

Revised note by the Executive Secretary

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its eleventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity provided guidance relating to the work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and requested the Executive Secretary, together with the IPBES Secretariat, to begin exploring options for elements of a work programme for IPBES.
2. Specifically, the Conference of the Parties (COP) invited IPBES, in cooperation with the Executive Secretary, to develop a work programme that includes the preparation of the next global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, ... and requested the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform, where relevant (decision XI/2, paragraph 28).
3. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to explore, with the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, options for the preparation of a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, ... including its implications for future editions of Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO), and report on progress to a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (decision XI/3 C, paragraph 7(b)). The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to engage IPBES and others in the preparations of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates (decision XI/3 C, paragraph 7(a)).
4. Further, the Conference of the Parties requested the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to consider ways in which the activities of the Platform could, as appropriate, build on, and contribute to, the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook; contribute to assessments of the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; and provide information on policy

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options available to deliver the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (decision XI/13 C, paragraph 4).

5. The Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and IPBES have prepared this note to provide relevant information that may be considered as IPBES develops its work programme,¹ including how it might be linked to the processes and activities under the Convention on Biological Diversity. The purpose is to explore the need for and the scope and timing of a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (section II); to consider other possible elements that could be considered in the IPBES work programme (section III); to discuss the relevance of the ongoing GBO process to IPBES (section IV); and to consider links between the work of IPBES and future editions of GBO (section V). Appendix II lists decisions from COP and COP-MOP meetings since 2006 that are relevant to the consideration of the IPBES work programme.

6. Discussions about the detailed work programme of IPBES are ongoing and will take into account views from Governments and other stakeholders, including multilateral environmental agreements. The suggestions below draw on earlier discussions on a follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and views emerging within the biodiversity community, especially as they were expressed in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

7. This note is intended to provide some preliminary inputs to the process for the development of a work programme for IPBES. The original version has been updated in light of meetings of the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) held in Bergen, Norway from 1 to 6 June 2013² and the SBSTTA Bureau (Trondheim, Norway, 31 May - 1 June 2013).

8. At its meeting on the margins of the seventh Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity, the SBSTTA Bureau discussed, among others, input to the IPBES intersessional process. The Bureau welcomed the present note and expressed satisfaction that it covered well most of the main issues. The Bureau highlighted the urgency in addressing biodiversity issues, especially if we want to achieve the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The Bureau also emphasized the need to not focus only on ecosystem services, but to also consider the importance of biodiversity itself as well as the ecosystem services it generates. The Bureau also welcomed the consideration by IPBES of traditional knowledge related to biodiversity.

9. The draft note was subjected to peer-review from 28 June to 15 July 2013. Peer-review comments were received from two Parties (European Union and Mexico) and three organizations (Conservation International; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, FAO; and the International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN). The current note takes into account the comments from these submissions.

II. GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Need for future assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services

10. As noted above, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity invited the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, in cooperation with the Executive Secretary, to develop a work programme that includes the preparation of the next global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, to be launched in 2018 (decision XI/2, paragraph 28) and requested the Executive Secretary to explore, with the IPBES Secretariat, options for the preparation of such an assessment (decision XI/3 C, paragraph 7(b)). The same decisions specify that the assessment should focus on status and trends, the impact of biodiversity and ecosystem services on

¹ A draft IPBES work programme dated 25 June 2013 is now available for online review (comments due by 28 July 2013) at: <http://www.ipbes.net/images/IPBES%20Work%20Programme%20Review%20Draft%20-%20for%20online%20review.pdf>.

² A report of the first full MEP and Bureau meeting will be made available at www.ipbes.net.

human well-being, progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the effectiveness of responses, including the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and that it should build upon, *inter alia*, its own and other relevant regional, subregional and thematic assessments, as well as on national reports.

11. These decisions are in line with earlier discussions on the need for a follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. In decision IX/15, the Conference of the Parties noted that a regular assessment is needed to provide decision makers with the necessary information base for adaptive management and to promote the necessary political will for action in addressing biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystems and ecosystem services and their implications for human well-being.

12. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, released in 2005, provided a comprehensive analysis of the state of the Earth's biodiversity, including on trends in the ability of ecosystems to provide essential services to humankind. The global assessment was complemented by some 30 subglobal assessments on a range of spatial scales and thematic foci. The Convention's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice reviewed the draft reports of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, in particular the draft synthesis report prepared for the Convention on Biological Diversity (recommendation X/3) and considered the implications of the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment for the future work of the Convention (recommendations XI/4 and XII/3). These provided the basis for the consideration by the Conference of the Parties of the implications of the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment for the work of the Convention (decision VIII/9).

13. Based on observations of the effectiveness of subglobal assessments in bringing about policy responses to observed challenges, the Conference of the Parties, in decision VIII/9, called for the development of appropriate regionally-based response scenarios (paragraph 20) and encouraged Parties and other Governments to conduct national and other subglobal assessments making use of the conceptual framework and methodologies of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, as appropriate (paragraph 23). Through decision IX/15, the Conference of the Parties provided some guidance on the design of subglobal assessments.

Scope and timing of a future comprehensive biodiversity assessment

14. It is envisioned that a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services would have a similar impact as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment was highly influential to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the scientific community more broadly, by helping to clarify the links between biodiversity and human well-being and by helping to popularize the ecosystem services concept. The work undertaken as part of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment also served as a basis for several other assessments and encouraged a range of scientific research. Further, while the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment did not address the economic valuation of biodiversity or the links between the direct and underlying causes of biodiversity in great detail, it did provide a foundation for the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) assessments.

15. As noted in paragraph 10 above, according to decisions XI/2 and XI/3, the assessment should address:

(a) The implementation and achievement of, or progress towards the implementation and achievement of, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including:

- (i) The effectiveness of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and their corresponding national or regional targets in putting us on a path towards achieving the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

- (ii) The effectiveness of the actions undertaken by Parties and other stakeholders, including private sector entities, in contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- (iii) The effectiveness of environmental governance at all levels in supporting the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

(b) Identification of gaps and challenges that may have been encountered in the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and development of possible policy responses to overcome them;

(c) Inform any subsequent processes under the Convention;

(d) Also address, as appropriate, the needs of the other biodiversity-related conventions.

16. Also as noted in paragraph 10 above, the global assessment should build upon, *inter alia*, its own and other relevant regional, subregional and thematic assessments. Indeed, in the initial discussions on the IPBES work programme, there appears to be emerging consensus that a global assessment undertaken within the context of IPBES should be carried out in a bottom-up approach, starting with a suite of regional/subglobal assessments, complemented by thematic assessments on priority issues, all of which would then collectively feed into a global assessment as an integral part of the multi-scale assessment. It is important to note that in addition to the outcomes of such assessments, the process of conducting assessments itself is valuable, particularly when it can be linked to national planning processes and by integrating capacity-building in the methodology of the assessment process, as noted in the report of the international expert meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services and capacity-building (Trondheim, Norway, 25-27 May 2011).³

17. A global assessment of the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets (decision X/2) would draw and provide feedback on, *inter alia*:

(a) Progress reported on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development goals;

(b) Progress reported on national and/or regional targets corresponding to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(c) Findings of (sub)regional assessments undertaken within the context of IPBES;

(d) Findings of thematic assessments undertaken within the context of IPBES;

(e) Global (and where possible regional and national) trends in the status of biodiversity (including threats to biodiversity, underlying causes of biodiversity loss and implications for the delivery of ecosystem services in contributing to human well-being) based on the indicative list of indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (annex to decision XI/3) and its future developments, including evidence from an anticipated enhancement of observation, detection and analytical capabilities for biodiversity;

(f) Evidence from the review of models and scenarios of future trends in biodiversity (including the analysis being undertaken as part of the fourth edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook);

³ UNEP/IPBES.MI/1/INF/10.

(g) Analyses undertaken by the biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, and by other United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), other intergovernmental organizations (e.g. IUCN, GEO – particularly GEO BON⁴) and non-governmental organizations on progress towards and the effectiveness of actions undertaken in support of the achievement of (elements of) the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

18. Given the complexity of the multi-scale assessment envisioned, it will be challenging to have a thoroughly reviewed report approved by the IPBES Plenary in time to inform the discussions at the Conference of the Parties in 2018. However, it would be important that the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services be scheduled so as to enable its endorsement by the IPBES Plenary at such a time that the assessment can be considered by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity no later than its meeting in 2020. This would enable the Conference of the Parties to utilize the findings of this global assessment for its review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and its elaboration on any follow-up policies and actions. Accordingly it would be desirable to schedule the suite of regional and subregional assessments so that they are sufficiently advanced for the global assessment to build on. Equally, the calendar of key thematic assessments should be developed bearing in mind the potential of these to feed into the global biodiversity assessment.

19. Following the first meeting of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) and the IPBES Bureau, a draft work programme for IPBES for 2014-2018 was developed. For a complete list of suggested deliverables see appendix I below. This document, in its version of 25 June 2013, is subject to review and will be further revised by the MEP and the Bureau and presented to the second session of the Platform's Plenary (IPBES-2), to be held in Antalya, Turkey, from 9 to 14 December 2013. The draft work programme suggests "a global biodiversity and ecosystem services assessment on drivers and pressures; status and trends; the impacts on human well-being; and the effectiveness of responses, including of the Aichi Targets" as one of the deliverables of IPBES. The second session of the Platform's Plenary (IPBES-2) is expected to decide on mandating the scoping for the assessment; the final assessment report is planned to be submitted to IPBES-6 for acceptance in the first quarter of 2018. In addition, the draft work programme envisages, as another deliverable, a set of regional and/or subregional assessments as well as building the institutional capacity to deliver them. A guide for the development and endorsement of regional and subregional deliverables, assessments and capacities would be developed in 2014. The assessments would start in 2014 and be completed in time for review and acceptance by IPBES-5 in the first quarter of 2017.

III. OTHER POSSIBLE ELEMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE IPBES WORK PROGRAMME

20. Through paragraph 4 of decision XI/13 C, the Conference of the Parties requested the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to consider ways in which the activities of the Platform could, as appropriate (a) build on, and contribute to, the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook; (b) contribute to assessments of the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; and (c) provide information on policy options available to deliver the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

21. At its sixteenth meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice considered issues, modalities and options for collaboration with the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services with regard to each of the four main functions of IPBES (see document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/2).

⁴ GEO, Group on Earth Observations; GEO BON, Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network.

22. In considering possible thematic assessments that might be included in the IPBES work programme, as well as areas for capacity-building, knowledge generation and the development of policy tools, the following issues should be considered:

- (a) Issues previously identified by the Conference of the Parties;
- (b) Issues identified as gaps hampering the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- (c) Issues identified as new and emerging;
- (d) Issues needed for the subglobal and global assessments; and
- (e) The feasibility of carrying out such thematic assessments within the appropriate time frame.

23. An analysis of relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties since its eighth meeting (COP 8) and of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety since its fourth meeting (COP-MOP 4), listed in appendix II to this document, leads to a potentially very long list of issues with a variety of characteristics. Many of these issues are being addressed in some way through ongoing processes, at least in part, and some are very context-specific. On the other hand, some issues are too broad to be examined in a thematic assessment that needs to be focused and clearly delimited. Suggestions of priority issues that might be transmitted to IPBES would have to be examined within the context of the overall request in decision XI/13 with additional explanatory information to be provided by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its seventeenth meeting. The current section provides an early input to the preparatory process for that meeting and should be seen purely as a note to start the discussion. Furthermore, in developing the work programme, the needs of other conventions will need to be taken into account.

Possible future thematic assessments

24. Possible future thematic assessments could include the following:

- (a) Global assessment of the ecological and socio-economic implications of trends in pollinator populations (decision IX/1, paragraph 21);⁵
- (b) Assessment of options to mitigate land use change and restore degraded ecosystems (Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5 and 15, decision X/2);⁶
- (c) Global assessment of soil biology, fertility and the ecological and socio-economic implications of soil loss (decision IX/1, paragraph 24);⁷
- (d) Assessment of options to achieve Strategic Goal A of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (decision X/2) including of the societal, institutional and behavioural changes required;

⁵ Such an assessment should draw on the experiences, approaches and partnerships of, and contribute to the further implementation of the International Pollinator Initiative coordinated by FAO.

⁶ Such an assessment should draw on and contribute to the assessments undertaken in the context of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). It might focus in particular on degradation and restoration of terrestrial ecosystem services and biodiversity.

⁷ Such an assessment should be undertaken with the Global Soil Partnership and the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils.

(e) Assessment of 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 (decision X/2, Aichi Biodiversity Target 13).

25. The IPBES draft work programme for 2014-2018 proposes a set of thematic and methodological deliverables, including:

(a) A thematic assessment of degradation and restoration of land and freshwater systems and/or biodiversity and agriculture by March 2016;

(b) A thematic fast-track assessment on pollination and its impact on food security by March 2015;

(c) A methodological fast-track assessment on scenarios of indirect drivers and models of the impact on global change by March 2015;

(d) A methodological fast-track assessment on values of biodiversity and ecosystem services by March 2015.

Possible areas for capacity-building activities

26. Possible areas for capacity-building activities could include the following:

(a) Training on appropriate regionally-based response scenarios (decision VIII/9, paragraph 20);

(b) Capacity-building and training on the valuation of biodiversity resources and functions and associated ecosystem services (decision VIII/9, paragraph 19);

(c) Capacity-building to enable Parties to evaluate, apply, share and carry out risk assessments and establish local science-based capacities to regulate, manage, monitor and control risks of living modified organisms (LMOs) (decision BS-VI/12, paragraphs 9 and 10);

(d) Capacity-building and exchange of experiences on the establishment of local or regional institutions that promote, coordinate and carry out activities aimed to enhance biodiversity-related knowledge, to raise awareness of its importance for human well-being, and to orientate policy processes;

(e) Capacity-building on rapid assessment of species extinction risks.

27. The IPBES draft work programme for 2014-2018 proposes the establishment of a list of priority capacity-building needs, which indicates associated financing gaps and available sources of funding. The proposal further includes an online tool as “matchmaking facility” which would maintain a catalogue of needs and a catalogue of offers to provide capacity-building and assist those with priority capacity needs to get access to available technical and financial resources. In addition, a fellowship programme is envisaged to facilitate and promote the engagement of scientists, policymakers and other stakeholders – in particular young professionals – in IPBES-related activities.

Possible areas for the development of policy support tools

28. Possible areas for the development of policy support tools could include the following:

(a) Tools for the application of the ecosystem approach;

(b) Tools to support spatial planning that integrate biodiversity considerations, taking into account multiple pressures on land and seas;

(c) Tools for promoting awareness and behavioural change to promote sustainable consumption;⁸

(d) Tools to facilitate the integration of soil biodiversity issues into agricultural policies;⁹

(e) Scientific tools on common approaches to risk assessment and risk management for Parties;

(f) Tools on how to integrate biodiversity values into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes, including national accounting systems.

29. The IPBES draft work programme for 2014-2018 proposes the elaboration of policy support tools in the following areas, which would build on the proposed thematic assessments:

(a) Policy support tools on scenarios and models further elaborated and/or developed by 2017;

(b) Policy support tools on value, valuation and accounting further elaborated and/or developed by 2017.

Possible areas for knowledge generation

30. Possible areas for knowledge generation could include the following:

(a) Research on climate change response activities related to biodiversity, in the context of the ecosystem approach, ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation and sustainable use, and in order to further facilitate the incorporation of biodiversity considerations into the design, implementation and monitoring of activities aimed at the mitigation and adaptation of the impacts of climate change, including on indigenous and local communities;

(b) Research on biodiversity and ecosystem function and services and their relationship to human well-being;

(c) Research on the use of agricultural biodiversity to develop sustainable agricultural systems that contribute to improved livelihoods, enhance biodiversity and make use of its benefits, as well as conserving the most vulnerable and potentially useful species;¹⁰

(d) Research to fill gaps in knowledge, as highlighted in the voluntary guidelines for environmental assessment on marine and coastal areas, in particular in areas beyond national jurisdiction;¹¹

⁸ The development of such tools should build on, and contribute to, the work the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (10YFP) adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), drawing on the work under the Marrakech Process, and also drawing on the work undertaken through the FAO/UNEP programme on sustainable food systems.

⁹ The development of such tools should build on, and contribute to, the work of the Global Soil Partnership, including a possible soil biodiversity information system.

¹⁰ This research should build on, and contribute to, work being undertaken by FAO in preparing the *State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* report, due in 2016-2017.

- (e) Identification of LMOs or specific traits that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health;
- (f) Research on genetic diversity of food crops, threatened species, and pathogens, among others;
- (g) Research on role of biodiversity in cities for human well-being;
- (h) Research on enhancing the contribution of social sciences in assessing human dependency on ecosystem services.

31. On knowledge generation, the IPBES draft work programme for 2014-2018 proposes a series of dialogues/workshops, where policy-relevant knowledge needs that have been identified will be communicated to the scientific community, other knowledge holders and those setting research policy and funding research.

IV. RELEVANCE OF THE ONGOING GBO-4 PROCESSES TO IPBES

32. The Global Biodiversity Outlook is a periodic report prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Outlook provides a summary of the status of biological diversity and an analysis of the steps being taken by the global community to ensure that biodiversity is conserved and used sustainably, and that benefits arising from the use of genetic resources are shared equitably. The third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-3) drew on a range of information sources, including national reports to the Convention, biodiversity indicators information, scientific literature, and a study assessing biodiversity scenarios for the future. A number of products related to GBO-3, such as Technical Series No. 50¹² on biodiversity scenarios, were prepared. Given this, there are clear links between the preparation of possible future editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and the global assessment envisioned to be undertaken by IPBES.

33. In paragraph 7(a) of decision XI/3 C, the Executive Secretary was requested to continue collaborating with IPBES and other partners on the preparations of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4). Preparations for GBO-4 are well underway drawing on guidance from decision X/2 and XI/3 as well as the consideration of the scope, production plan and budget by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its sixteenth meeting.¹³ GBO-4 will draw on a range of information sources, including national reports to the Convention; peer-reviewed scientific literature; validated case studies provided by Parties and other partners; updated information on indicators provided through the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership; and a review of scenarios and predictive models to undertake an *ex ante* analysis of the likely biodiversity outcomes of different policy decisions undertaken by a consortium led by DIVERSITAS.¹⁴ The material compiled for possible use in GBO-4, the new scientific analysis undertaken specifically as an input into GBO-4, and the partnerships established in support of the preparation of GBO-4 are relevant to IPBES *inter alia* in the following ways:

- (a) The data and information, including information on confidence levels and on gaps in information, can serve as a baseline for the comprehensive global biodiversity assessment proposed to be undertaken by IPBES towards the end of this decade;

¹¹ This research should build on, and contribute to, work being undertaken by FAO, UNEP and the World Bank in the context of the Programme on Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction.

¹² <http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-50-en.pdf>.

¹³ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-16/official/sbstta-16-03-en.pdf>.

¹⁴ The consortium includes DIVERSITAS, UNEP-WCMC, the Netherlands Environment Assessment Agency (PBL), the Fisheries Centre of the University of British Columbia and the University of Lisbon.

(b) New research on indicators and scenarios will represent an advance in the methodologies on monitoring and on scenario analysis and lead to an enhancement in underlying models all of which represent an input into the future work of IPBES;

(c) The partnerships and networks established in furthering work on biodiversity monitoring through indicators and on biodiversity research and the development and analysis of scenarios.

34. At the same time, the GBO-4 preparation process will be undertaken in close liaison with, and take into account, ongoing processes under IPBES, including the development of the work programme and discussions of the MEP.

35. The draft work programme for IPBES 2014-2018 suggests that “the global assessment by IPBES would be undertaken in the context of a series of global assessments that have been undertaken, which include the Global Biodiversity Assessment (1995), the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005), Global Biodiversity Outlook 3 (GBO-3) (2010) and GBO-4 (envisaged to be available in 2014).

V. LINKS OF FUTURE EDITIONS OF GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK TO IPBES

36. In paragraph 7(b) of decision XI/3 C, the Executive Secretary was requested to explore with the IPBES Secretariat the implications of a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services for future editions of Global Biodiversity Outlook.

37. A global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, completed in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties in 2020, and focusing on status and trends of biodiversity, the impacts of biodiversity changes on human well-being and the effectiveness of responses to biodiversity loss, and progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, would represent a major body of information relevant to the operations of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Depending on the ultimate scope of this assessment, two different options could be considered:

(a) If the global assessment IPBES undertakes would already cover the various issues that a possible fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-5) might be expected to address it could potentially remove or reduce the need for the preparation of a fifth edition of the report. However several issues that would normally be covered in GBO-5, and which would be important for the processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity, are not currently envisioned as being part of the global assessment that IPBES would undertake. These issues include:

- (i) An analysis of progress towards targets established at the national level (including through the national reporting process to the CBD);
- (ii) An analysis of forecasts, scenarios and predictive models of different policy options;
- (iii) Recommendations for future actions by Parties and other stakeholders;
- (iv) Options for, and rationale of, a global biodiversity strategy beyond 2020;

(b) A second option, given the above points, would be for the global assessment to cover the entire *ex post* analysis of the changes to biodiversity and the effectiveness of the actions taken to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity since the publication of GBO-4 in an authoritative manner, while a possible GBO-5 might address those elements directly relevant to the operations of the Convention which fall outside the purview of IPBES. Under this option the global assessment would be a key information source for the preparation of GBO-5, but GBO-5 would remain a distinct product prepared primarily for

the Convention on Biological Diversity with the main purpose of identifying the implications of the findings of the global assessment for the work of the Convention.

*Appendix I***PRELIMINARY LIST OF DELIVERABLES UNDER THE IPBES DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014-2018**

Objective 1: Enhance the enabling environment for the knowledge-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Deliverable 1(a): Regularly updated set of priority capacity-building needs matched with resources
- Deliverable 1(b): Fellowship programme facilitating and promoting the engagement of scientists, policymakers and other stakeholders – in particular young professionals – in IPBES-related activities
- Deliverable 1(c): Series of dialogues/workshops addressing priority knowledge needs
- Deliverable 1(d): Approach to networking of experts, partners and stakeholders involved in sustaining capacity-building and supporting work under IPBES

Objective 2: Strengthen the knowledge-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services on regional and sub-regional levels

- Deliverable 2(a): Guide for the development and endorsement of regional and sub-regional deliverables, assessments and capacities
- Deliverable 2(b): Guide on working with different knowledge systems (Proposed date for approval: 2015, first quarter)
- Deliverable 2(c): Set of regional and/or sub-regional assessments and the institutional capacity developed to deliver them (Proposed date for approval: 2017, first quarter)

Objective 3: Strengthen the knowledge-policy interface with regards to thematic and methodological issues

- Deliverable 3(a): Thematic assessment on degradation and restoration of land and freshwater systems and/or biodiversity and agriculture (Proposed date for approval: 2015, first quarter)
- Deliverable 3(b): Thematic fast-track assessment on pollination and its impact on food security (Proposed date for approval: 2015, first quarter)
- Deliverable 3(c): Methodological fast-track assessment on scenarios of indirect drivers and models of the impact on global change (Proposed date for approval: 2015, first quarter)
- Deliverable 3(d): Policy support tools scenarios and models further elaborated and/or developed (Proposed date for approval: 2017, first quarter)
- Deliverable 3(e): Methodological fast-track assessment on values, valuation and accounting of biodiversity and ecosystem services (Proposed date for approval: 2015, first quarter)
- Deliverable 3(f): Policy support tools on value, valuation and accounting further elaborated and/or developed (Proposed date for approval: 2017, first quarter)

Objective 4: Strengthen the knowledge-policy interface on the global dimensions of changes in biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Deliverable 4(a): A global biodiversity and ecosystem services assessment on drivers and pressures; status and trends; the impacts on human well-being; and the effectiveness of responses, including of the Aichi targets (Proposed date for approval: 2018, first quarter)

Objective 5: Communicate and evaluate IPBES activities, deliverables and findings

- Deliverable 5(a): Catalogue of relevant assessments
- Deliverable 5(b): Catalogue of accessible policy support tools

- Deliverable 5(c): A set of communication, outreach and engagement products and processes, including a dynamic IPBES website, on IPBES activities, deliverables and findings
- Deliverable 5(d): Review of the effectiveness of guidance, procedures, methods and approaches in order to inform future development of the Platform (proposed timeframe: mid-term review in 2016, and end of initial work programme review in 2018)

Appendix II

**DECISIONS FROM COP AND COP/MOP MEETINGS SINCE 2006 RELEVANT TO THE
CONSIDERATION OF THE IPBES WORK PROGRAMME**

Decision	Issue	Text
VIII/2 Paragraph 5	Dry and sub-humid lands	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to improve national, regional and global data on dry and sub-humid lands ecosystem goods and services, their uses and related socio-economic values; on species at lower taxonomic orders including soil biodiversity; and on the threats to which dry and sub-humid lands ecosystems are subjected in view of the ongoing assessment of progress towards the 2010 targets and other global goals;
VIII/9 Paragraph 13	Follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment	<i>Notes</i> in particular the urgent need to address the issues which the Assessment finds most significant at the global level in terms of their impacts on biodiversity and consequences for human well-being, such as: (a) Land use change and other habitat transformation; (b) The consequences of over-fishing; (c) Desertification and degradation in dry and sub-humid lands; (d) The multiple drivers of change to inland water ecosystems; (e) Increasing nutrient loading in ecosystems; (f) The introduction of invasive alien species; and (g) The rapidly increasing impacts of climate change;
VIII/9 Paragraph 19	Follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment	<i>Aware also</i> of the need to improve knowledge of trends in biodiversity, and understanding of its value, including its role in the provision of ecosystem services, as a means of improving decision-making at global, regional, national and local levels, and also recognizing cross-scale interactions in ecosystems, <i>urges</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, including scientific bodies, to increase support for and coordinate research, <i>inter alia</i> , to improve: basic knowledge and understanding of biodiversity and its components; monitoring systems; measures of biodiversity; biodiversity valuation; models of change in biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and ecosystem services; and understanding of thresholds;
VIII/9 Paragraph 20	Follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant organizations, taking into account the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment scenarios, to assist Parties in the development of appropriate regionally-based response scenarios within the framework of the Convention's programmes of work, and to coordinate these efforts with other international and regional organizations involved with work on scenarios;
VIII/9 Paragraph 23	Follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment	<i>Encourages</i> Parties and other Governments to conduct national and other subglobal assessments making use of the conceptual framework and methodologies of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, as appropriate, and <i>invites</i> the Global Environment Facility and bilateral and multilateral funding organizations, as appropriate, to provide funding for these assessments;
VIII/25 Paragraph 3 and 4	Incentive measures: application of tools for valuation of biodiversity and	<i>Encourages</i> relevant national, regional and international organizations and initiatives to extend capacity-building and training on the valuation of biodiversity resources and functions and associated ecosystem services, in accordance with the human development processes of countries and with national needs and priorities;

Decision	Issue	Text
	biodiversity resources and functions	<i>Invites</i> national, regional and international organizations and initiatives to promote systematic analysis and information exchange with a view to promote common understanding of valuation techniques and managerial skills in technical staff of Governments and stakeholders to facilitate the extension of capacity-building and training referred to in paragraph 3 above;
VIII/30 Paragraph 2		<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and research institutions to develop rapid assessment tools for the design and implementation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use activities which contribute to adaptation to climate change, particularly in vulnerable countries and regions, including small island developing States;
VIII/30 Paragraph 5	Biodiversity and climate change: guidance to promote synergy among activities for biodiversity conservation, mitigating or adapting to climate change and combating land degradation	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and research institutions, to address, as appropriate, the research gaps outlined in the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Adaptation to Climate Change and summarized in paragraph 3 of recommendation XI/14 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and to promote research on climate change response activities related to biodiversity, in the context of the ecosystem approach and sustainable use, and in order to further facilitate the incorporation of biodiversity considerations into the design, implementation and monitoring of activities aimed at the mitigation and adaptation of the impacts of climate change, including on indigenous peoples and local communities;
IX/1 Paragraph 21	Agricultural biodiversity	<i>Invites</i> the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in collaboration with Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, to continue the implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators (decision VI/5) and, in particular: (a) To complete information on pollinator species, populations and their taxonomy, ecology and interactions; (b) To establish the framework for monitoring declines and identifying their causes; (c) To assess the agricultural production, ecological, and socio-economic consequences of pollinator declines; (d) To compile information on best practices and lessons learned; (e) To develop response options to promote, and prevent the further loss of, pollination services that sustain human livelihoods; and (f) To disseminate openly the results through the clearing-house mechanism and other relevant means; and to make available a progress report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
IX/1 Paragraph 24		<i>Also invites</i> the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other relevant organizations and initiatives to carry out further work and compile and disseminate information to improve the understanding of soil biodiversity, its interaction with above-ground biodiversity, and other soil functions, the various ecosystem goods and services that it provides, and the agricultural practices that affect it, and to facilitate the integration of soil biodiversity issues into agricultural policies and to make available a report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice before the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
IX/1 Paragraph 32		<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant organizations to further elaborate the operational guidelines of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the sustainable use of agricultural

Decision	Issue	Text
		biodiversity (decision VII/12, annex II), taking into account the special nature of agricultural biodiversity, its distinctive features, and problems needing distinctive solutions;
IX/1 Paragraph 34		<i>Invites</i> Parties and other Governments and relevant organizations to finance and undertake research that would contribute to the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity including, for example: (a) To assess the performance of agricultural policies in achieving the target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss; (b) To undertake multidisciplinary studies to evaluate the capability of different farming systems to conserve agricultural biodiversity and use it sustainably and to provide economic viability; (c) To further investigate the use of agricultural biodiversity to develop sustainable agricultural systems that contribute to improved livelihoods, enhance biodiversity and make use of its benefits, as well as conserving the most vulnerable and potentially useful species; (d) To evaluate and characterize germplasm potentially suitable for adaptation to climate change; (e) Research to enhance resilience of agricultural systems;
IX/2 Paragraph 5	Agricultural biodiversity: biofuels and biodiversity	<i>Calls upon</i> Parties, other Governments, the research community, and invites other relevant organizations to continue to investigate and monitor the positive and negative impacts of the production and use of biofuels on biodiversity and related socio-economic aspects, including those related to indigenous and local communities, and <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to further compile this evidence and to make it available through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and other appropriate means;
IX/5 Paragraphs 2(c) and 2(e)	Forest biodiversity	Recognize and increase understanding of the potential of forest genetic diversity to address climate change, maintain forest ecosystems resilience and lead to the discovery of new timber and non-timber forest resources; Further develop knowledge on forest ecosystem services, and implement, as appropriate, innovative tools for securing such services, such as Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES), consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations;
IX/14 Paragraph 11	Technology transfer and cooperation	<i>Recalling</i> Article 16 paragraphs 2, 3 and 5 of the Convention, <i>invites</i> relevant international organizations and initiatives, research institutions at all levels, and non-governmental organizations, to undertake further research on the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer in the context of the Convention, such as: (a) More in-depth analysis of new open-source-based modes of innovation, as well as other additional options to intellectual property rights; (b) More empirical studies on the extent of use of patent data information in research and development in different sectors; (c) Further empirical analysis on the scope and extent of patent clustering on technologies and other associated biological materials that are necessary inputs to desired technology development processes and on how prospective technology users in developing countries cope with patent clustering; (d) Further examination by relevant international organizations of the overall trends in the application of the flexibilities provided by the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs);
IX/15	Follow-up to the Millennium	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations, stakeholders and indigenous and local communities, when designing integrated local,

Decision	Issue	Text
Paragraph 2	Ecosystem Assessment	<p>national or subglobal assessments, to consider, taking into account, where appropriate:</p> <p>(a) The engagement of stakeholders, including local and national decision makers, and indigenous and local communities in the assessment;</p> <p>(b) The principles, conceptual framework and results of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, including the services provided by ecosystems, as a contribution to the Millennium Development Goals;</p> <p>(c) The conceptual framework and results of the Global Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment;</p> <p>(d) The relevance of including documented case-studies contributed by indigenous and local communities, including those highlighting economic values as well as traditional non-market benefits of sustainable ecosystem management;</p> <p>(e) The particular value of assessments such as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment for capacity development among participants and stakeholders;</p> <p>(f) The usefulness of providing, whenever possible, free and open access to all past, present and future public- research results, assessments, maps and databases on biodiversity, in accordance with national and international legislation;</p> <p>(g) The relevance of supporting further elaboration of coherent standardized formats for the collection and integration of biodiversity data and information for future assessments and analyses;</p>
IX/16 Paragraph 3	Biodiversity and climate change	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, as far as possible in collaboration with the secretariats of the other two Rio conventions, to compile and synthesize information on interactions between acidification, climate change and multiple nutrient-loading as possible threats to biodiversity during the in-depth reviews of the programmes of work on inland water and marine and coastal biodiversity;</p>
X/2 Paragraph 25	The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets	<p>Support mechanisms for research, monitoring and assessment. The following are key elements to ensure effective implementation of the Strategic Plan:</p> <p>(a) Global monitoring of biodiversity: work is needed to monitor the status and trends of biodiversity, maintain and share data, and develop and use indicators and agreed measures of biodiversity and ecosystem change;</p> <p>(b) Regular assessment of the state of biodiversity and ecosystem services, future scenarios and effectiveness of responses: this could be provided through an enhanced role for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice as well as the proposed intergovernmental platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services;</p> <p>(c) Ongoing research on biodiversity and ecosystem function and services and their relationship to human well-being;</p> <p>(d) The contributions of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to all the above;</p> <p>(e) Capacity-building and timely, adequate, predictable and sustainable financial and technical resources.</p>
X/4 Paragraph 5(g)	Third edition of the Global Biodiversity	<p><i>Notes</i> that a strategy for reducing biodiversity loss requires action at multiple levels including:</p>

Decision	Issue	Text
	Outlook: implications for the future implementation of the Convention	(g) Effective assessment of progress, including mechanisms for carrying out comprehensive inventories, sharing of information, and monitoring;
X/4 Paragraph 11(a)	Third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook: implications for the future implementation of the Convention	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of the necessary resources: (a) To collaborate with relevant organizations, with the full participation of Parties, to explore quantitative policy options, including assessments of the financial resources required to address the causes of biodiversity loss, to enhance the evaluation of the achievement of the post-2010 targets, drawing on the conclusions of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook;
X/4 Paragraph 14	Third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook: implications for the future implementation of the Convention	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to liaise with the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services to achieve full synergy between the two processes.
X/29 Paragraph 66	Marine and coastal biodiversity	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to develop, in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC/UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC), the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), Ramsar Convention, Antarctic Treaty, the Arctic Council, and other relevant organizations and scientific groups, subject to the availability of financial resources, a series of joint expert review processes to monitor and assess the impacts of ocean acidification on marine and coastal biodiversity and widely disseminate the results of this assessment in order to raise awareness of Parties, other Governments and organizations, and <i>also requests</i> the Executive Secretary, given the relationship between atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration and ocean acidification, to transmit the results of these assessments to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
X/30 Paragraph 17	Mountain biological diversity	<i>Urges</i> Parties and <i>encourages</i> other Governments and relevant organizations, with the collaboration of the scientific community, relevant intergovernmental organizations and mountain communities, to study the effects of climate change as well as the effects of adaptation and mitigation measures on mountain environments and biological diversity, in order to elaborate sustainable adaptation and mitigation strategies;
X/30 Paragraph 18	Mountain biological diversity	18. <i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to develop research programmes for the implementation of all three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in mountain ecosystems in a balanced manner;
X/33 Paragraph 9(b) and (c)	Biodiversity and climate change	9. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to: (b) Collaborate with relevant international organizations to collect scientific knowledge and case-studies and identify knowledge gaps on the

Decision	Issue	Text
		<p>links between biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and organic carbon stock conservation and restoration, and make the results available to Parties through the clearing-house mechanism;</p> <p>(c) Collaborate with relevant international organizations to expand and refine analyses identifying areas of high potential for the conservation and restoration of carbon stocks, as well as of ecosystem management measures that make best use of related climate change mitigation opportunities, and make this information openly available, such as to assist with integrated land-use planning;</p>
<p>XI/2 Paragraph 28</p>	<p>Review of progress in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related capacity-building support to Parties</p>	<p>28. <i>Invites</i> the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, in cooperation with the Executive Secretary, to develop a work programme that includes the preparation of the next global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, to be launched in 2018, focusing on status and trends, the impact of biodiversity and ecosystem services on human well-being, and the effectiveness of responses, including the Strategic Plan and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, building, <i>inter alia</i>, on its own and other relevant regional, subregional and thematic assessments, as well as on national reports, and <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform, where relevant.</p>
<p>XI/11 Paragraph 2</p>	<p>New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity</p>	<p><i>Noting</i> the effects of tropospheric ozone as a greenhouse gas and the potential contribution of reducing it to mitigating climate change; <i>noting also</i> its impacts on human health and on biodiversity; and <i>noting further</i> relevant work on this issue undertaken under the auspices of regional processes, <i>decides</i> to include consideration of the impacts of tropospheric ozone in the programme of work on the links between biodiversity and climate change, and <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary, subject to availability of resources, to report on progress to a future meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at which biodiversity and climate change is on the agenda;</p>
<p>XI/18 B Paragraph 5</p>	<p>Marine and coastal biodiversity: sustainable fisheries and addressing adverse impacts of human activities, voluntary guidelines for environmental assessment, and marine spatial planning</p>	<p><i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, to facilitate further research to fill gaps in knowledge, as highlighted in the voluntary guidelines on marine and coastal areas, in particular in areas beyond national jurisdiction;</p>
<p>COP-MOP BS-V/16</p>	<p>Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020</p>	<p><i>Operational Objective 1.3: Risk assessment and risk management</i></p> <p>To further develop and support implementation of scientific tools on common approaches to risk assessment and risk management for Parties</p> <p><i>Operational Objective 1.4: LMOs or traits that may have adverse effects</i></p> <p>To develop modalities for cooperation and guidance in identifying LMOs or specific traits that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to</p>

Decision	Issue	Text
		<p>human health</p> <p><i>Operational Objective 2.2: Risk assessment and risk management</i></p> <p>To enable Parties to evaluate, apply, share and carry out risk assessments and establish local science-based capacities to regulate, manage, monitor and control risks of LMOs</p>
<p>COP-MOP BS-IV/11 (Capacity- building on risk assessment)</p>	<p>Risk assessment and risk management</p>	<p>13. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, subject to availability of funds, to coordinate and facilitate, along with other relevant United Nations bodies and other international organizations, the development of training on risk assessment and risk management in relation to living modified organisms, and to convene prior to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties, regional or subregional training courses to enable countries to gain hands-on experience in preparing and evaluating risk assessment reports in accordance to the articles and Annex III of the Protocol.</p> <p>14. These courses could, <i>inter alia</i>, cover:</p> <p>(a) How to establish interdisciplinary teamwork in the context of risk assessment;</p> <p>(b) Developing skills in using and interpreting existing information, as well as identifying and addressing information gaps; and</p> <p>(c) How to establish baseline information to be used in risk assessment;</p> <p>15. <i>Calls upon</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant donor organizations to make funds available to the Secretariat to support the training activities referred to in the above paragraphs.</p>
<p>COP-MOP BS-V/12 (Capacity- building on risk assessment)</p>	<p>Risk assessment and risk management</p>	<p>9. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to:</p> <p>(a) Submit the training manual to experts and other reviewers from Parties and other Governments for an assessment of its effectiveness;</p> <p>(b) Convene, at the earliest convenient date, further regional or subregional training courses to enable countries to gain hands-on experience in the preparation and evaluation of risk assessment reports in accordance with the relevant articles and Annex III of the Protocol, and to further test the first version of the Guidance and make the results of the testing available through the Biosafety-Clearing House;</p> <p>(c) Improve the training manual "Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms" in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies, other relevant organizations and expert reviewers by revising it on the basis of the recommendations provided during the regional and subregional capacity-building activities and feedback from Parties, in such a way that any further improvements of the training manual, on the one hand, and of the Guidance through the process outlined in paragraph 6 above, on the other hand, is made in a coherent and complementary manner;</p> <p>(d) Develop an interactive learning tool based on the training manual, and make it available through the Biosafety Clearing-House in all United Nations languages with the view to developing a more cost-effective way for delivering training on risk assessment;</p>
<p>COP-MOP BS-VI/12 (Capacity- building on risk</p>	<p>Risk assessment and risk management</p>	<p>9. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funds, to:</p> <p>(a) Convene, at the earliest convenient date, the remaining training courses on risk assessment for the African (Francophone countries) and the Central and Eastern Europe subregions to enable the countries concerned to gain hands-on experience in the preparation and evaluation of risk assessment</p>

assessment)		<p>reports in accordance with the relevant articles and annex III of the Protocol;</p> <p>(b) Cooperate with the open-ended online forum and AHTEG to develop a package that aligns the Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms (e.g. the Roadmap) with the training manual “Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms” in a coherent and complementary manner, with the clear understanding that the Guidance is still being tested;</p> <p>(c) Follow up on training by gathering additional feedback from Parties on the practicality, usefulness and utility of the Guidance and training manual through online discussions or other means, as appropriate; and</p> <p>(d) Conduct workshops on risk assessment and risk management at international, regional and/or subregional levels, using the package to carry out training courses for risk assessors, taking into consideration real case studies in risk assessment and how to apply the Guidance in the context of the decision-making process under the procedures of the Protocol;</p> <p>10. Invites Parties, other Governments and international organizations to provide financial and technical assistance to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement the above capacity-building activities, as appropriate;</p>
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