WGRI-2
Paris, 9 – 13 July 2007-09-07
Statements by country

1 – 16:42 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Thailand

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

To enhance cooperation between biodiversity related Conventions, Thailand believes that the new Strategic Plan should address the harmonization of the processes between these conventions in the context of national implementation with the view to minimize resources requirement of the parties for the implementation and enhance realization of common obligations amongst the conventions. This could include specifying more targeted actions to build on achievements of the Parties made under other conventions and agreements in realizing short and long term objectives of the Strategic Plan, especially in priority as well as new and emerging issues. To this end, inclusion of national inventory on biodiversity related achievements under international obligations as one of preliminary action should be included in the revised Strategic Plan.

2 – 16:43 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Portugal

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010 (Final EU statement):

a) Portugal is speaking on behalf of the European Community and its Member States. Comparing the matters arising from the review of goals 2 and 3 of the strategic plan (paragraphs 12-19 of document UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/Inf/6) with the existing goals and objectives of the strategic plan, we note that the goals and targets of the current Strategic Plan are still fully relevant.
b) The development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and their implementation, the mainstreaming of biodiversity in other sectors and national policies, the provision of financial resources, capacity building and technology transfer and the raising of awareness and capacity are all already essential elements of the existing strategy plan. This means, in our view, that a conclusion of the results of the assessment of goals 2 and 3 is that goals 2 and 3, and the objectives therein, do not need to be changed in a post-2010 Strategic Plan.
c) The only aspect which is in our view missing is the issue of national targets. These are keys to the implementation of the Strategic Plan. We would therefore support the suggestion that the revised Strategic Plan should provide for Parties to develop national outcome-oriented and if possible quantitative targets, making use of the CBD framework, and to regularly report on progress towards these targets.
d) Annex 1 of decision VIII/15 contains a very preliminary list of potential indicators to assess progress in implementing the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan. Most boxes are empty or include indicators termed as ‘to be

developed'. In paragraph 7 of this same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the members of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for Assessing Progress Towards the 2010 Target, and other partners, to elaborate, on the basis of the provisional list contained in the this annex 1, a limited number of relevant, robust and measurable indicators to measure progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The EU is not convinced of the value of a further set of indicators in addition to those adopted in Decision VII/30. Indicators are powerful tool for assessing and communicating trends. But at proliferation of indicator sets will only serve to dilute the message rather than enhance it.

e) Paragraphs 20 to 34 of document UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/Inf/6 contain a number of very fundamental and important, but sometimes questionable elements related to the revision of the Strategic Plan itself. The EU would like to stress that we should focus our deliberations on this item at this meeting on matters arising from the review of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan. Detailed discussions on the revision of the Strategic Plan itself should be done in the intersession period between COP-9 and COP-10. We therefore consider these suggestions – while important – as premature, and will not comment on them in detail. Our discussions at COP-9 should focus on the process for revising the Strategic Plan between COP-9 and COP-10.
f) Until 2010, a lot can still happen and all CBD Parties should focus their attention on further implementing the CBD Strategic Plan and Programmes of Work and making therewith progress towards achieving the 2010 target. What we need until 2010 are essentially two things: First, the 'unprecedented effort' called for by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment to enhance implementation. Second, a thorough evaluation of progress made in achieving the 2010 target using targets and indicators. We will comment on this inter alia when considering agenda item 9 on reporting and GBO-3. This evaluation should be the basis on which we revise the Strategic Plan in 2010.
g) The EU broadly agrees with proposals for the process of revising the Strategic Plan itself as referred in §37. However, as stated, the review of the Strategic Plan should be based on a thorough assessment of the progress made towards achieving the existing Strategic Plan and the 2010 target, as well as a number of scenarios for the future. This is essentially the task of GBO-3. So we would not support a separate assessment process. This means that GBO-3 should be ready rather early before COP-10, so that a future meeting of the WG-RI or a similar body could build upon GBO-3 to look into a revised Strategic Plan.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

3 – 16:49 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Brazil

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

The discussion on this item is premature. Understand that efforts should concentrate on current goals of the Strategic Plan and that is what they are committed to. So do not want to start discussing new targets and therefore debate is premature.

4 – 16:50 pm, July 10th, 2007 – India

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

Background:

The COP-6 in 2002 adopted its Strategic Plan through which Parties committed themselves to more effective and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the CBD in order to achieve by 2010, a significant reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and local levels.

COP-7 adopted a framework for evaluation of progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan, through a set of outcome-oriented goals and targets, and related indicators. These were refined in the light of experience and advice of SBSTTA and adopted in COP-8.

COP-8 also decided to consider at COP-9 the process for revising and updating the Strategic Plan with a view to adopting a revised Strategic Plan at COP-10. The results of in depth review of goals 2 and 3 of the Plan will be also used to provide inputs to the process of revising the Plan beyond 2010.

Position:

We welcome the document WG-RI/2/Inf/6 prepared by the Secretariat for this agenda item. We agree that the time since development of Strategic Plan 2002 is relatively short. Further, the time since refinement of framework of goals, targets and indicators is shorter still. We therefore support that in the new Plan, longer term targets should be considered alongside shorter terms ones.

We also agree that the Plan post 2010 should build upon the existing Plan and framework to allow for continuity while improving clarity and focus. Emphasis of the new Plan could be on mainstreaming of biodiversity concerns into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes, while providing for Parties to develop their own national targets as per their priorities.

The Strategic Plan to be developed for post 2010 must inter alia include access and benefit sharing as an important component.

5 – 16:52 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Colombia

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

Does not think it is premature on the goals beyond 2010…i.e. important to think ahead. We think that some of the reason for why we are having difficulties achieving 2010 goals is lack of base line.

Share concern of EU that proliferation of indicators could create more difficulties by this is why it is important to develop ones that truly measure loss of biodiversity. Goals should be clear, concrete and concise… therefore agree with some of the

comments of India. Start now and learn from lessons and apply these lessons to develop the strategy.

6 – 16:54 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Canada

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

Thank you Chair,

Although there are no draft recommendations for this item, Canada thanks the ES for UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/Inf/6. It raises some important considerations related to the process for developing a new Strategic Plan post 2010.

Canada believes that just as the current Strategic Plan has guided the work of the Convention on the attainment of the 2010 target, the new Strategic Plan will be an important document that should focus the Convention on implementation over the term, including with milestones.

In our view the Bureau, should lead the process of revising the Strategic Plan through a facilitated process. It would be useful to also include key people such as past Bureau members in this process.

Reviewing of the Strategic Plan would be an appropriate task for the WG-RI, should the COP decide to reconvene this Working Group.

In Canada's view there are three important elements to consider when establishing the Strategic Plan revision process. First, the Strategic Plan should provide a framework for Parties to deliver on desired outcomes of the Convention. As a starting point, the Strategic Plan process should take into account the Framework for monitoring implementation of the achievement of the 2010 target (Decision VIII/15). Annex 2 is particularly useful for this purpose. The strategic goals and indicators in Annex 1 require further elaboration.

Second, the Strategic Plan process should promote and integrated United Nations approach to environment and development. The CBD is already a part of several important collaborate processes such as the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity Related Conventions, and the Joint Liaison Group of the 3 Rio Conventions. Engagement of these partnerships in the revision of the Strategic Plan will be beneficial.

Third, the Strategic Planning process should enable the identification of implementation gaps and opportunities to address them such as improving cooperation with scientific organizations.

7 – 16:57 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Indonesia

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

With regards to item being discussed, we would like to suggest that the Executive Secretary can facilitate to develop some indicators of the 2010 target that have not yet been determined, such as indicators of shares of access and benefit sharing, and indicator of traditional knowledge. However, since only some countries have established national

target within this framework, it needs necessary time to put in place measure to implement the Plan for Parties, especially developing countries and countries which have limitations.

Indonesia agrees with others that we should consider longer term target that could assess the achievement of the 3 objectives of COP. We expect that new target can provide clear performance indicator in order to accelerate the achievement of global, regional and national objective of managing biodiversity in a sustainable, responsible and accountable manner.

8 – 16:58 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Tanzania

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

The following should be considered for the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010.

Revision of the Strategic Plan with a view to include:

- The implementation of the 12 principles of the Ecosystem approach;
- Mainstreaming biodiversity issues into national development and poverty reduction strategies (India);
- Operationalising legislative frameworks towards implementation of the NBSAPs (line crossed-out);
- Including aspects of ABS outputs of process;
- Development of indicators.

"2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership"

9 – 17:00 pm, July 10th, 2007 – Mexico

Agenda Item 8: Input to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010:

Nuestra delegación reconoce la importancia del Plan estratégico que en la COP 6 fue definido para orientar los trabajos del CDB, en particular la meta para el 2010 de reducir significativamente la tasa de pérdida de biodiversidad.

Si bien hemos trabajado en estos años para cumplir sus 4 metas, es cierto que los avances han sido limitados y necesitan de más trabajo futuro.

Sin embargo, entendemos que fue establecido que en la próxima COP se revise dicho plan para hacer las adecuaciones necesarias para mejorar su implementación después del 2010.

Sr. Presidente desde la aprobación del actual plan estratégico en 2002, han surgido temas y elementos relevantes come el MEA, el GBO-2, también se ha hecho evidente el impacto del cambio climático en la biodiversidad. Así como resalta la necesidad de conocer el costo de la inacción en la conservación de la biodiversidad y su impacto para el bienestar humano. Por lo que creemos que estos elementos deben ser considerados en el futuro Plan Estratégico.

Estamos de acuerdo en que el proceso de actualización del Plan Estratégico se realice en el período entre las sesiones de las COPs 9 y 10 previa revisión de los mecanismos para la implementación del convenio y su efectividad. Agradecemos las

propuestas para el proceso de revisión del Plan estratégico aunque las consideramos prematuras.

Muchas gracias.