



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/QR/25
26 July 2004

ENGLISH ONLY

**QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
(April - June 2004)**

Note by the Executive Secretary

Contents :

	page
I. INTRODUCTION	4
II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT.....	4
III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.....	7
A. Personnel Arrangements	7
B. Financial Arrangements	7
IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES	8

DECISIONS:

Scientific Technical and Technological Matters

VII/1 Forest biological diversity	8
VII/2 Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands	10
VII/3 Agricultural biological diversity.....	13
VII/4 Biological diversity of inland water	15

VII/5	Marine and coastal biological diversity.....	15
VII/6	Assessment Processes.....	17
VII/7	Environmental Impact and Strategic Environment Assessment.....	17
VII/8	Monitoring and Indicators.....	18
VII/9	Global Taxonomy Initiative.....	19
VII/10	Global Strategy for plant conservation.....	20
VII/11	Ecosystem approach.....	21
VII/13	Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.....	22
VII/15	Biodiversity and climate change.....	24
VII/26	Cooperation with other organizations, initiatives and conventions.....	24
VII/27	Mountain biological diversity.....	25
VII/28	Protected Areas.....	26
VII/30	Strategic Plan: Future evaluation of progress.....	27
VII/31	Multi-year POW of the COP up to 2010.....	28
<u>Social Economic and Legal Matters</u>		
VII/12	Sustainable use.....	28
VII/14	Biological diversity and tourism.....	28
VII/31	Island Biodiversity.....	29
VII/16	Article 8(j) and related provisions.....	29
VII/17	Liability and redress.....	30
VII/18	Incentive measures.....	30
VII/19	Access and benefit-sharing as related to genetic resources.....	31

VII/33	Operations of the Convention.....	31
VII/29	Transfer of technology and Technology cooperation.....	32

Biosafety Unit

VI/1	Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.....	32
------	--	----

Implementation and Outreach

VII/21	Additional financial resources	32
VII/20	Financial mechanism.....	33
VII/22	Arrangements for the 3 rd review of the financial mechanism.....	35
VI/18	Scientific and technical cooperation and the Clearing-house Mechanism.....	37
VI/19	Communication, education and public awareness.....	37
VII/25	National reporting	38

Annexes

Annex I	Status of Implementation c
Annex II	Organisational Chart of the CBD Secretariat.....	45
Annex III	General Trust Fund for additional voluntary Contributions (BE).....	52
Annex IV	General Trust Fund for additional voluntary Contributions (BZ).....	54
Annex V	General Trust Fund for the CBD (BY).....	55
Annex VI	List of meetings organised by the Secretariat.....	62

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report is prepared in keeping with decision III/24 of the Conference of the Parties which requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a quarterly report on the administration of the Convention including such matters as the staff lists, status of contributions, progress on the implementation of the medium term work programme and financial expenditures. The requirements to report on a regular basis to the Parties were further elaborated under the Administrative Arrangements between the Secretariat and UNEP, which were endorsed by the Conference of the Parties in decision IV/17.
2. The Executive Secretary has prepared this Quarterly Report, which contains a summary of key activities implementing the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and other relevant matters during the period 1 April to 30 June 2004.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

3. On the occasion of the International Biodiversity Day and the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Government of Canada officially announced a long-term funding commitment of eleven million dollars Canadian (Cdn\$11M) in support of the activities of the Secretariat. As part of the celebrations, the Secretariat held several public awareness and outreach activities, which included presentations made to Montreal-area schools highlighting the value of biodiversity and the importance of the work of the Convention. Also, as part of the Biodiversity Day celebration, the Secretariat staff visited the Montreal's Biosphere.
4. During the second quarter of 2004, ten countries acceded/ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, bringing the total number of Parties to 100. The new Parties are: Armenia, Belgium, Gambia, Greece, Kiribati, Peru, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic and Zambia.
5. At the kind invitation of the Government of Italy, the CBD and the UNCCD secretariats co-organized in collaboration with the UNFCCC secretariat a workshop on "Forests and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting Synergy in the Implementation of the Three Rio Conventions" which was held in Viterbo, Italy, from 5-7 April 2004. The meeting was well attended by some 150 participants from 40 countries Party to the three Rio conventions. The workshop contributed to the identification of synergistic processes in the forestry sector and provided an opportunity to exchange views among different focal points, agencies and ongoing international processes such as the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).
6. The Secretariat has worked to promote the application of the framework to enhance the evaluation of achievements and progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan, adopted by decision VII/30, through presentations of the framework at a number of meetings (including the World Botanic Gardens Congress (18 April 2004), the GEF Council (19 May 2004), and an EU meeting on biodiversity (Malahide, Ireland, 25 May 2004); the establishment of "2010-target" pages on the CBD website; the establishment of a number of task forces to develop indicators, and the preparation of draft papers for the integration of the 2010 targets into the various programmes of work of the Convention in line with decision VII/30. Further information is provided in the section of this Report on follow-up to decision VII/30.
7. The Executive Secretary presented the keynote speech at the second World Botanic Gardens Congress which was held in Barcelona, Spain, from 19-22 April 2004 where he gave a key presentation at the opening plenary session of the Congress highlighting the challenges to achieve the 2010 target. He also held discussions with participants on issues of mutual interest and concern particularly as related to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the further collaboration with the CBD Secretariat in respect of the means of implementation and evaluation of progress in achieving the 2010 biodiversity target. On the margins of the meeting, the Executive Secretary held talks with representatives of major international organizations on future collaboration with regard to the 2010 biodiversity target.

8. The CBD Secretariat co-hosted the Combined Working Group Meeting and Biodiversity Synthesis Report Meeting of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, which took place in Montreal from 25 to 29 April 2004. The primary objective of the meetings was to revise the draft chapters of the global assessment reports to incorporate comments from the first round of peer review. The Secretariat participated in the meetings, providing expert input to the process of developing the Assessment Reports and helping ensure that the needs of the Convention were met.

9. The Executive Secretary attended the high level segment of the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-12), which was held in New York from 28-30 April 2004. On the margins of the meeting, he also participated in a high level meeting organized on 27 April 2004 by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) on interlinkages between climate change, biodiversity, land degradation, fresh water, coastal systems and persistent organic pollutants. The meeting aimed at assisting GEF as it moves more into multi-focal areas, such as, adaptation, mainstreaming biodiversity into production landscapes, agro-biodiversity, and sustainable land management.

10. The Secretariat participated in the fourth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF-4) which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 3–14 May 2004. The Secretariat organized a side event on the margins of the meeting on the progress in the implementation of the expanded work programme on forest biological diversity. The UNFF-4 meeting considered: traditional forest-related knowledge, forest-related scientific knowledge, social and cultural aspects of forests, monitoring, reporting and assessment and criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management, finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, enhanced cooperation and the review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests.

11. The Secretariat also participated in the twelfth meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) that was held on 2 and 7 May 2004 also in Geneva, Switzerland. The CPF meeting considered a proposal to develop a common information framework for forest-related information and the progress of the task force on streamlining forest-related reporting. The meeting also discussed the role of the CPF members in the review process of the UNFF. Preceding the CPF meeting was the Steering Committee of the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forests in which the Secretariat was duly represented.

12. As a follow-up to the tenth meeting of the Secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, 8-9 March 2004, the Executive Secretary participated in the first meeting of the *Ad hoc* Group on Administrative Matters relating to UNEP-administered Multilateral Agreements, which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 13-14 May 2004.

13. The Executive Secretary participated in the twenty-third meeting of the GEF Council which was held in Washington, D.C., from 19-21 May 2004 where he addressed the meeting on the outcome of the COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings. The Secretariat organized a side event on the margins of the meeting dedicated to the 2010 Biodiversity Target.

14. As part of its efforts to foster cooperation and constructive synergies and dialogue with relevant international organizations, a team from the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) visited the CBD on 20 May 2004. Discussions revolved around the progress in the implementation of the joint Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC), the development of a joint work plan, information sharing mechanisms, invasive alien species, germane matters emanating from COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings, and the international standards for phytosanitary measures.

15. The Secretariat is in direct contact with the governments of Guatemala, Italy, Spain and Thailand regarding the organization of major open-ended meetings in these countries in the 2005-2006 biennium. Discussions are also underway with the Government of Brazil in respect of preparations for COP-8 and COP/MOP-3.

16. The Government of France is hosting and organizing an International Conference on Biodiversity in January 2005. The Secretariat actively participated in the second meeting of the Steering Committee in respect of this conference which was held in Paris, France, from 1-2 June 2004. On the margins of the meeting, and in response to COP decision VII/26 on cooperation with other conventions and international organizations, the Secretariat held talks with representatives from CITES, CMS, Ramsar and the World Heritage Center of UNESCO to discuss the organization of a liaison group meeting later this year. Bilateral cooperation with the *Office International des Épizooties* (OIE) was also discussed on the margins of this meeting.

17. In May, the Secretariat organized the fourth meeting of the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) in Oaxaca, Mexico. The meeting discussed COP-7 decisions as they relate to the GTI process.

18. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in its decision BS-I/3 approved the transition of the Biosafety Clearing-house from the pilot phase to the fully operational phase. In accordance with this decision, a new revised and enhanced version of the Biosafety Clearing-house was launched on 3 April 2004.

19. In April and May 2004, respectively, the Secretariat held detailed discussions with representatives from the Biodôme de Montréal and Montreal's Biosphere to explore possibilities of developing joint outreach efforts to further promote CBD's work programme on communication, education and public awareness.

20. The Executive Secretary gave a presentation on the "Evolution and Future of the Convention" at the *Chaire Tractebel – Environnement 2003-2004* which was organized by the *Commission de l'environnement de l'Université catholique de Louvain*, which took place in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.

21. The objective of the *Commission de l'environnement* is to integrate environmental concerns and sustainable development issues in the university's curricula. The Executive Secretary was also invited by the Belgian CHM Focal Point to visit the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels, where he discussed collaborative efforts in respect of the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

22. The Executive Secretary addressed the plenary of the International Symposium on Environmental Biotechnology where he gave a presentation on "The Role of the CBD and its Protocol on Biosafety in Fostering the Conservation and Sustainable Use of the World's Biological Wealth for Socio-economic and Sustainable Development". This International Symposium was organized by the University of Illinois and was held in Chicago from 18-21 June 2004.

23. To mark the tenth anniversary of the conclusion of the Marrakech Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), the European Commission organized a meeting in Brussels, Belgium, from 23-24 June 2004. The Executive Secretary attended this meeting.

24. The CBD actively participated in a number of important meetings during the second quarter of 2004, namely: meeting of the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) (1 April 2004, Ottawa, Canada); Experts Meeting of the Global Invasive Species Information Network (2-11 April 2004, Baltimore, USA); Preparatory Committee on SIDS as well as a meeting of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Mauritius SIDS Conference (14-17 April 2004, New York, USA); WTO Committee on Trade and Environment in Special Session (19 April 2004, Geneva, Switzerland); the UNEP/GEF Sub-regional Workshop on Development of National Biosafety Frameworks preceded by a one-day meeting of the national coordinators (19-23 April 2004, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso); Seventh Meeting of the Environmental Management Group (20 April 2004, New York, USA); Expert Workshop on Promoting CITES-CBD Cooperation and Synergy (21-24 April 2004, Island of Vilm, Germany); Third International Symposium on Sustainable Management of Forest Resources (21-24 April 2004, Pinar del Rio, Cuba); the Annual Conference of the International Association of Impact Assessments (24-29 April 2004, Vancouver, Canada); Country-led initiative in support of UNFF workshop on Decentralization, Federal

Systems in Forestry and National Forest Programmes (27-30 April 2004, Interlaken, Switzerland); UNEP-GEF brainstorming on the Biosafety Clearing-House Add-on project/Meeting of experts to finalize the training programme (3-6 May 2004, Geneva, Switzerland); MA combined Board Executive Committee and Budget Committee (6 May 2004, teleconference); Training Workshop on Indigenous Knowledge, Biodiversity and United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (6-7 May 2004, New York, USA); Inter-agency meeting with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (10 May 2004, New York, USA); UNEP-GEF Workshop for SIDS countries on the Development of a Regulatory Regime and Administration Systems for National Biosafety Frameworks (10-14 May 2004, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago); Equator Initiative Board Meeting (17 May 2004, New York, USA); Conference in UQAM (17-21 May 2004, Montreal, Canada); third meeting of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (18-19 May 2004, New York, USA); OECD Meeting of the Working Group on Economic Aspects of Biological Diversity (23-25 May 2004, Paris, France); 36th World Farmers' Congress (29 May – 4 June 2004, Washington, D.C., USA); EU Stakeholders' Conference "Biodiversity and the EU – Sustaining Life, Sustaining Livelihoods (25-27 May 2004, Dublin, Ireland); *Forum pour le suivi du plan d'action sur la diversité biologique du Saguenay-Lac-St.-Jean* (3 June 2004, Chicoutimi, Canada); Fifth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (7-11 June 2004, New York, USA); XI Conference of UNCTAD (13-18 June 2004, Sao Paulo, Brazil); 15th meeting of the OECD's Working Group for Harmonization in Biotechnology (15-17 June 2004, Paris, France); Steering Committee of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas meeting (16-19 June 2004, Savonlinna, Finland); First Session of the High-Level Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on an Intergovernmental Strategic Plan for Technical Support and Capacity Building Meeting (25 June 2004, New York, USA); UNEP-WCMC Scientific Advisory Committee (25 June 2004, teleconference); Tenth International Coral Reef Symposium (28 June – 2 July 2004, Okinawa, Japan).

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

A. Personnel Arrangements

25. During this period, there were 33 Professional staff members regularized on posts funded from the core budget. There were 3 vacant posts, for which recruitment/selection is in progress. Additionally, 5 professional staff members are regularized on posts funded from other sources.

26. There were 25 General Service staff members regularized on posts funded by the core budget and one vacant post for which recruitment is in progress. Additionally, 5 staff members are regularized on posts funded from other sources.

27. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Annex I Appendix 1, and Annex II respectively).

B. Financial Arrangements

28. With regard to budgetary matters, as at 30 June 2004, of the total pledged contributions of US\$7,741,394 for 2004 to the General Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity (**BY Trust Fund**), the total contributions received amounted to US\$5,213,762. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2004 and prior years amount to US\$2,570,165. Details of the BY Trust Fund are contained in Annex V.

29. Several Parties have contributed additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**). As of 30 June 2004, the total amount pledged for 2004 amounts to US\$727,694. The total collected for 2004 as at 30 June 2004 was US\$401,018. Total unpaid pledges for 2004 and prior years to the BE Trust Fund is US\$511,139. Details of the BE Trust Fund are contained in Annex III.

30. Pledges totalling US\$133,356 have so far been made as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the participation of Parties to the Convention Process (**BZ Trust Fund**) in 2004. As at 30 June

2004, US\$88,580 has been paid. Total unpaid pledges for 2004 and prior years to the BZ Trust Fund amount to US\$94,760. Details of the BZ Trust Fund are contained in Annex IV.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MATTERS

DECISIONS VII/1 AND VI/22: FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

31. In paragraph 19 of decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to: (a) clarify the conceptual basis of the ecosystem approach in relation to the concept of sustainable forest management with adequate consideration of regional conditions; (b) initiate, in collaboration with the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), actions identified as important first steps towards the implementation of the expanded work programme; (c) compile best practices available to promote and support integrated approaches to reduce negative impacts and enhance positive impacts of other sectoral policies on forest biological diversity with a view to developing a tool kit for building capacity in integrated approaches and planning; (d) develop an internet portal to facilitate implementation of the work programme; and, in paragraph 44, to (e) invite relevant organizations to collaborate with the Secretariat on issues related to fire prevention and management and forest biodiversity.

32. In decision VII/1, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to: (f) continue and further strengthen its work on forest biological diversity including the report on the effects on forest biological diversity of insufficient forest law enforcement as requested in paragraph 19(e) of decision VI/22; and (g) organize another meeting of the AHTEG on the review of implementation of the programme of work prior to the eleventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

33. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out:

(a) Clarification of the concept of the ecosystem approach in relation to the concept of sustainable forest management

34. The Secretariat participated in the Third International Symposium on Sustainable Management of Forest Resources - SIMFOR 2004, held in Pinar del Rio, Cuba, from 20 to 25 April 2004, organized by the IUFRO, in collaboration with FAO, CIFOR and the University of Pinar del Rio. Contacts were established with representatives of some universities and research centres, in order to collect information/case studies on the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management. At the margins of UNFF4 the Secretariat met with representatives from IUCN, and was informed of the preliminary idea for a project with the World Bank to further analyse the use of the ecosystem approach to better integrate sustainable forest management in the Millennium Development Goals, especially regarding local livelihoods and sustainable development. The Secretariat also received the report of a pan-European meeting on the linkage between the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management, organized by the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS) and the Ministerial Conferences for the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE).

(b) Collaborative activities requested in paragraph 19 (b) of decision VI/22

35. The Secretariat participated in the 12th meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) held in Geneva on 2 and 7 May 2004 at the margins of the fourth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF4). In addition to organizational issues related to UNFF4, the meeting discussed the views submitted by member countries to UNFF4 on the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management as well as the latest results of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting in which the Secretariat participates actively.

36. The Secretariat attended the session of UNFF4 from 3 to 7 May 2004 and contributed as follows:

- (i) Hosted a side event on progress in implementation of the CBD expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. Forty-two people attended the event whose primary objective was to raise awareness about the work programme and to present an overview of activities carried out by the Secretariat on facilitating its implementation at the international level. Copies of the work programme in three languages were distributed to participants;
- (ii) Presented at the CPF side event a proposal on behalf of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting; followed by a discussion. The proposal seeks to implement a centralized system of access and retrieval of forest related information reported to global processes/instruments (CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD) and intergovernmental agencies (FAO, ITTO);
- (iii) Presented the main findings of the Secretary General's report on Traditional Forest-related Knowledge at one of the working sessions, and assisted the UNFF Secretariat during the exchange of views among member countries on the deliberations related to the contents of the report;
- (iv) Read a statement in plenary under the agenda item on 'enhanced cooperation' that highlighted relevant COP 7 decisions, the main areas of cooperation with other CPF members and between the Secretariats of the CBD and UNFF in particular.
- (v) Participated in the Steering Committee of a meeting which will be organized by the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forests (IAITPTF) in December 2004 and whose primary objective is to identify ways to improve national implementation of international commitments on indigenous peoples, local communities and traditional forest related knowledge (TFRK).
- (vi) Attended side events organized by the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests, the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration, the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe/Pan European Landscape Biodiversity Strategy and the World Bank, and a special event organized by The World Bank/ WWF alliance for forest conservation and sustainable use .

(c) Development of a tool kit for building capacity in integrated approaches and planning

37. Bibliographic and web-based research has been conducted and a draft document prepared. The final document will be presented at SBSTTA 10 as an INF document, and the toolkit will be made available to Parties including through the Forest Portal.

(d) Forest web portal

38. The Secretariat launched the forest web portal during the first week of May. The portal (<http://www.biodiv.org/programmes/areas/forest/portal/home.shtml>) will cover, on a monthly basis throughout 2004-2006, focused information and discussions on a topic drawn from each of the 27 objectives of the forest work programme. The first topic of the web portal is ecological restoration (programme element 1, goal 3, objective 1 of the forest work programme). The portal includes tools, relevant baseline information and links to the monthly topic as well as an electronic discussion forum centred on the activities listed under the programme objective in question. A database of case studies related to the monthly topic will also be a standard feature of the portal. In the first month of operation the portal attracted over 1,600 visitors.

(e) Fire prevention and management and forest biodiversity

39. On the margins of the Viterbo meeting on synergies through forest ecosystems (see decision VII/26 and VI 20), the Secretariat held a meeting with Mr. Johann Goldammer (Director of the Global

Fire Monitoring Centre) as well as with the Executive Secretaries of the other Rio Conventions to explore possibilities of collaboration on harmonizing activities addressing wildland fires. Discussions centred around collaboration on capacity building and training in wildland fire management as part of community-based fire management in Africa, and on collaboration to support the FAO/GFMC Global Wildland Fire Assessment 2005. The Secretariat agreed to explore further collaboration.

(f) AHTEG on review of implementation of the programme of work

40. A letter was sent to the Government of Germany requesting confirmation of funding pledged for the second meeting of the AHTEG on review of implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity in July 2005 as well as for suggestions for the venue. The draft provisional agenda for the meeting was also completed. The Secretariat is preparing a document on outcome-oriented targets for the forest work programme, which will be reviewed by the AHTEG members before SBSTTA 10.

(g) Forest law enforcement and biological diversity

41. The Secretariat sent out a second notification to Parties, CPF members and other relevant organizations, requesting additional case studies on the effects of insufficient forest law enforcement on forest biological diversity. The Secretariat finalized a draft on the "Effects of insufficient forest law enforcement on forest biological diversity" and sent it for review to those Parties and organizations that had provided contributions further to the first notification sent out in November 2003 and to Parties which are cited in the report.

42. The Secretariat hosted a meeting of the task force on streamlining and harmonizing forest-related reporting. This is part of the activities to follow up with paragraph 8 of decision VII/1 and relevant paragraphs of decision VI/22.

DECISION VII/2: BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS

43. The Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to ensure that the parts of the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands which relate to other thematic programmes of work of the Convention are taken into account when developing and reviewing these programmes of work.

44. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with Parties, to develop targets for the implementation of the programme of work, taking into account relevant ongoing initiatives and following the approach taken in the development of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9, annex, and in line with decision VII/8).

45. Furthermore, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to further develop mechanisms for facilitating the synergistic implementation of the Rio Conventions and other biodiversity-related conventions, especially at the national level. Additionally, the review of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans under the CBD should be facilitated at the national level to harmonize them with the national action programmes under the UNCCD and the national adaptation plans of action under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

46. Decision VII/31 on the multi-year programme of work of the Convention up to 2010, specifies that the programme of work on biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands will be under in-depth review at the eighth meeting of the COP and at a preceding meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

47. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Paragraphs 3, 4,5 and 6 of decision VII/2

48. Contributions to the preparations of the programme of work on island biological diversity from a dry and sub-humid lands perspective were made. The Ad Hoc technical Expert Group meeting on island biodiversity is scheduled to meet on the Canary Islands, Spain in September 2004.

49. The work on targets requested in paragraph 4 is being addressed in the framework of ongoing work on 2010 indicators and targets (decision VII/30). Work on this item is in progress and targets relevant to the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands will be included into the in-depth review process for discussions during SBSTTA 11.

50. Preparations for the "practicing synergy initiative" regional workshop for Africa, responding to paragraphs 5 and 6 of decision VII/2, are continuing. The IUCN-Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) has been commissioned to assist the Secretariat with the preparations of two background documents for the workshop. The GEF Secretariat agreed to produce a third background document reporting on synergy in the GEF Strategy and on opportunities for acting on synergy at the country implementation level. Two additional background documents are currently being developed in-house. The organizational aspects of the meeting are progressing and a notification was posted on 3 June 2004, calling for nomination of experts and practitioners from Africa to participate in the workshop. The notification was shared with the Secretariats of the UNCCD, UNFCCC, the GEF, and with the other biodiversity-related conventions (i.e. CMS, CITES, Ramsar, and WHC). During a liaison group meeting with CITES, CMS, WHC and Ramsar, held on 3 June 2004 in Paris, a short briefing on the synergy initiative was presented by the CBD Secretariat (see also under decision VII/26 below).

51. The outcomes of the joint UNCCD/CBD workshop on "Forests and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting Synergy in the Implementation of the Three Rio Conventions", which took place in Viterbo, Italy, from 5 to 7 April 2004, are being integrated into the workshop preparations.

52. Ms Andreeanne Grimard, reading for a Bachelor's degree in international development studies at McGill University, has joined the Secretariat as an intern in the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands. She is assisting with the compilation of background information for the workshop documentation, and will assist with organizational matters. Her aim is to familiarize herself with the operations of the Secretariat and the Conventions, whilst gaining some technical insights into issues relevant to the programme of work.

(b) Review of the implementation of the programme of work

53. In preparation of the review of the programme of work at COP 8 (decision VII/31), the Secretariat developed a workplan for the review process. The 1st and 2nd national reports were reviewed for the information they contain relevant to the implementation of the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands. Additionally the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans of all countries with dry and sub-humid lands ecosystems were reviewed. The outcomes of the review were of limited use. Consequently, a special effort was placed in the review of the 3rd national report guidelines. Although the section on dry and sub-humid lands was shortened, matrices on the 2010 target and challenges and obstacles of implementation were incorporated.

54. Letters to relevant organizations and key collaborators in the implementation of the programme of work on relevant decisions from COP 7 were prepared. The relevant webpage sections on dry and sub-humid lands were updated with relevant information from recent COP 7 decisions.

55. With regard to the implementation of the programme of work the following actions were undertaken:

(i) Assessment of status and trends (Activity 1 of the programme of work):

56. The Secretariat actively participated in a meeting of the Millenium Assessment (MA) combined working groups meeting in Montreal from 25 to 29 April, and subsequently worked intensively with the authors of the drylands chapter on integrating biodiversity concerns. Further review comments were provided to the desertification synthesis report outline, focusing *inter alia* on synergy issues of relevance to both the UNCCD and CBD. The Secretariat provided some inputs to the preparation of a meeting of partners, stakeholders and technical resource persons in the "Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA) project", which took place from 24 to 26 May 2004, at FAO Headquarters, in Rome, Italy. In decision VII/2, the COP adopted the proposed process for the periodic assessment of the status and trends of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands, for which LADA is one key mechanism. The final report from the meeting has not yet been circulated.

(ii) Areas of particular value and/or under threat (Activity 2 of the programme of work)

57. UNEP-WCMC prepared a proposal for the publication of a "Dry and sub-humid lands watch", as proposed in document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/30, which was prepared in response to the programme of work, which suggests UNEP-WCMC as a key collaborator in the implementation of activity 2 (VII/2, Annex). An outline of the envisioned publication has been drafted. The aim is to supplement assessment information contained in the MA, and in future information generated by LADA, in a visualized manner. It is suggested that a set of overview maps of dry and sub-humid lands related issues, focusing especially on the identification of areas of particular value and/or under threat, be incorporated. A liaison group will be established to steer the work, and it is planned to table a draft version at SBSTTA 11, when the elements of the in-depth review of the programme of work will be discussed. The Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC are currently seeking additional funds for the undertaking.

(iii) Indicators (Activity 3 of the programme of work)

58. The ongoing work of the MA, LADA and the UNEP-WCMC contain references to work on indicators as integrated into the assessment ongoing processes. Furthermore the Secretariat has worked on integrating work on indicators into the revised version of the 3rd national report as well as into ongoing work on sub-targets and indicators for 2010 (decision VII/30).

(iv) Knowledge on processes that affect biodiversity (Activity 4 of the programme of work):

59. The contributions of the Secretariat to the drylands chapter of the Conditions and Trends volume of the MA contain specific references to the knowledge on processes that affect biodiversity on dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity.

(v) Benefits derived from biological diversity (Activity 5 of the programme of work)

60. The Secretariat has prepared a first outline of a potential CBD Technical Series publication on the socio-economic impacts of biodiversity loss and the interrelationship between biodiversity and poverty, including the analysis of (i) the benefits derived from biodiversity for poverty alleviation, and (ii) the impact of biodiversity conservation on the poorest. The Secretariat is currently seeking funds for the undertaking.

(vi) Best management practices (Activity 6 of the programme of work)

61. The Third-World Network of Scientific Organisations invited the Secretariat to comment on a draft proposal for a second phase of their initial biodiversity in arid and semi-arid areas support programme. The Secretariat made extensive suggestions for closer integration of the needs of the programme of work, as specified in the annex of decision VII/2. It was suggested that the planned demonstration projects could integrate outcomes from the synergy initiative workshop in Africa, i.e. supporting explicit country level pilot activities.

(vii) Measures for conservation and sustainable use - promotion of responsible resource management - support for sustainable livelihoods (Activities 7 to 9 of the programme of work):

62. The draft proposal of the Third-World Network of Scientific Organisations was further reviewed in light of activities 7 to 9 of the programme of work, and specific recommendations for addressing priority actions were made.

63. The Secretariat provided the organizers of the 4th Regional Biodiversity Forum for southern and eastern Africa, the IUCN East Africa Regional Office (EARO), with updated information on recent COP 7 decisions of relevance to the meeting agenda, including on dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity. The Forum took place from 9 to 11 June in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

64. A report on activities of the CBD and recent COP decisions relevant to environmental management in Africa was prepared as a background document by the Secretariat and submitted to the 10th session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), which will take place from 29 to 30 June 2004 in Tripoli, Libya. Desertification and other issues relevant to the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands were identified as key areas of the agenda.

65. A number of presentations on dry and sub-humid land related issues were given by the Secretariat in the framework of the 2004 International Biodiversity Day, which focused on "Biodiversity: food, water and health for all". Amongst the presentations were visits to the CEGEP, Vanier College, James Lyrng High School and McGill University.

(c) Joint work programme with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

66. Letters to the Thematic Programme Networks of the UNCCD were drafted. All activities relating to the implementation of the programme of work, especially work on the MA, LADA and on the "dry and sub-humid lands watch" address the provisions of section A on "Assessments" of the joint work programme. The review of country reports under the UNCCD for the in-depth review of the programme of work has started. The CBD Secretariat submitted a requested report for the 3rd meeting of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC 3) to the UNCCD.

DECISIONS VII/3 AND VI/5: AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

67. In decision VI/5, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to undertake, in collaboration with other institutions, the necessary steps for the full implementation of the programme of work as contained in Table 1 of the annex to the decision and to report, as presented in Table 2 of the same annex. The Executive Secretary was also requested to undertake a preliminary assessment of status and trends of agricultural biodiversity, in collaboration with FAO and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, to be submitted for consideration by SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

68. In decision VII/3, COP noted the postponement of the preparation of the final report of the comprehensive assessment of agricultural biological diversity and related milestones by two years (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/11, paragraph 66).

69. Furthermore, in paragraph 4 of that decision, COP requested SBSTTA to consider the report of the AHTEG on Genetic Use Restriction Technologies at its tenth meeting with a view to providing advice to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting, also taking into account decision VII/16 on Article 8j.

70. In the same decision, COP requested the Executive Secretary to invite FAO, in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations bodies and regional and international organizations, to identify and assess activities and available information on agricultural biodiversity before the submission of the third national report.

71. In response to these requests and as part of the implementation of the programme of work the following activities were undertaken:

72. The Secretariat is organizing a workshop on synergy in Africa (see report on dry and sub-humid lands above). The workshop is addressing synergy in the context of the two work programmes. The "Regional Workshop for Africa on Synergy among the Rio Conventions and other biodiversity-related Conventions in implementing the Programmes of Work on Dry and Sub-humid Lands and Agricultural Biodiversity" will take place from 13 to 17 September 2004 in Gaborone, Botswana.
73. The German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) conducted a survey on its "Issue papers People and Biodiversity" series of the People & Biodiversity in Rural Area project. The Secretariat reviewed the document and provided comments and suggested topics of relevance to the CBD for future issues. The Secretariat also elaborated views on the potential for collaboration.
74. The Secretariat participated in the 36th Biennial IFAP World Farmers' Congress, which took place on 2 June 2004, in Washington, D.C., in the U.S. and delivered a statement on "How to Strengthen Farmers Involvement in Conserving Biodiversity".
75. Letters to relevant organizations and key collaborators in the implementation of the programme of work on decisions from COP 7 were prepared. The webpage sections on agro-biodiversity were updated with information from recent COP 7 decisions.
76. The Secretariat contributed to the review of the MA chapters on food and cultivated systems. Furthermore, the contributions of the Secretariat to the drylands chapter of the Conditions and Trends volume of the MA contain review work addressing agro-biodiversity aspects in drylands.
77. The meeting between the Secretariat and IPGRI was held in June 2004 as a follow-up to decision VII/32 on the Millennium Development Goals, and in particular paragraph 7, in which the COP requested the Executive Secretary, to undertake the necessary consultations in collaboration with FAO and IPGRI and bring forward options for consideration by the eighth meeting of the COP for a cross-cutting initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition. Further follow-up is planned, including in collaboration with the Standing Committee on Food and Nutrition, which will meet in Brazil in March 2005.
78. A draft outline for a statement to be delivered at the Special EUROSIL Symposium and Workshop: "Putting soils higher on the international agenda: New Mechanism in support of sustainable land management", scheduled for 9 September 2004 in Germany, has been prepared.

DECISION VI/6 AND DECISION VII/3: THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

79. In its decision VI/6, the Conference of the Parties appealed to Parties and other Governments to give priority consideration to the signature and ratification of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
80. In decision VII/3 on agricultural biological diversity, COP welcomed, within the framework of the International Treaty of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and as part of its funding strategy, the development of the Global Crop Diversity Trust first launched at the WSSD. The Trust is set up to contribute towards the development of an endowment fund to support *ex situ* conservation centres worldwide. In the same decision, the COP urged Parties and other governments to ratify the ITPGRFA.
81. In response to these decisions, letters have been sent to relevant organizations and key collaborators in the implementation of relevant programmes of work.

DECISION VII/4: BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF INLAND WATERS

82. In decision VII/4, the Conference of the Parties adopted the revised programme of work on the biological diversity of inland waters. Paragraph 4 of that decision welcomes and encourages, in particular, the synergy being developed between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention in implementing the programme of work and encourages further activities aimed at avoiding overlaps in the work of both conventions. Decision VII/14 requests the Executive Secretary to continue developing and strengthening collaboration with other organisations, institutions and conventions as a way to streamline many of the activities contained in the programme of work, promote synergies and avoid unnecessary duplications.

83. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Collaboration with the Ramsar Convention

84. The Secretariat of the CBD met with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention in Montreal on the 30 April 2004, to discuss responses to Decision VII/4. An in-depth study of the programme of work on the biological diversity of inland waters was undertaken and a strategy was developed to enhance collaboration and synergies. Progress on the existing joint work programme and proposed changes to the joint work programme, in view of Decision VII/4 and the Ramsar Scientific Technical Review Panel in February 2005, will be reported to SBSTTA10. Secretariat staff are actively involved in various STRP working groups that are currently reviewing technical areas relevant to a number of sub-sections of the revised programme of work.

(b) Other collaborative activities

85. The Secretariat has reviewed and contributed further to the second phase of the World Water Development Report (under the World Water Assessment Programme), including promoting the need to include a comprehensive section dealing specifically with biodiversity.

86. Significant activities relating to the development of output-oriented targets for the programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems, and relevant inland water related indicators for targets under the strategic plan, are reported on under Decision VII/30.

DECISION VII/5: MARINE AND COASTAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

87. In annex I to decision VII/3, the Conference of the Parties adopted the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity, composed of six programme elements: (i) implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management; (ii) marine and coastal living resources; (iii) marine and coastal protected areas; (iv) mariculture; (v) invasive alien species; and (vi) general. Enabling activities were also included in the elaborated programme of work. The role of the Secretariat is to promote and facilitate the implementation of the programme of work. In addition, the Executive Secretary has been requested to undertake a number of specific tasks relating to the programme elements.

88. In response to this decision and SBSTTA recommendations the following activities were carried out:

(a) Implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management

89. The Secretariat's collaboration with the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) continues, and included participation in the MA Assessment Panel meeting, which took place in Montreal from 24 to 29 April 2004. In addition, a number of side meetings were held with the authors of the marine and coastal chapters to ensure that CBD concerns were met.

90. The Secretariat has produced a draft document on the marine trophic index, which is one of the global indicators approved by the Conference of the Parties for immediate testing in decision VII/30. The development of this indicator also implements activity (a) under operational objective 2.1 of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity. The marine trophic index document has now been

reviewed by two major collaborators: the Sea Around Us Project of the University of British Columbia and UNEP-WCMC.

91. The Secretariat participated in the international workshop on the Global Marine Assessment (GMA), which was held in conjunction with the fifth meeting of the UN Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP), which took place from 7 to 11 June 2004 in New York. The recommendations of the ICP on this issue will be considered by the 59th session of the UN General Assembly. The GMA is activity (g) under operational objective 1.3 in annex of decision VII/5.

92. The Secretariat has discussed with the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) the undertaking of a joint project that would contribute to the implementation of both the CBD and the GPA. The project is still in its conceptual phase and will be undertaken in the context of the GPA project on Physical Alteration and Destruction of Habitat, which corresponds to, *inter alia*, activity (c) under operational objective 1.2 of decision VII/5 annex. It is likely that the focus of the project will be on the practical application of the CBD sustainable tourism guidelines in the Caribbean.

(b) Marine and coastal living resources

93. The Secretariat participated in the fifth meeting of the UN Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP), which took place from 7 to 11 June 2004 in New York. The meeting addressed the issue of governance of the biological diversity of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction. Discussions covered issues pertaining to flag State implementation; deep sea biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, including bottom trawling; the legal framework for marine resources beyond national jurisdiction; new sustainable uses of the oceans; and cooperation and coordination.

94. The Secretariat has prepared and submitted a report on the outcomes of COP-7 as they pertain to marine and coastal biodiversity and coral reefs to the Secretariat of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). The ICRI Secretariat has invited the CBD Secretariat to make a presentation and discuss joint implementation strategies at the next meeting of the ICRI Coordinating and Planning Committee.

(c) Marine and coastal protected areas

95. In response to paragraph 31 of decision VII/5, the Secretariat finalized and submitted its input to the report called for by the General Assembly in resolution 58/240, paragraph 52. This report pertains to marine protected areas in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction.

96. The Secretariat is participating in the Steering Committee of the theme on “developing comprehensive and representative marine protected area networks” for the First International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC 1), which will take place in Geelong, Australia from 23 to 27 October 2005. It is anticipated that the results of IMPAC 1 can contribute to the request in paragraph 37 of decision VII/5 to develop further technical advice on network design and in particular ecological coherence of networks.

(d) General

97. The Secretariat and the Regional Seas Coordinating Unit have held a teleconference to discuss enhanced collaboration. This collaboration would focus on improved implementation of the CBD through Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, including identification of a limited number of joint activities. These activities would include those focused on invasive alien species (to be implemented together with the Global Invasive Species Programme and the International Maritime Organization) and marine and coastal protected areas.

98. The section of the 3rd National Report related to marine and coastal biological diversity has been updated to take into account the results of COP-7. Similarly, this section of the CBD website has also been updated.

99. The Secretariat has written an article describing the outcomes of COP-7 relevant to oceans and coasts for the newsletter of the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands. This article is part of an effort to raise awareness about the work of the Convention as it relates to marine areas.

DECISION VII/6: ASSESSMENT PROCESSES

100. In recommendation VI/5 the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice decided to initiate a number of pilot assessments in order to advance assessments on current priority issues, and to test a range of methods and modalities for assessments.

101. In decision VII/6, the Conference of the Parties took note of the progress of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the outline for the synthesis report that will be prepared for the Convention on Biological Diversity (paragraph 2) and encouraged national focal points to participate in the review of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. In paragraph 5 of the same decision, COP requested the Executive Secretary to cooperate with UNEP on the follow-up of the process of international environmental governance.

102. In response to the SBSTTA recommendation and the COP decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

103. The Secretariat continued to participate in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment process, including through contributions to chapters and critical reviews of chapters, and as a member of the writing team of the biodiversity synthesis report.

(b) International Environmental Governance

104. The Executive Secretary participated in the second meeting of the steering Committee for the International Biodiversity Conference to be held in Paris, France in January 2005. This meeting will focus on international environmental governance and the Secretariat will organize three round-table discussions relating to the 2010 biodiversity target.

(c) Review of pilot assessments

105. The five pilot assessments initiated by SBSTTA have been completed. These, as well as other assessments carried out within the framework of the Convention are being reviewed in line with the criteria and approaches identified by SBSTTA. The outline of a pre-session document from SBSTTA-10 has been prepared.

DECISIONS VI/7-A and VII/7: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

106. In paragraph 3 of decision VI/7 A, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to, *inter alia*, prepare, in collaboration with relevant organizations, in particular the International Association for Impact Assessment, proposals for further development and refinement of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental-impact-assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment. In decision VII/7, COP urged Parties and other Governments that have not yet done so to contribute case-studies on current experiences in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment procedures that incorporate biodiversity-related issues as well as experiences in applying the guidelines contained in the annex to decision VI/7 A.

107. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Further development of guidelines for environmental impact assessment

108. The Secretariat participated in the 24th Annual meeting of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA'04, Vancouver 24-20 April 2004) and gave a keynote presentation within the theme forum on biodiversity and industry. The meeting provided an opportunity to involve a wider audience in the

further development and refinement of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental-impact-assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment.

109. During IAIA'04, joint discussions were held between the Biodiversity & Ecology section and the Trade section of IAIA. The Secretariat gave a presentation in the session on the integrated assessment of international trade, which confirmed the need for guidance on biodiversity issues in trade. Collaboration on this effort has been established with a number of individuals and organizations.

110. At the margins of IAIA'04, the Secretariat discussed with the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Impact Assessment and members of the Biodiversity & Ecology section of IAIA about a timetable, workplan and modalities for the further development of the guidelines. It was agreed that the project on "Capacity building in biodiversity and impact assessment in developing countries" (CBBIA) provides an excellent opportunity for gathering relevant case-study material and for testing approaches relevant to the further development of the guidelines. The Netherlands have indicated their interest in supporting certain activities required under decision VI/7-A through the Letter of Intent with the Secretariat.

(b) Capacity development in biodiversity and impact assessment

111. The Secretariat participated in the inception workshop and the Steering Committee meeting of the project on "Capacity building in biodiversity and impact assessment in developing countries" (CBBIA), which was held prior to IAIA'04. The inception workshop brought together about 30 participants including EIA practitioners and government officials responsible for impact assessment in their countries. Participating countries included Algeria, Costa Rica, Georgia, Ghana, India, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Turkey, Venezuela and Yemen. Ramsar and UNEP-GEF were also represented at the workshop. The steering committee meeting for the project appreciated the way in which the project meeting had been conducted and felt it was a valuable foundation for in-country work. However, it revealed a number of administrative shortcomings and provided guidance on how to address these.

(c) CBD website

112. The CBD website was updated to reflect the decision of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties pertaining to Article 14.1.

DECISION VII/8: MONITORING AND INDICATORS

113. In decision VII/8, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to continue collaborating with FAO, the OECD, the European Environment Agency, and other relevant international and regional organizations and initiatives on the further development and consolidation of indicators relevant to the 2010 target.

114. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

115. The Secretariat participated in a meeting on the 'Suivi du plan d'action sur la diversité biologique du Saguenay- Lac Saint Jean', organized by the Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable du Saguenay- Lac Saint Jean (CREDD), held on 3 June 2004 in Chicoutimi, Canada. The meeting provided a forum for discussing biodiversity indicators for regional planning and their links to indicators adopted or being developed at the provincial, national and global levels. It provided an opportunity to draw attention to the process of assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target.

116. The Secretariat provided written contributions for the workshop on the GEF-funded project on Biodiversity indicators for national use (BINU), held in Yalta, Ukraine, from 14 to 18 June 2004 and for the project Steering Committee meeting. The Secretariat pointed out the need to *inter alia* analyse how the biome-specific monitoring programmes and indicators developed in participating countries relate to the CBD framework for assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target adopted in decision VII/30.

DECISIONS VI/8 AND VII/9: GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

117. In decision VI/8, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to *inter alia*: (i) initiate regional meetings of scientists, managers and policy makers to prioritize the most urgent global taxonomic needs; and (ii) coordinate activities of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) with existing initiatives such as the GBIF and the CHM.

118. In decision VII/9, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the coordination mechanism to further facilitate the synergistic collaboration between existing initiatives, including the clearing-house mechanism, the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), and regional and sub-regional taxonomic networks in order to develop more accessible information sources for countries on their biodiversity.

119. Decision VII/31 on the multi-year programme of work of Convention up to 2010, specifies that the programme of work on GTI will be under in-depth review at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and at a preceding meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

120. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out:

(a) The GTI coordination mechanism

121. The fourth meeting of the GTI Coordination Mechanism was held at the margins of the GBIF Governing Board (G8) meeting in Oaxaca, Mexico on 1 May 2004. The main highlights of the meeting included discussions on: (i) ways and means for the in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work of the GTI, whereby agreement was reached on the timeframe for the preparation of the pre-session documents for SBSTTA during its tenth and eleventh meetings; (ii) how the COP requests to the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the Coordination Mechanism would be implemented; and (iii) participation and funding needs for the GTI regional workshop in Wellington, New Zealand scheduled for October 2004.

(b) Regional and global meetings.

122. A European GTI regional workshop was held at the Isle of Vilm, Germany on "building capacity for the GTI in a larger Europe". Although the CBD Secretariat was not represented at the meeting, a presentation was sent and read at the workshop, detailing the Programme of work of the GTI and the need for sustained capacity building. The highlights of the workshop included; European activities in the area of taxonomy, European taxonomic capacities to support GTI in other regions of the world and information sharing of biodiversity information. A report of the meeting is being prepared and will be considered as an information document by SBSTTA at its tenth meeting.

(c) Co-ordination with existing activities:

123. The Secretariat was represented at the GBIF Governing Board (G8) meeting, the GBIF Science planning meeting, the GBIF outreach and Capacity Building sub-committee (OCB) and the Pacific Biodiversity Information Forum (PBIF). The GBIF planning meeting provided advice to GBIF's Secretariat and Science Committee on the value to society of primary species- and specimen-level biodiversity data, new projects and initiatives. Issues discussed during the OCB sub-committee included ways and means to promote national and regional development of GBIF by getting more data providers/museum collections to contribute data to GBIF; collaboration with BioNET-INTERNATIONAL LOOPS to encourage national institutions to join GBIF membership to contribute digitized data, and establishment of the School of Biodiversity Informatics for training in biodiversity informatics.

(d) In-depth review of the GTI

125. Given that the third national report will not be available in time for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to review implementation of the programme of work for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, a questionnaire on the GTI programme of work has been developed and was sent to the GTI national focal points and CBD national focal points in April 2004. By the end of June

2004, three reports had been received from Parties. All the reports received have been posted on the website of the Convention and an analytical tool will be developed for these reports later on. In accordance with decision VII/9, information regarding the state of implementation of the GTI programme of work has also been requested from relevant national and international taxonomic institutions. Requests will also be made to museums holding biological collections.

DECISION VII/10: GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

126. In decision VII/10 the Conference of the Parties welcomed the establishment, by the Executive Secretary, of a flexible coordination mechanism for the Strategy, comprising: liaison groups to be convened as necessary; national focal points, as determined by Parties; the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation; and the Secretariat, including the Botanic Gardens Conservation International.

127. In the same decision the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, with the support of members of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation, to elaborate proposals for a toolkit, including a checklist to assist Parties in integrating the targets into their strategies, plans and programmes, for review by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

128. Furthermore, the Conference of the Parties decided to integrate the targets of the Strategy into all the thematic and relevant cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention and requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to prepare proposals for the respective programmes of work when they are due for review according to the multi year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties (decision VII/31). The COP proposed certain approaches of how this could be accomplished, and decided to integrate the targets of the Strategy into the reporting framework for the third national reports, reflecting on the fact that the targets are a flexible framework within which national and/or regional targets may be developed, in line with decision VI/9.

129. In response to these decisions the following activities were carried out:

130. Pursuant to paragraph 2 of decision VII/10, the Secretariat prepared a consolidation matrix of stakeholder consultations that would provide guidance to Parties and other implementing agencies as to what tentative baseline scenarios, milestones and indicators, sub-targets and, where feasible, available resources and tools, are available for the further elaboration of the GSPC. These matrices may also serve as a baseline for the development of a toolkit, as requested in the same decision.

131. The Executive Secretary invited Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson of Botanic Gardens Conservation International to act as the interim chair of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation (GPPS).

132. An initial meeting of the facilitating organizations for the stakeholder consultations was held with members of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation from 6 to 7 May 2004 in London, UK. The meeting was hosted by the interim chair of the GPPS, and aimed to compile an update on progress and key issues arising out of the stakeholder consultations. The meeting also served to discuss ways and means for mobilizing resources to facilitate implementation of the Strategy and to elaborate the structure, priority actions and the way forward for the GPPC.

133. COP 7 called for the nomination of GSPC focal points. The Secretariat prepared a notification, which was posted on 30 April 2004. Parties are requested to respond to the notification by 31 July 2004. To date nine nominations have been received.

134. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision VII/10, the Secretariat provided, upon their request, support to the Seychelles and China in their efforts to develop national GSPC targets. Although no comprehensive toolkit is operational as yet, individual support activities were transferred. During the Kenyan national congress on medicinal plants (18 to 21 June 2004) the Secretariat made a presentation on the GSPC. The World Bank sponsored the workshop.

135. In an effort to make the GSPC more widely available to Parties, the GSPC brochure is now being translated into Russian and Spanish. The translations are in their final stages.

136. The Executive Secretary invited the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC) to provide support in monitoring the implementation of the Strategy, working in collaboration with the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation.

137. The Executive Secretary also invited the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to consider how the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture contributes to the implementation of the Strategy, in particular to target 9 (“70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained”).

138. The Secretariat was represented at the 2nd World Botanic Gardens Congress organized by BGCI in April 2004. An important outcome of the congress was the development of a series of 20 targets for botanic gardens to be achieved by 2010, to help measure the achievement of the objectives of the International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation and as a contribution towards the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (see http://www.bgci.org.uk/events/congress_conclusions).

139. The Secretariat was also represented at the GBIF Board Meeting's section of the Science Symposium held from 28 to 29 April 2004 in Mexico City including at the Outreach & Capacity Building session. The Secretariat aimed to promote the GSPC and target 2010 of the CBD.

DECISION VII/11: ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

140. In decision VII/11, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the relevant international and regional organizations, to:

(a) Undertake an analysis of the range of existing tools and approaches, that are consistent with the Convention's ecosystem approach, but operate on different levels and belong to a variety of sectors/communities, and are applied in programmes of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in order to learn from their experiences and build upon their approaches, and identify any gaps in the coverage of such tools;

(b) Where needed, facilitate development of new tools and techniques to enable the implementation of the ecosystem approach, and in collaboration with appropriate regional and international organization develop tools specific to each sector and biome;

(c) Continue collection of case-studies at national, sub-regional, regional and international levels on the implementation of the ecosystem approach, and develop, in cooperation with the clearing-house mechanism, a database of case-studies, searchable by biome/eco-region and sector;

(d) Make the above widely available to Parties through the development of a web-based “sourcebook” for the ecosystem approach, accessible through the clearing-house mechanism. This sourcebook should be non-prescriptive and allow adaptation to differing regional, national and local needs. It should be prepared in language that is brief, non-technical and simple, ensuring its accessibility to practitioners working to implement the ecosystem approach on the ground. A supporting summary explanation of the ecosystem approach will also be prepared. It should be developed in collaboration with other relevant organizations, peer-reviewed and field tested as appropriate, and made available through the clearing-house mechanism, in hard copy and on CD-Rom, and periodically revised; The Executive Secretary was also requested to collaborate with the Coordinator and Head of the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat and the Collaborative Partnership on forests in order to further integrate the concepts of the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management.

141. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

142. In collaboration with the Government of the UK, which is providing assistance in implementation of this decision, a concept note on the sourcebook has been prepared. In addition, a prototype database

has been developed. The database now needs to be reviewed and further refined, and then populated with case studies.

143. The web pages for the ecosystem approach have been updated to reflect outcomes of COP-7.

DECISIONS VI/23 AND VII/13: ALIEN SPECIES THAT THREATEN ECOSYSTEMS, HABITATS OR SPECIES

144. In decision VI/23, the Conference of the Parties adopted the guiding principles for the prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts of invasive alien species and requested the Executive Secretary to: (i) carry out specific activities with GISP and other relevant organizations including developing a joint programme of work among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar), the International Maritime Organization, the International Plant Protection Convention and other relevant bodies; (ii) support the development and dissemination on technical tools and related information; (iii) integrate invasive alien species considerations into thematic work programmes of the Convention and when reporting on the thematic work programmes to report specifically on how the threats and impacts of invasive alien species will be addressed; (iv) explore means to facilitate capacity enhancement for eradication work on alien species on continents and islands; and (v) identify mechanism(s) for providing Parties with access to financial support for rapidly responding to new incursions by alien species in collaboration with GISP, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), FAO and the OECD.

145. Also, paragraph 6 (d) of SBSTTA recommendation VI/5, recommended initiation of pilot assessments on the impacts of invasive alien species.

146. In decision VII/13 on alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species, the Conference of the Parties recognized the need to strengthen further institutional coordination among international organizations and requested the Executive Secretary to (i) promote fuller consideration of issues relating to invasive alien species in other international forums; (ii) collaborate with relevant organizations, initiatives and Conventions; and (iii) to renew his application for observer status in the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) of the World Trade Organization.

147. In decision VII/13, the Conference of the Parties also noted that specific gaps in the international regulatory frameworks at global, regional and national levels persist, notably in relation to species that are invasive and requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to establish an ad hoc technical expert group to address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks.

148. In response to these decisions and SBSTTA recommendation, the following activities were carried out:

(a) Collaboration with the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)

149. The assessment of ecological and socio-economic impacts of invasive alien species on inland water ecosystems and on island ecosystems was considered as an information document at the ninth meeting of SBSTTA (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/33). This document is being further peer-reviewed before its publication in the CBD technical series.

150. The key elements relating to the impact on inland water ecosystems, which were identified in an expert consultation (Washington, 14 - 15 July 2003), have been expanded through a web-based discussion forum. The resulting document was recently released and is now undergoing a peer-review process. The document will be considered by SBSTTA at its tenth meeting. The report will also support decision VI/23 of the Conference of Parties that urged research and assessments on the causes and consequences, as well as the prevention and management, of IAS.

151. A restricted website has been activated to collect information in relation to activities of decision VI/23 in collaboration with GISP, partners and other organizations. The results from the e-forum will be disseminated through the CHM.

152. The Secretariat commented on a series of concept papers prepared by GISP on several priority actions. The concept papers should help facilitate the search for funding. The identified priority actions include: (i) capacity building; (ii) implementation of Target 10 of the Global Plant Conservation Strategy; (iii) support to the Global Taxonomy Initiative; (iv) research and assessment; (v) development of a joint work programme between the CBD Secretariat, GISP and other relevant international agreements and organisations; (vi) development of a financial mechanism; (vii) support to the development of the Global Invasive Species Information Network (GISIN); (viii) contributing to the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA); and (ix) incorporation of IAS issues into the thematic programmes of the CBD.

(b) Collaboration with the IPPC

153. A joint meeting between the IPPC and the CBD Secretariat was held on 20 May 2004 at the CBD Secretariat to discuss matters of mutual relevance. Areas for joint work were identified. These included (i) the development of a shared glossary of terms; (ii) joint effort in developing the international standards for phytosanitary measures; (iii) cooperation of national focal points of the two Conventions (iv) information sharing, interoperability between websites of the two Conventions and attending each others meetings; (v) capacity building; (vi) establishment of a liaison group on invasive alien species; (vi) development of indicators for the 2010 target; and (vii) contributions to the ad hoc technical expert group meeting on gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework by the IPPC.

(c) Collaboration with the Office International des Epizooties (OIE)

154. A joint meeting between members of OIE and the CBD Secretariat was held on 3 June 2004 in Paris to discuss matters of mutual relevance on risk assessment regarding the impacts of various pressures on biodiversity and in the framework of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. A draft Memorandum of Cooperation has been developed. The areas identified for cooperation include; information exchange; participation of concerned respective officers in relevant meetings; collaboration in the preparation of official documents for meetings and establishment of links between relevant web pages of the OIE and the CBD Secretariat (see also under decision VII/26).

155. (d) Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) of the World Trade Organization.

156. The Executive Secretary has written to the committee of SPS of the World Trade Organization to renew his application for observer status.

157. The Government of New Zealand offered to fund an AHTEG meeting to address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks at global and regional levels. Discussions regarding the preparation of the meeting are being held between the Secretariat and the New Zealand national focal point. A host country agreement has been prepared and is being considered by New Zealand.

DECISION VII/15: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

158. In decision VII/15, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, to develop advice or guidance for promoting synergy among activities to address climate change at the national, regional and international level where appropriate, including activities to combat desertification and land degradation, and activities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

159. In response to this decision, the Secretariat corresponded with the Government of Finland concerning preliminary dates for holding an AHTEG to work on guidance for promoting synergy among climate change activities, biodiversity, and land degradation, and based on the assessment on climate change and biodiversity (CBD Technical Series 10). At COP 7, Finland pledged financial support for this work for 2005. The Secretariat is preparing a document on the terms of reference for the group, to be considered by SBSTTA 10.

DECISIONS VI/20 AND VII/26: COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, INITIATIVES AND CONVENTIONS

160. In decision VI/20 the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA and the Executive Secretary to:(i) continue to cooperate with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including its Kyoto Protocol, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) with a view to maximizing synergies between these processes; (ii) continue cooperation as member of the joint liaison group consisting of the UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD. The COP also urged the joint liaison group to become fully operational in order to facilitate cooperation between the conventions both at national and international levels; and (iii) take the actions elaborated in the third joint work plan (2002-2006) between the CBD and the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar) into full consideration in furthering the respective programmes of work for these areas;

161. In decision VII/26, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in close collaboration with relevant conventions, organizations and bodies, to examine options for a flexible framework in order to enhance implementation through improved cooperation.

162. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out by the Secretariat:

(a) Collaboration with the Global Canopy Programme

163. The Secretariat held a meeting with the Director of the Global Canopy Programme (GCP) to discuss the goals and objectives of the GCP as well as to make a presentation on a proposal to be submitted to the GEF under its Operational Programme 3 (forest ecosystems). The proposal seeks to establish "canopy forest observatories" in Ghana, Brazil, Malaysia, India, and Madagascar in order to better understand canopy function and its biodiversity, and to promote education on this issue. The project's objectives are highly relevant to the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity, and they also cut across other thematic areas under the Convention, namely climate change, and sustainable use.

(b) Collaboration with UNFCCC and CCD

164. The Secretariat organized together with UNCCD a Workshop on Forest and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting synergies between the three Rio Conventions, held in Viterbo, Italy, from 5 to 7 April 2004. Before the meeting, the Secretariat liaised with the representatives of the other Rio Conventions to prepare the background documents and to update the website. The Secretariat also undertook the distribution among Parties of a questionnaire related to the implementation of synergies at the national level. During the event, the Executive Secretary presented a welcome statement, and a representative of the Secretariat made a presentation on the role of the Convention on Biological Diversity in promoting synergies. As a follow up to the meeting the Secretariat is collecting the responses to the questionnaire, in order to prepare a document on the implementation of synergies at a national level.

(c) Preparation of the International Conference on Biodiversity (ICB)

165. The Secretariat participated in the meeting of the Steering Committee for the International Conference on Biodiversity (ICB) on 1 and 2 June 2004 in Paris, and contributed to the preparations of the Conference, that will be held from 24 – 28 January 2005 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. The Secretariat proposed to target not only the scientific community, but to seek active participation of relevant

sectors and indigenous and local communities; the Secretariat also proposed organizing a series of three workshops/round tables on the 2010 target. A proposal has been prepared and sent to relevant partners.

166. In the margins of the Steering Committee meeting for the ICB, the Secretariat held bilateral meetings with the Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP), the Liaison group with CITES, MS, WHS and the Ramsar Convention, the Director of the WHC, the Office Internationale des Epizooties (OIE) and informal meetings with the CCD, DIVERSITAS, Institut Français de la Biodiversité, IPGRI, the European Community, the United Kingdom and the Musée de l'Histoire Naturelle.

(d) Cooperation with Intercooperation Switzerland

167. The Secretariat participated in the Interlaken Workshop on decentralization in forestry, that took place from 26 to 30 April 2004 in Interlaken, Switzerland. The workshop was organized by Switzerland and Indonesia, and CIFOR provided scientific support for the workshop. The goal of the workshop was to explore the lessons learnt from countries at different stages of decentralization, and to improve local participation in sustainable forest management and the implementation of national forest programmes. The Secretariat chaired a working group on maintaining ecosystem functions. The documents for the meeting and the unedited draft report are available at the web-site of Intercooperation: www.intercooperation.ch.

(e) Collaboration with the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

168. The Secretariat prepared a short statement for inclusion in publications celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the CMS. The statement stresses the long-standing cooperation between the two conventions and their synergies.

(f) Collaboration with the Ramsar Convention

169. The Secretariat of the CBD met with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention in Montreal on 30 April 2004 and discussed collaboration and further synergies across all programmes of work. The joint work programme with the Ramsar Convention will be up-dated in response to COP7 and reported on to SBSTTA10 (see also under decision VII/4).

(g) Collaboration with the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)

170. The Executive Secretary prepared a statement on how to strengthen farmers involvement in conserving biodiversity, which was presented at the 36th World Farmers Congress held in Washington, USA, 29 May – 4 June 2004. The statement focussed on the significant role farmers already play and opportunities for enhancing that role under the CBD. The statement was well received and was subsequently followed by requests from IFAP for Secretariat staff to assist them in developing biodiversity related policies and an indication that they would seek observer status at future relevant CBD meetings including SBSTTA and COP.

DECISION VII/27: MOUNTAIN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

171. In decision VII/27 the Conference of Parties adopted the programme of work on mountain biological diversity and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake a series of supporting activities geared to facilitating its implementation.

172. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

173. The Secretariat sent letters to relevant international and intergovernmental organizations, conventions, non-governmental organizations inviting them to collaborate in the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity and to provide case studies and best practices for dissemination to the Parties. These organizations were also requested for their views regarding streamlining of activities and for the promotion of synergy in implementing the programme of work.

174. The Secretariat provided inputs to the questionnaire on building a mountain partnership initiative and technical material for display and distribution during the side event on mountain partnership at the margins of CSD 12.

175. The Secretariat reviewed Chapter 27 on Mountain systems of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, provided comments and suggestions, and participated actively in the review workshop of MA held in April 2004 in Montreal.

176. The Secretariat prepared the questions on the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity for the third national reports.

DECISION VII/28: PROTECTED AREAS

177. In decision VII/28, the Conference of the Parties adopted the programme of work on protected areas and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake a series of supporting activities aimed at facilitating its implementation. In the decision, COP established an *ad hoc* open-ended working group on protected areas to support and review implementation of the programme of work and requested the Executive Secretary to make arrangements to convene one meeting prior to COP- 8.

178. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

179. The Secretariat sent letters to relevant international and intergovernmental organizations, conventions, non-governmental organizations and IUCN-WCPA inviting them to collaborate in the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas and to provide case studies, best practices for dissemination to the Parties.

180. The Secretariat sent draft Host Government Agreements (HGA) to the Government of Italy for the first meeting of the ad hoc working group on protected areas scheduled to take place from 18-22 April 2005, and to the Government of Guatemala for the second meeting from 28 November to 2 December 2005, for consideration and signature. The draft provisional agenda for the meetings was also prepared.

181. The Secretariat prepared an information document entitled “ The outcomes of the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity relating to guidance on establishment of Protected Areas “ for the meeting of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol (SPAW Protocol) for the Caribbean region of the Cartagena Convention in April 2004.

182. The Secretariat provided inputs concerning the priority themes of the programme of work on protected areas for the UNDP-GEF SGP Community Management of Protected areas Conservation Project meeting held in Mexico in June 2004.

183. The Secretariat reviewed Chapter 4 - Biodiversity -Volume 3 Responses and Assessment of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, provided comments /suggestions and participated actively in the review workshop of MA.

184. The Secretariat participated in the Steering Committee meeting of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) held in Finland from 17 to 19 June 2004. The WCPA Steering Committee adopted the implementation of the CBD programme of work on protected areas as one of the main goals and objectives of its strategic plan.

DECISION VII/30: STRATEGIC PLAN: FUTURE EVALUATION OF PROGRESS

185. In decision VII/30, the Conference of the Parties adopted a framework to enhance the evaluation of achievements and progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The framework includes (i) focal areas, (ii) goals and sub-targets to facilitate coherence among the programmes of work, and to provide a flexible framework for national targets and (iii) indicators for assessing progress towards, and communicating the 2010 target at the global level.

186. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Indicators

187. The Executive Secretary invited relevant organizations to nominate experts and established task forces to develop the indicators adopted for immediate testing and to develop/identify priority indicators that require further work. The task forces have begun to review documents prepared by the Secretariat on each indicator before they will be subjected to peer review and subsequently be considered by an AHTEG.

188. A website on the 2010 target has been prepared. It also contains the discussion forum for the work of the task forces. A brochure summarizing the main elements of decision VII/30 is under preparation.

(b) Outcome-oriented targets

189. The Secretariat has begun to revise draft documents on the integration of outcome-oriented targets into the programmes of work on inland water biodiversity and marine and coastal biodiversity. These will be reviewed through an email forum established under the website on the 2010 target and, funds permitting, by an expert meeting tentatively scheduled to meet back-to-back with the AHTEG on indicators (25-27 October 2004).

(c) Preparation of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

190. A revised outline for the second edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook has been prepared in line with decision VII/30. It is envisaged that the GBO will incorporate the on-going work of the 2010 indicator task forces, as well as the recommendations of the London Meeting on the 2010 target, and the on-going efforts to address biodiversity and its potential contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. A detailed production plan for the GBO-2 report has also been prepared corresponding to the timeframes developed for the 2010 indicator task forces mentioned in paragraph 3 above.

191. The quality and scope of GBO-2 and the efforts required to elaborate the first draft version will of necessity entail substantial costs for which COP-7 did not make the necessary budgetary allocations. The Secretariat together with other partners will therefore endeavour to leverage the necessary funding support in order for the report to be published in sufficient quantities for distribution to and use by the Parties and other partners; make a significant contribution to the reporting processes on the 2010 target; the Millennium Development Goals, and also inform the Parties on the status of implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan.

(d) Meetings

192. The Secretariat has presented the framework for evaluation of progress, adopted at COP-7, at relevant meetings including the World Botanic Gardens Congress (Barcelona, 18 April 2004), the GEF Council (New York, 19 May 2004), and an EU meeting on biodiversity (Malahide, Ireland, 25 May 2004).

193. An AHTEG, for which funding has been pledged by the Netherlands and the USA, has been tentatively scheduled to meet from 19 to 22 October 2004 in Montreal. The AHTEG will review the use of indicators adopted for immediate testing and develop those indicators requiring further work. The AHTEG will also consider elements that may be relevant to the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-2).

194. A notification inviting Parties and organizations to nominate participants for the AHTEG has been sent out. Nominated experts can participate in the development and review of the documents on indicators, whether or not they will be selected for the AHTEG.

195. A meeting was held with UNEP-WCMC from 8 to 11 June 2004 to review progress made on the implementation of decision VII/30 and to discuss ways in which UNEP-WCMC can contribute to this process.

DECISION VII/31: THE MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES UP TO 2010

196. Decision VII/31 on the multi-year programme of work of the Convention up to 2010, specifies that the programme of work on biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands will be under in-depth review at the eighth meeting of the COP and at a preceding meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). Preparations for the in-depth review are reported on under decision VII/2.

197. The same decision specifies that the programme of work on GTI will be under in-depth review at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and at a preceding meeting of SBSTTA. Preparations for the in-depth review are reported on under decision VII/9.

DECISION VII/32: MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

198. As a follow-up to decision VII/32 on the Millennium Development Goals, and in particular paragraph 7, in which the COP requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with FAO and IPGRI, to undertake the necessary consultations and bring forward options for consideration by the eighth meeting of the COP for a cross-cutting initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition, a meeting between the Secretariat and IPGRI was held in June 2004. These discussions are being pursued in the context of the human well-being indicator to be developed in accordance with decision VII/30 and it is expected that further discussions will be held during the International Biodiversity Conference in Paris in January 2005. It is envisaged that a concrete proposal for the initiative could be presented to the Standing Committee on Food and Nutrition, which will meet in Brazil in March 2005.

SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND LEGAL MATTERS

DECISION VI/13 AND DECISION VII/12 ON SUSTAINABLE USE AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE

199. Following up on decision VII/12, the Secretariat initiated work towards the organization of a series of four technical experts workshops on ecosystem services assessment, financial costs and benefits associated with conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable use of biological resources.

DECISION VI/14 AND DECISION VII/14 ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND TOURISM

200. In response to decision VII/14, the Secretariat initiated work for the preparation of a user's manual, checklists and a streamlined and user-friendly core set of guidelines. In particular, the Secretariat has contacted potential donors to seek financial assistance for the preparation of the above-mentioned manual. In addition, in response to paragraph 9 of the same decision, the Secretariat has informed relevant organizations, to take the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development into account in undertaking their activities, to provide technical and financial assistance in the implementation of the Guidelines and pay due regard to them when preparing, approving and funding tourism development projects having potential implications on biological diversity. To this end, the guidelines were forwarded to financing agencies, regional development banks and developers.

201. With the financial assistance of the Government of Germany, the Secretariat published a booklet in English, Spanish and French containing the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development.

202. The Secretariat continues to assist and collaborate with international organizations and Parties in the implementation of the draft CBD guidelines on biodiversity and tourism development. In particular, the Secretariat is following a research project pertaining to the implementation of the guidelines at the national level in Bulgaria. The outcome of a pilot project for the implementation of the CBD guidelines in Panama, focusing on the sustainable use of the marine resources of Kuna Yala indigenous population, has been posted on the CBD website

DECISION VII/31 ON ISLAND BIODIVERSITY

203. The Secretariat continued the preparatory work for organization of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity, which will take place in the Canary Islands from 6 to 10 September 2004. In particular, the Secretariat:

- (i) completed the documentation for the meeting which is now available in the CBD website;
- (ii) issued a notification 2004-043, dated 28 May 2004, indicating the date of the meeting and containing the list of selected experts;
- (iii) is finalizing the Memorandum of understanding with the Government of Spain on the hosting of the meeting.

204. The Secretariat also contacted the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, on 23 June 2004, to host a side-event during the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to be held in Mauritius, from 10 to 14 January 2005.

205. The Secretariat continues to participate in the meetings of the Inter Agency Task Force on Mauritius 2004 through conference calls which is coordinated by the SIDS Unit in UN DESA, New York.

DECISION VI/10 AND DECISION VII/16 ON ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS

206. The Secretariat participated in the Third Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, which took place from 10 to 21 May 2004 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and delivered a statement in the plenary as well as a presentation during a side event. The Secretariat also circulated a brochure of the Akwe: Kon Guidelines on cultural, social and environmental impact assessment for proposed developments on sacred sites and lands and waters traditionally occupied by indigenous and local communities.

207. The Secretariat delivered a presentation in a workshop for indigenous women on Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge on 6 May 2004, New York. The workshop was organized by the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network (IWBN), an open network of Indigenous women interested environmental issues, initiated in 1998 at the 4th Conference of the Parties of CBD, held in Bratislava, Slovakia.

208. In response to decision VII/16, the Executive Secretary prepared notification 2004-039, issued on 17 May 2004, providing further details on the implementation of such decision and inviting Parties and Governments to contribute to the implementation of the work programme on Article 8 (j) and related provisions of the Convention. To this end, the Executive Secretary is seeking contributions by Parties and Governments on a number of issues in connection with the preparatory work for the next meeting of the Working Group, which should be communicated to the Executive Secretary no later than 31 May 2005. Such issues include: (i) potential socio-economic impacts of Genetic Use Restriction Technologies (GURTs) on indigenous and local communities; (ii) composite report on the status and trends regarding the knowledge, innovation and practices of indigenous and local communities; (iii) participatory mechanisms for indigenous and local communities; (iv) *sui generis* systems for the protection of traditional knowledge;

and (v) recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues: elements for an ethical code of conduct to ensure respect for the cultural and intellectual heritage of indigenous and local communities.

209. The Executive Secretary also prepared notification 2004-049, issued on 4 June 2004, inviting relevant organizations, indigenous and local communities to contribute to the implementation of the work programme on Article 8 (j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity and, in particular, to the preparatory work for the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions. Contributions from relevant organization, indigenous and local communities are expected to be received no later than 31 May 2005.

210. In decision VII/16 E on Article 8(j) and related provisions, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to create an advisory group/steering committee in which indigenous and local communities will be represented to assist in the completion of the composite report and undertake a peer review of the revised version, in consultation with indigenous peoples and local community organizations that have participated in the work on the Convention. In response to this decision, the Executive Secretary issued notification 2004-053, inviting Parties and Governments to nominate experts, including experts from indigenous and local communities, for the advisory group/steering committee as soon as possible but no later than 31 August 2004. The Executive Secretary will select members of the advisory group/steering committee from among the nominations received on the basis of expertise, gender balance and equitable geographic distribution, taking into account the nature of the mandate of the group.

211. The Secretariat has initiated work to organize a workshop on cultural, environmental and social impact assessments aimed at further strengthening the understanding of the link between environment and cultural diversity, based on the "Akwé Kon Guidelines", to be held in the last quarter of 2004, at a venue to be determined and subject to the availability of funds. In particular, the Secretariat has contacted relevant agencies to inquire about their interest in becoming active partners by providing financial and technical support to this initiative. The workshop would bring together approximately 40 experts, including a geographically-balanced representation of indigenous and local communities. The report of the workshop would be submitted to the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8 (j), to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as well as other bodies as appropriate. The detailed agenda of the meeting and the background documentation would be developed in collaboration with partner agencies.

DECISION VI/11 AND DECISION VII/17 ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

212. Decision VII/17 takes note of the preparations made by the Executive Secretary for the meeting of the group of legal and technical experts on liability and redress in the context of paragraph 2 of Article 14 of the Convention and renews its request to the Executive Secretary (decision VI/11) to convene the group. The decision also urges Parties and Governments to make the necessary voluntary financial contributions to facilitate the convening of the group.

DECISION VI/15 AND DECISION VII/18 ON INCENTIVE MEASURES

213. The Secretariat finalized a notification to Parties, as well as a letter to relevant international organizations, conveying the invitation to contribute to the implementation of the activities as outlined in decision VII/18, and initiated the gathering and analysis of pertinent information for the preparation of documents as requested by decision VII/18.

214. The Secretariat participated in a meeting of the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment in Special (negotiating) Session, on 19 April 2004, in Geneva. The purpose of this participation was to observe negotiations on paragraph 31 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration with a view to assess the consequences for CBD work, and to brief participants on decisions of COP-7 and COP/MOP 1 of relevance to the work of the CTE in Special Session.

215. Further to a request expressed by delegates at this meeting, the Secretariat prepared a written submission which provides a comprehensive overview of the decisions of the seventh meeting of the

Conference of the Parties and the first meeting of the Parties to the Protocol that are of relevance to the WTO. This note was circulated at the meeting of the CTE in Regular Session, on 21 June 2001, as document WT/CTE/W/235.

216. The Secretariat participated in an Expert Workshop on “Promoting CITES-CBD cooperation and synergy”, which took place at the International Academy for Nature Conservation, Island of Vilm, Germany 20-24 April 2004. The workshop was organized by TRAFFIC, Flora and Fauna International, IUCN – The World Conservation Union, the German Bundesamt fuer Naturschutz, and GTZ, with input and support by the CBD and CITES Secretariats as well as UNEP. The purpose was to brief participants on existing cooperation between CITES and CBD, including on incentive measures, as well as on pertinent decisions of COP-7, with a view to contributing to the objectives of the meeting: to take stock of existing cooperative activities between CBD and CITES and to identify most important areas of synergy as well as mechanisms by which such synergy could be developed or improved.

217. The Secretariat participated in the eighteenth meeting of the OECD Working Group on Economic Aspects of Biodiversity, which was held in Paris from 24 – 25 May 2004. The objective of the participation consisted in briefing delegates on pertinent outcomes of COP-7 and COP MOP 1 of relevance to the group and OECD, with a view to identifying and promoting synergies with the work programme of the group up to 2006.

DECISION VI/24 AND DECISION VII/19 ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING AS RELATED TO GENETIC RESOURCES

218. As a follow-up to COP VII, three notifications were prepared and sent out respectively to CBD National Focal Points, all relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and indigenous and local community representatives and relevant stakeholders. These are invited to take specific actions to contribute to preparatory work for the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and for the dissemination of information in accordance with decision VII/19 on access and benefit-sharing. The notifications were posted on the CBD website and the webpages covering access and benefit-sharing issues updated to reflect COP VII outcomes.

219. The Secretariat also initiated preparations for the third meeting of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, to be held tentatively from 21 to 25 February 2004, in Thailand. A draft list of documents, a draft agenda and annotated agenda were prepared for the meeting. These were sent out to Bureau members for their comments and revised accordingly. Work was initiated on background documentation for the meeting.

DECISION VI/27B AND DECISION VII/33 ON OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

220. The Secretariat continued to review COP decisions with a view to making proposals regarding their retirement or consolidation pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 of the decision.

221. The Secretariat prepared and transmitted to Parties Notification 2004-042 seeking views regarding options for setting priorities during COP meetings pursuant to paragraph 9 of the decision.

222. The Secretariat is continuing to review the administrative arrangements between UNEP and the SCBD pursuant to paragraph 6 of the decision with a view to proposing changes for the consideration of the Executive Director UNEP.

DECISION VII/29: TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION

223. The Secretariat finalized a notification to Parties, as well as a letter to relevant international organization, conveying the invitation to contribute to the implementation of relevant activities as outlined in the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation adopted by decision VII/29. The Secretariat continued to programme its activities based on internal and external consultations, and embarked on the gathering and analysis of pertinent information for the preparation of documents as requested by decision VII/29.

BIOSAFETY

DECISION VI/1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

The Biosafety Protocol

224. Following the conclusion of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP/1) the activities of the Secretariat have focused on the implementation of the decisions adopted by COP-MOP/1. These activities include, among others, ensuring timely preparations for the various inter-sessional meetings approved by COP-MOP/1 to take place prior to COP-MOP/2. Notifications were sent to Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations requesting submission of views on a number of issues to be considered by the inter-sessional meetings and by COP-MOP/2. During the reporting period, the Secretariat has focused, on a priority basis, on the preparations of the following meetings which will take place in the remaining months of this calendar year: the Technical Group of Experts on Liability and Redress which will meet on 18-20 October 2004 in Montreal; the Workshop on capacity building and exchange of information on implementation of Article 18.2 of the Protocol which will be held on 8-10 November 2004 in Bonn, Germany. The Secretariat is also collaborating with the Government of Switzerland in organizing the coordination meeting for representatives of academic institutions actively involved in education and training in biosafety, which will take place on 4-6 October 2004 in Geneva.

225. Following the approval by COP-MOP/1 of the transition of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) from its pilot phase to a fully operational phase, (decision BS-I/3), the latter was launched on 3 April 2004. The website of the BCH (bch@biodiv.org) has now been revised and enhanced to include new developments such as: improved “search facilities” for retrieving information, a “search engine” with indexing capabilities, improved “help facilities” to assist users in finding information, as well as several new links to other relevant biosafety information resources.

226. During the reporting period, the Secretariat also attended a number of meetings organized by organizations whose work is of relevance to the implementation of the biosafety programme of work, especially with regard to information sharing and capacity building activities.

227. As of 30 June 2004, 100 Parties to the CBD had acceded to or ratified the Protocol. The list of these Parties is available on the website of the Secretariat and is updated each time the Secretariat is notified by the Depository of a new deposit of instrument of ratification/accession.

IMPLEMENTATION AND OUTREACH

DECISION VII/21 ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES

228. A notification containing COP 7 and MOP 1 decisions, specifically, the ones of particular interest to funding institutions and development agencies as well as other donors was sent to donors on 27 April 2004.

229. The contents of the Interactive Info-bulletin on Financing for Biological Diversity have been expanded in response to the guidance from the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including an addition of an entry on financial measures for supporting national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

230. The Secretariat responded to requests concerning funding/information from the following Parties and organizations:

Algeria: request for a grant and fellowship on deforestation and desertification in semi arid land

Bangladesh: Request for Funding for PhD Research

Cuba: Request for financial support to attend a course in Ottawa, Canada

Egypt: Desert fungi project proposal

France: Funding for study in the human genetic and immunopathology center

Gambia: Request for scholarship to undertake biological diversity course

Global: Request for information on obtaining funding for zoological taxonomy and taxonomic identification, validation, authentication and quality assurance

Greece: Funding opportunities for genetic and phenotypic variability of Sorghum halepense populations

Guatemala: Request for funds for approved activities of the CBD, and the way to obtain support for projects

India: "Establishment of the Drought Prevention and Mitigation Centre (DPMC)" in Marathwada region

Indonesia: Request for a meeting with SCBD staff on 16 June 2004 with respect to funding

Israel: Request for project financing

Kazakhstan: Information concerning national capacity assessments

Moldova: Request for a financial contribution to organize a seminar to celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity

Nepal: Request for a poster, logo, financial support to celebrate the International Biodiversity Day

Nigeria: Financial support for local non-governmental organization to preserve forests

Norway (International Peace Research Institute): Land Rights and the Use of Forest Resources in Rural China

Organization of American States: Request for Information regarding Nicaragua's reporting and funding information

Regional (Pacific): Request for SCBD partnership in SPREP NCSA process

Thailand: Request for financial support for the Expert Meeting on Traditional Forest Related Knowledge (TFRK) and the Implementation of Related International Commitments

Togo: Request for funding for their project on protected areas

Zimbabwe: Request for Funding for newsletters

231. The Secretariat sent a notification to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) concerning decisions from the seventh meeting of the COP on 27 April 2004, and made comments on the document "Rio markers - Note to DAC Working Party on Statistics" drafted by the OECD Secretariat proposing to continue data collection in the Credit Reporting System. The OECD Secretariat advised that at its meeting from 10-11 June 2004, the DAC Working Party on Statistics (WP-STAT) approved the proposal to incorporate the Rio markers in CRS reporting for a trial period of three years.

232. The OECD Secretariat also advised that the DAC Network on Environment and Development Co-operation (ENVIRONET) would have a meeting from 1-2 July. The meeting will discuss:

Mainstreaming Environment in Development Co-operation agencies in the Wake of WSSD; Poverty-Environment Linkages; Instruments for Policy Integration and Sustainable Development, Harmonization and Alignment; Global Environmental Conventions: Policy Work and Statistical Work; Conflict and Environment: Proposed work by DAC Informal Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation.

233. The Secretariat is studying the Debtor Reporting System of the World Bank in order to enhance its global monitoring function of financial support to biodiversity in addition to its ongoing collaboration with the OECD Secretariat.

234. The president of the International Fund for Agricultural Development expressed its wish to enhance cooperation with the Convention. The Secretariat welcomed the message and has identified areas of cooperation, including using a memorandum of cooperation to encourage and help IFAD to (i) mainstream biodiversity into its operational policy and projects and (ii) develop GEF proposals that are more responsive to CBD COP guidance.

235. The Secretariat was invited to participate in the development of the new Environment Policy consultation process of the Inter-American Development Bank, and suggested several ways of making more mutual supportiveness of the Bank and the Convention.

236. The European Centre for Nature Conservation informed the Secretariat of its interest to continue to work on the Global Initiative on Banking, Business and Biodiversity within the regional context following COP decision VII/21. It already prepared a paper to use as a basis for the discussion on financing the Action Plans for the Pan European Biological and Landscape Strategy.

237. Following COP-7 decision, the format for reporting on implementation of Articles 20 and 21 was revised and finalized in order to enable countries to provide better funding information.

238. Following COP decision VII/30, a funding indicator paper was prepared and discussed with experts from the World Conservation and Monitoring Center (UNEP). The document was finalized for wider consultation being organized by the 2010 biodiversity indicator group.

239. To assist SBSTTA 10 in its consideration of outcome-oriented targets for the forest work programme, the Secretariat prepared specific subtargets and technical rationales with respect to financing.

240. Input was provided to the document on the status and trends of island biodiversity in terms of financial mechanism and financial resources. The proposed draft gave a brief on funding status and identified several areas of action by the relevant subsidiary bodies and subsequently the Conference of the Parties.

241. The website on financial resources has been updated to reflect new developments under the Convention. In particular, it has incorporated new decisions and guidance from the seventh meeting of the COP.

DECISION VII/20: FURTHER GUIDANCE TO THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM

DECISION VII/22: ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE THIRD REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM

242. A notification was sent to the GEF Secretariat on 22 April 2004 which contained three decisions of direct relevance to the financial mechanism (decisions VII/20, VII/21 and VII/21) as well as relevant provisions of other decisions adopted by the seventh meeting of the COP.

243. The GEF Secretariat once again made a request to the Convention Secretariat for a list of countries that the Secretariat deems eligible for funding under the financial mechanism. The Secretariat informed them that only the Conference of the Parties can determine such a list of countries, and provided the GEF Secretariat with a list of Parties to the Convention and its Biosafety Protocol. The Secretariat also advised that the Memorandum of Understanding between the GEF Council and the COP should be consulted for the purpose.

244. Upon request, the Convention Secretariat provided comments on the Council document "GEF Institutional Relations" elaborating areas of COP guidance where the Secretariat feels that new and additional efforts may be required. The document was later issued as GEF/C.23/6 and GEF/C.23/6.Add.1 for the 23rd meeting of the GEF Council.

245. The Executive Secretary attended the 23rd GEF Council meeting from 19-21 May 2004, and made a statement introducing further guidance from the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. His statement was issued as GEF/C.23/CRP. The Executive Secretary also organized a side-event on the 2010 biodiversity target for participants of financial institutions and development agencies as well as other donors. This is the first time that a convention for which the GEF serves as the financial mechanism has organized such an outreach side-event during the meeting of the GEF Council.

246. The Secretariat attended the NGO-GEF Consultation and a technical briefing on the Performance Based Allocation Framework held on 18 May 2004. Subsequent to the 23rd GEF Council meeting, the Secretariat updated its database on the GEF Council decisions.

247. An Executive GEFOP meeting was organized by the GEF Secretariat on 13 April 2004. The meeting reviewed all project submissions from the three implementing agencies and agreed that all the submissions would be forwarded to the 23rd GEF Council meeting for its consideration and approval. The meeting also discussed how to best respond to internal and external comments. The Secretariat also sent written comments suggesting that the cover note of the work programme should identify its responsiveness to the guidance from conventions noting that the biodiversity focal area lags behind the climate change focal area.

248. The Secretariat received and reviewed the following enabling activity proposals:
National Capacity Needs Self Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management from Afghanistan; Argentina; Bangladesh; Bolivia; Burundi; Cook Island; Guyana; Guatemala; Korea (DPR); Maldives; Mozambique; Nauru; Panama; Sao Tome y Principe; Senegal; Timor-Leste; Trinidad and Tobago; Vanuatu, and Venezuela.
Albania; Assessment of capacity building needs to address the priorities of the BSAP - Phase II
Fiji; Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activity, and Uzbekistan: Assessment of Priority National Capacity Development Needs for Implementation of the BSAP and Establishment of CHM Structures

249. The Secretariat received and reviewed the following PDF proposals or pipeline entry:
Bangladesh: In Situ Conservation of Agricultural Biodiversity in Bangladesh (PDF A)
Bhutan: Integrated Livestock and Crop Conservation Program (PDF A)

Botswana: Building Local Capacity for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Okavango Delta (Pipeline 16)
Colombia: Colombian National Protected Areas Conservation Trust Fund (Pipeline, PDF B)
Ethiopia: Community Based Integrated National Resources Management: Improving Ecosystem Integrity and Rural Livelihoods (PDF Block B)
Ghana: Conserving Globally Significant Biodiversity in Cocoa Production Landscapes in West Africa (PDF B)
Global: Supporting Action to Incorporate Sound Ecosystem Management in Development Planning (PDF A)
Global: GEF Corporate Programme on Targeted Medium Size Projects (Pipeline 17)
Global: Strengthening Capacity to Generate, Disseminate and Adopt Good Practices for BD Conservation (PDF B)
Global: Piloting Climate Change Adaptation to Protect Human Health (Pipeline 17, PDF B)
India: Sustainable Bamboo Resource Management to combat land degradation in Northeastern India (PDF B)
Namibia: Strengthening Namibia's System of National Protected Areas (Pipeline 16)
Regional (Costa Rica and Panama): Sustainable Environmental Management for the Sixaola River Basin (Pipeline)
Ukraine: Conserving globally significant biodiversity and mitigating/reducing environmental risk in Ukraine's Carpathian region (PDF A)
Uruguay: Strengthening Capacities for the Implementation of a National Protected Areas System in Uruguay (Pipeline 17)

250. The Secretariat received and reviewed the following medium-sized project proposals:

Bulgaria: Conservation, Restoration and Management of Lake Pomorie
Czech Republic: Integrated Ecosystem Management in Northern Bohemia
Global (Brazil, Mexico, Cameroon): Improved certification schemes for sustainable tropical forest management
Moldova: Ecological Network Development in Mid-Prut River Catchment
Nicaragua: Conservation of Dry Forest and Coastal Biodiversity of the Pacific South of Nicaragua through Building Private-Public Partnerships
Peru: Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Cotahuasi Basin
Regional: Strengthening the Network of Training Centers for Protected Area Management through Demonstration of a Tested Approach
Regional: Capacity-building Programme for the Development of Sub-Regional Environmental Action Plans of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).
Tajikistan: Dashtidzhum Biodiversity Conservation

251. The Secretariat received and reviewed the following full project proposals:

Mozambique: Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Sustainable Tourism Development Project

252. Based on the guidelines contained in decision VII/22, the Secretariat developed an outline for implementing the decision specifying steps to be taken by the Secretariat with deadlines. The outline was communicated to the GEF Secretariat for comments. The Secretariat then officially announced its call for tenders welcoming all independent experienced evaluators to submit their proposals before the end of September 2004. Meanwhile, the Secretariat sent a notification to Parties and relevant stakeholders and a reminder to potential donors for raising funds for purposes of the third review of the financial mechanism.

253. Consultations were undertaken with the Global Environment Facility regarding how to facilitate funding for the preparation of the third national report under the Convention. Relevant recommendations

had been included in the document submitted to the 23rd session of the Council of the Global Environment Facility, which took note of these recommendations in its relevant decision.

DECISION VI/18 SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND THE CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM

Clearing-house Mechanism

254. During the period under review the CHM participated in the following meetings and undertook the following activities:

- meeting organized by the CHM National Focal Point of Canada to discuss different initiatives such as the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN), The Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), the North American Biodiversity Information Network (NABIN), among others;
- Seventh Meeting of the Environmental Management Group, held in New York, United States on 20 April 2004;
- The CHM was designated as the focal point for the Issue Management Group of the Environmental Management Group and developed a restricted website and electronic collaborative spaces to support its work and communication.
- developed information exchange systems to assist in making information interoperable among the Rio Conventions;
- developed a web-based portal in support of the Forest Biodiversity programme of work;
- developed a web-based portal in support of the Alien Species programme of Work;
- completed the first phase of the CBD website re-design;
- re-classified the information centre collection, re-catalogued the collection to adhere to library standards, and is eliminating the backlog;
- continues to participate in the development of the Pilot Phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House, in response to Article 20(1) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

VI/19 COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

255. Work continued on the publication commemorating the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the CBD with the issuing of invitations to external authors to provide contributions. To date a number of have already indicated their willingness to contribute and provide drafts by the deadline of mid July. The publication will be issued in November 2004.

256. Publication of the decisions of the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the first meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to

the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety continued, with final text revisions sent to the designers for final layout. The final product is expected to be issued in late July.

257 A booklet which reproduces the Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines on the conduct of cultural environmental and social impact assessments was published in English, French and Spanish thanks to the generous financial support of the Ministry of Indian and Northern Affairs of the Government of Canada. The cover photo for the publication was generously donated by the Kitsoo Xai'xais First Nation of British Columbia Canada. The booklet was distributed at the Third session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

258 The design for the booklet which reproduces the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development from the annex to Decision VII/14 was finalized and sent for printing. The booklet, part of the CBD Guidelines series, will be published in English, French and Spanish in time to be distributed at the International Dialogue on Tourism, Cultural Diversity and Sustainable Development, in Barcelona Spain. Funding for the publication was due to the generous donation of the Government of Germany.

259. The first draft of revisions to the 3rd edition of the Handbook of the Convention on Biological Diversity were completed and the Secretariat is proceeding with the first round of editing on the document. The Handbook will be issued in November 2004.

260. International Biodiversity Day 2004 (IBD 2004) was commemorated on 22 May 2004 around the world and at the Secretariat, as well as during the preceding week. This year's theme: Biodiversity: Food, Water and Health for All was represented in a poster designed by the Secretariat and distributed to all national focal points. Messages of congratulations came from a number of sources including the Secretary General, UNEP-WCMC, CITES, IUCN and IPGRI. Countries around the world marked the occasion with a variety of events, some of which are posted on the website of the Secretariat.

261. On 21 May, the Executive Secretary hosted a *vin d'honneur* in Montreal to mark the celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity and the 10th anniversary year of entry into force of the Convention. Guests included the Minister of Industry and Minister responsible for Regional Economic Development, the Honourable Lucienne Robillard, Mme Dida Berku, representing the Mayor of Montreal, representatives of the federal government, Québec and Montréal, the Consular Corps, international organizations and NGOs based in Montreal, universities and the Secretariat staff. In his Opening Remarks, Mr. Zedan paid special tribute to Dr. John Herity and his unflagging commitment to the goals of the CBD. Dr. Herity, who has led the Biodiversity Office of Environment Canada since 1991, was recently appointed Director of the IUCN Canada Office. The Honourable Lucienne Robillard, Minister of Trade and Minister responsible for Regional Economic Development announced on behalf of the Government of Canada a long-term commitment of US \$8 million over the next ten years in support of the operations of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Following the Minister's announcement, Mr. Zedan offered thanks to Mme Robillard and the Government of Canada. The representatives of the City of Montreal and Montreal International also hailed the announcement.

262. As part of IDB 2004 and following the successful introduction last year of an outreach programme to schools in the Montreal area, the programme was expanded this year to include selected college and university-level students and their professors. Secretariat staff volunteers gave presentations tailored to the age group and interests of the audience, always including a showing of the "Worldwide Web of Life" video and a discussion of the 2004 Theme and Poster. The Secretariat prepared a generic text from which presenters might pick facts and text to incorporate in their own presentations. PowerPoint presentations on individual topics or work programmes of the CBD were also prepared.

DECISION VI/25 and VII/25 NATIONAL REPORTING

263. By the end of June 2004, the Secretariat had received a total of 109 second national reports, 39 thematic reports on mountain ecosystems, 55 thematic reports on protected areas and 26 thematic reports on transfer of technology and technology cooperation. All the reports received have been posted on the website of the Convention and loaded into the analytic tool developed for thematic reports.

264. In addition, as of 30 June 2004 the Secretariat had also received 138 first national reports and 111 Parties had submitted their national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

265. As requested in decision VII/25, the Secretariat has been further developing the guidelines for the third national report, with due consideration to the requirements contained in paragraph 3 of decisions VI/25 and VII/25 as well as the views expressed by Parties at COP 7 and other relevant meetings. The guidelines for the third national report are to be finalized and distributed to Parties in July 2004, as required in paragraph 2 of decision VII/25.

266. In addition to incorporating questions based on COP 7 decisions, a number of changes have been introduced to the guidelines for the third national report to address the concerns such as reporting burden and adequacy of information contained in national reports, and more importantly, to meet the requirements contained in paragraph 3 of decisions VI/25 and VII/25. It should be noted that an attempt is made to make a shift from the process-oriented approach to the outcome-oriented approach for the reporting under the Convention.

267. The Secretariat continues to participate in the process of streamlining and harmonizing national reporting under the biodiversity-related conventions. Inputs were provided to the summary report prepared by UNEP-WCMC on the results of the four pilot projects which were undertaken for this purpose respectively in Ghana, Indonesia, Panama and Seychelles. Recommendations were also provided on how to undertake further work in this regard.

ANNEX I

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

I Personnel Arrangements

1. During the reporting period, the Secretariat had 33 regularized Professional staff members and 23 regularized General Service staff members funded from the core budget. There were 6 vacant posts, (3 professional and 3 general service) for which recruitment/selection is in progress. Additionally, 5 professional posts and 5 General Service posts were funded from other sources. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Appendix 1 and Annex II respectively).

II Contributions and Funds

3. During the second quarter of 2004, one new pledge of additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**) was made. A pledge of US\$75,000 was received from the Government of the United States of America in support of activities in alien invasive species, indicators and taxonomy. Additionally, a previous pledge from the Government of the United Kingdom for the roster of experts on Biosafety, was transferred from the BF Trust Fund (which has been discontinued) to the BE Trust Fund in support of the ad hoc technical expert meeting on liability and redress in the context of the Biosafety Protocol.

4. For 2004 a total of US\$727,694 has been pledged to the BE Trust Fund, of which US\$401,018 or 55.1% has been collected as at 30 June 2004. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BE Trust Fund are reflected in Annex III.

5. With regard to the General Trust Fund for the Convention (**BY Trust Fund**), as at 30 June 2004 the total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2003 and prior years amounted to US\$650,164. The total amount pledged for the BY Trust Fund in 2004 is US\$7,741,394. Of this amount, US\$5,821,374 or 75% has been received. Additionally, US\$1,100,000 has been pledged as additional contributions to the BY Trust Fund, and US\$599,620 has been collected in 2004 for prior years. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2004 amounts to US\$3,020,020. Total unpaid pledges for 2004 and prior years are therefore US\$3,670,184. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BY Trust Fund are reflected in Annex V.

6. As at 30 June 2004 a total of US\$133,356 was pledged for 2004 as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Convention process (**BZ Trust Fund**). This sum consists of pledges from Canada (\$28,580); Japan (\$60,000), and Norway (\$44,776).

7. As at 30 June 2004, contributions to the BZ Trust Fund in 2004 amounted to US\$88,580 or 66.4% of the total pledged for 2004. Additionally, \$284,290 was collected for prior years. A total of US\$94,760 remains outstanding for the BZ Trust Fund for 2004 and prior years. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BZ Trust Fund are reflected in Annex IV.

III Accounting and Reporting

Status of Expenditure

9. COP-6 approved a budget of US\$9,924,200 for the BY Trust Fund for 2004. As at 30 June 2004, a total of US\$4,554,468 has so far been spent or committed. This represents 45.9% of the approved amount.

Reimbursement for Services provided to the Secretariat

10. At present eight UNEP staff members, the Chief, Fund Management and Administration, the Administrative Officer, the Finance Officer, the Senior Finance Assistant, the Finance Assistant, the Personnel Assistant, the Conference Assistant and the Information Assistant are funded from the programme support funds (PSC).

Appendix 1
STAFFING TABLE of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
1 April – 30 June 2004

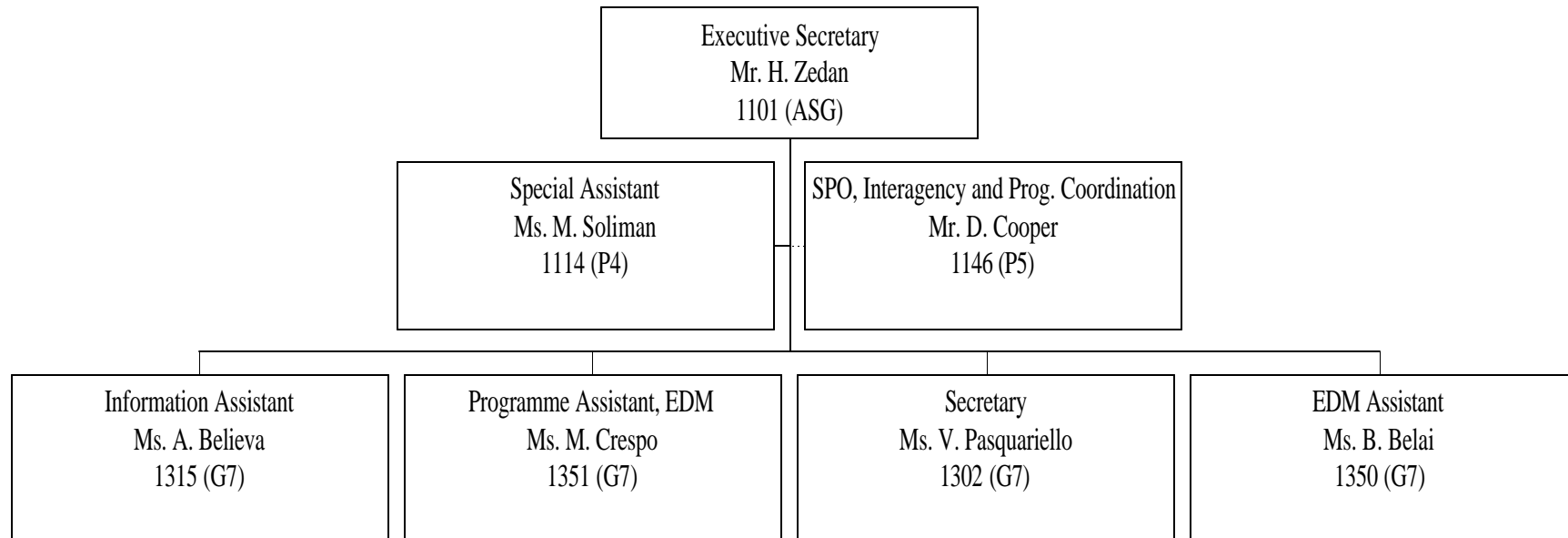
Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1101	ASG	Executive Secretary	Mr. H. Zedan (Regularized)
1102	D1	Principal Officer (SEL)	Mr. O. Jalbert (Regularized)
1103	D1	Principal Officer (STTM)	Mr. K. Mulongoy (Regularized)
1104	P5	Senior Programme Officer (Biosafety)	Ms. C. Sendashonga (Regularized)
1105	D1	Principal Officer (I&O)	Mr. A. Nogueira (Regularized)
1106	P4	Chief, Fund & Admin. (RMCS)	Ms. M. Rattray-Huish- (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1107	P4	Financial Resources & Instruments. PO (I&O)	Mr. Y. Xiang (Regularized)
1108	P4	PO Legal Advice and Support (SEL)	Mr. D.Ogolla (Regularized)
1109	P4	Economist (SEL)	Mr. M. Lehmann (Regularized)
1110	P4	PO Conservation Ecology (STTM)	Mr. M. Guariguata (Regularized)
1113	P4	PO, Clearing House Mechanism (I&O)	Mr. M. Silva (Regularized)
1114	P4	Special Assistant to the ES. (EDM)	Ms. M. Soliman (Regularized)
1115	P4	PO, Indigenous Knowledge (SEL)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1116	P5	PO. Reports & Reviews (I&O)	Mr. K. Kakuyo (Regularized)
1117	P3	Documentation Officer (I&O)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1118	P3	Meetings Services Officer (RMCS)	Mr. A. Yesli (Regularized)
1119	P3	Information Officer (I&O)	Vacant (Post Advertised)
1120	P3	Internet & Elect. Communications (I&O)	Mr. O. De Munck (Regularized)
1121	P4	PO, Jakarta Mandate (STTM)	Ms. M. Vierros (Regularized)
1122	P3	PO, Website Officer (I&O)	Mr. D. Ainsworth (Regularized)
1124	P3	Administrative Officer (RMCS)	Ms. R. Muruthi-Mureithi (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1126	P3	Environmental Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. E. Tamale (Regularized)
1127	P3	Legal Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. W. Damena (Regularized)
1128	P2	Associate Computer Systems Officer (I&O)	Mr. Q. Nguyen (Regularized)
1130	L2	JPO, (BS)	Vacant
1131	P4	PO, Inland Waters (STTM)	Mr. D. Coates (Regularized)
1132	P4	PO, Scientific & Technical Assessments (STTM)	Mr. R. Hoft (Regularized)

Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1133	P3	PO, Access & Benefit Sharing (SEL)	Ms. V. Normand (Regularized)
1134	P3	PO, Scientific, Technical Information (Biosafety)	Ms. K. Galloway-McLean (Regularized)
1135	P5	Editor (RMCS)	Mr. J. Fry (Regularized)
1136	P2	Associate Finance Officer (RMCS)	Ms. T.C. Fon Sing (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1137	P4	Taxonomy, PO (STTM)	Ms. L. Rogo (Regularized)
1139	L2	JPO, Forest (STTM)	Ms. C. Morosi (Regularized) (Post funded by Government of Italy)
1141	P4	PO, Dry and Sub-humid lands (STTM)	Ms. J. Zeidler (Regularized)
1142	P3	PO, Reports (I&O)	Mr. L. Cai (Regularized)
1143	P3	PO, Sustainable Use and Tourism (SEL)	Ms. P. Deda (Regularized)
1144	P4	PO, Legal & Policy Affairs (Biosafety)	Ms. X. Wang (Regularized)
1145	P3	PO, Scientific Assessments (Biosafety)	Mr. R. Hill (Regularized)
1146	P5	SPO, Interagency & Programme Coordination (EDM)	Mr. D. Cooper (Regularized)
1147	P5	SPO, Forest Biodiversity (STTM)	Mr. G. Van Tol (Regularized) (Post funded by Government of the Netherlands)
1148	P4	PO, <i>In-situ</i> and <i>ex-situ</i> conservation (STTM)	Mr. V. Gidda (Regularized)
1149	P3	Computer Information Systems Officer, (I&O)	Mr. P. LeBlond (Regularized)

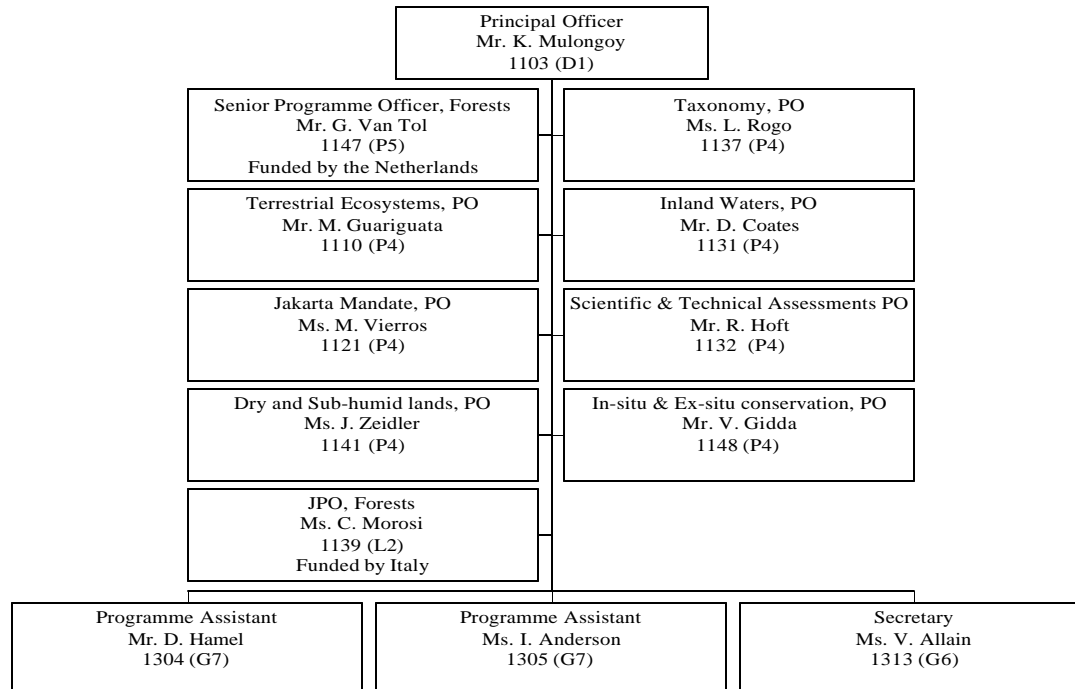
Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1301	G8	Finance Assistant (RMCS)	Mr. M. Reyes (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1302	G7	Senior Secretary to the Executive Secretary (EDM)	Ms. V. Pasquariello (Regularized)
1303	G6	Secretary (SEL)	Ms. F. Velarde (Regularized)
1304	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Mr. D. Hamel (Regularized)
1305	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Ms. I. Anderson (Regularized)
1306	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. S. Meehan (Regularized)
1307	G7	Programme Assistant - (Biosafety)	Ms. D. Stepic (Regularized)
1308	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. M. Chiasson (Regularized)
1309	G7	Programme Assistant - (SEL)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1310	G6	Administrative Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. C. Risch (Regularized). Post funded by

1311	G7	Travel Assistant - (RMCS)	UNEP Ms. R. Rabbath (Regularized)
Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1312	G7	Personnel Assistant (RMCS)	Ms. J. Martinez (Regularized) (post funded by UNEP)
1313	G6	Secretary - (STTM)	Ms. V. Allain (Regularized)
1314	G6	Secretary - (I&O)	Ms. A. Vincent (Regularized)
1315	G7	Information Assistant (EDM)	Ms. A. Beliaeva (Regularized)
1316	G7	Computer Operations Assistant (I&O)	Mr. V. Gopez (Regularized)
1317	G5	Receptionist (RMCS)	Ms. L. Boutin (Regularized)
1318	G4	Messenger/Clerk (RMCS)	Mr. R. Bellido (Regularized)
1319	G6	Secretary (Biosafety)	Ms. J. Huppé (Regularized)
1329	G7	Programme Assistant, CHM (I&O)	Mr. H. Perea (Regularized)
1331	G7	Programme Assistant (SEL)	Ms. G. Dosen (Regularized)
1332	G5	Information Assistant - (CS/I&O)	Ms. M. Harrison (Regularized)
1334	G5	Fund Mgmt Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. L. Ali (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1337	G5	Conference Assistant – (RMCS)	Ms. T. Zavarzina (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1350	GS	EDM Assistant – (EDM)	Ms. B. Belai (Regularized)
1351	G7	Programme Assistant – (EDM)	Ms. M. Crespo (Regularized)
1352	G7	Programme Assistant – (I&O)	Ms. F. D’Amico (Regularized)
1353	G7	Programme Assistant – (Biosafety)	Ms. M. Ocampo (Regularized)
1354	G7	Programme Assistant – Liability, Redress & Sustainable Tourism (SEL)	Ms. R. Rubian (Regularized)
1355	G7	Editorial Assistant (RMCS)	Ms. V. Lefebvre (Regularized)
1356	G6	Travel Assistant – (RMCS)	Ms. N. Al Saheb (Regularized)

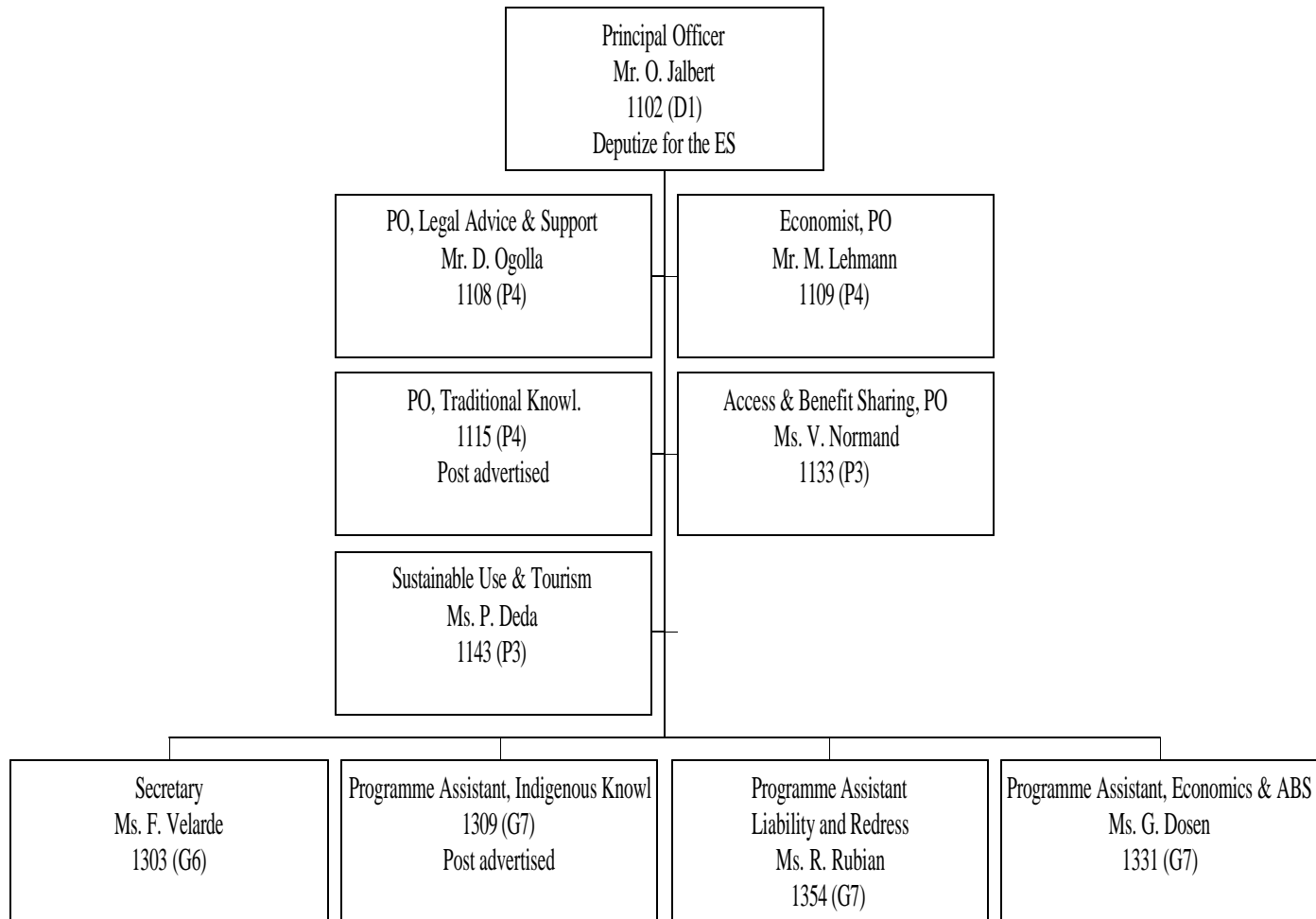
Annex II
Executive Direction, Management & Inter-governmental Affairs



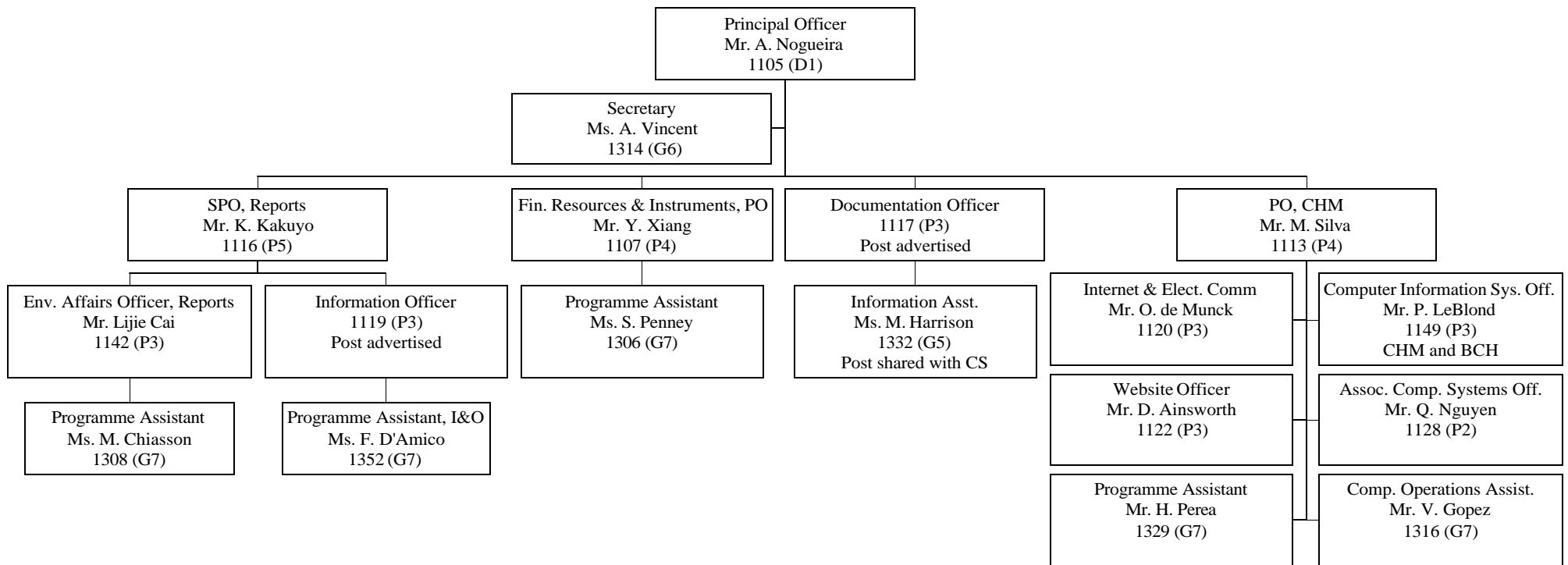
Scientific, Technical & Technological Matters



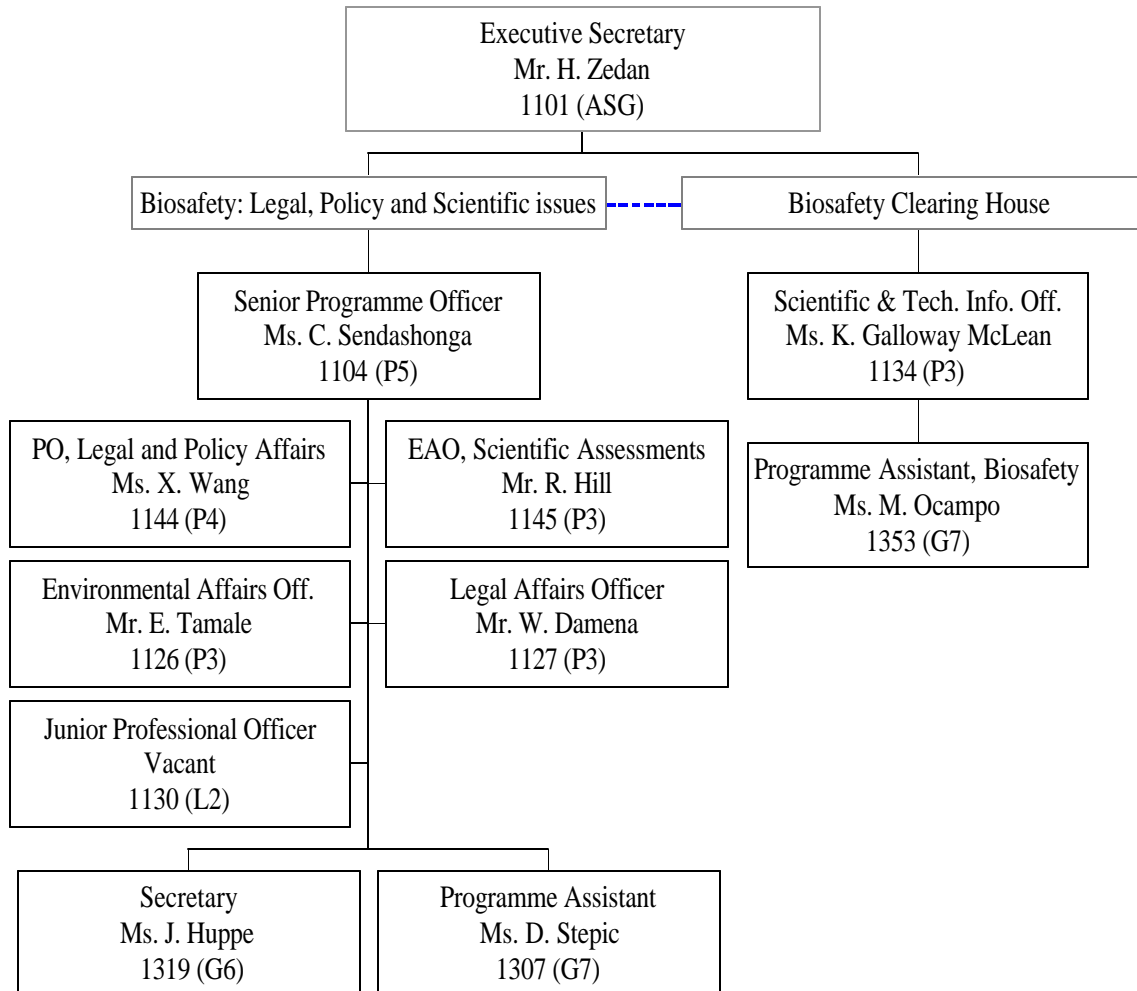
Social, Economic and Legal Matters



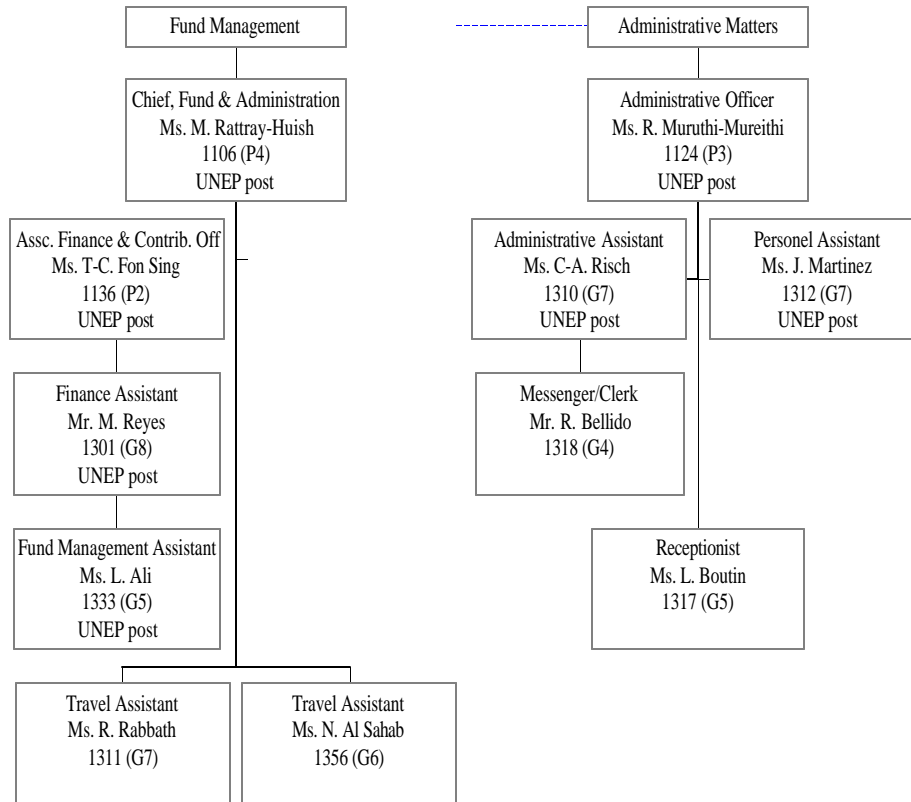
Implementation & Outreach



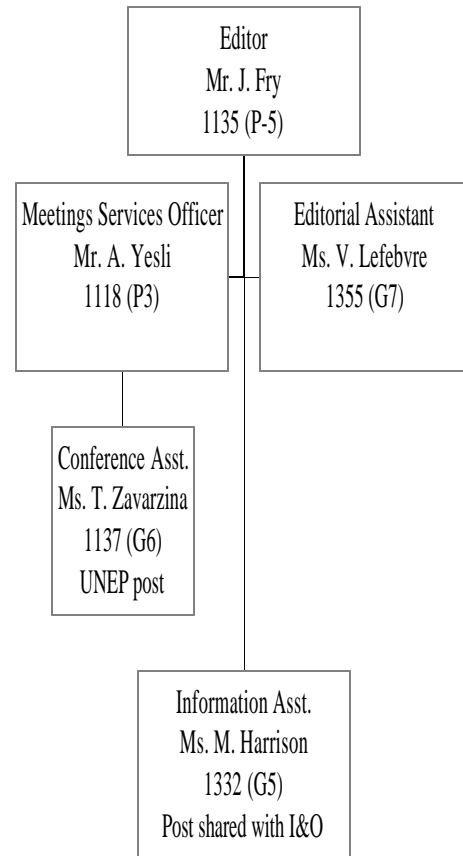
Biosafety Protocol



Resource Management



Conference Services



ANNEX III

**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF APPROVED ACTIVITIES UNDER
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BE)
Status of Contribution as at 30 June 2004 (in United States dollars)**

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.03	Adjustments	Pledges for 2004		Collections in 2004 for prior years	Collections in 2004 for 2004 & futures yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2004 & prior years
Canada	21,592			1/			21,592
Canada	15,924	2,251		2/	18,175		0
Canada			74,118	17/		74,118	0
Denmark	2,301			3/			2,301
EEC	5,954			4/			5,954
France	25,000			5/			25,000
Germany	20,882			6/			20,882
ICMM			2,980	13/		2,980	0
Netherlands	20			7/			20
Netherlands			499,376	15/		247,700	251,676
Norway	10,428			8/			10,428
Shell			7,000	16/		7,000	0
Spain	25,000			9/			25,000
Sweden	13,287			10/			13,287
Sweden			6,980	14/		6,980	0
UK			62,240	18/		62,240	0
USA	10,000			11/			10,000
USA	50,000			12/			50,000
USA			25,000	19/			25,000
USA			25,000	20/			25,000

USA			25,000	21/			25,000
Total	200,388	2,251	727,694		18,175	401,018	511,139

- 1/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 125,000 for meetings convened under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- 2/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 25,000 towards the preparation of the Composite Report on Traditional Knowledge
- 3/Denmark pledge in support for Open-ended Meeting of Experts on Capacity building, Havana, Cuba, 11-13 July 2001
- 4/EEC pledged EUR 30,000 towards the Workshop on Liability & Redress - Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Rome, Italy 2-4 December 2002
- 5/France pledged US\$ 25,000 for the Technical Expert Group Meeting on Article 18.2(b) and (c), Montreal, Canada, 13-15 March 2002
- 6/Germany pledged for the Ad Hoc Working Group on Access & Benefits Sharing, Bonn, Germany, 22-26 October 2001
- 7/Netherlands pledged US\$ 119,896 for the Workshop on Forest Biological Diversity, Accra, Ghana 28-30 January 2002
- 8/Norway pledged US\$ 100,000 for the 4th Workshop on Sustainable Use of Biological Resources, Addis Ababa, 6-8 May 2003
- 9/Spain pledged US\$ 25,000 for Capacity Building Experts Meeting on the Biosafety Protocol, Havana, Cuba, 11-13 July 2001
- 10/Sweden pledged SEK 450,000 towards the cost of a Programme Officer for the Global Taxonomy Initiative in 2002
- 11/USA pledged US\$ 10,000 for GISP meeting on Global Invasive Species
- 12/USA pledged US\$ 50,000 for the Technical Expert Meeting on Art 18.2(a), Montreal, Canada, 18-20 March 2002
- 13/ ICMM pledged US\$ 2,980 towards the Publication on Protected Areas
- 14/ Sweden pledged US\$ 6,980 towards the Publication on Key Biodiversity Issues for Protected Areas
- 15/Netherlands pledged Euros 400,000 regarding the Letter of Intent for the period 2004
- 16/ Shell pledged US\$ 7,000 towards the Publication on Key Biodiversity Issues for Protected Areas
- 17/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 100,000 for Approved Activities, as per Agreement ESR021
- 18/ UK Pledge of GBP 40,000 for Ad-hoc Working Group on Liability and Redress
- 19/ USA pledge of US\$25,000 for Alien Invasive Species
- 20/ USA pledge of US\$25,000 for AHTEG on Indicators
- 21/ USA pledge of US\$25,000 for taxonomy

ANNEX IV**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF PARTIES IN THE PROCESS OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BZ)**

Status as at 30 June 2004 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.03	Adjustments		Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior years	Collections in 2004 for 2004 & fut yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2004 & prior years
Canada			8/	28,580		28,580	0
Canada	7,270		3/		7,270		0
Denmark	40,000		1/				40,000
Denmark	51,049		6/		51,049		0
EEC	9,984		2/				9,984
Finland	74,626		4/		74,626		0
Germany	15,243		5/		15,243		0
Japan			9/	30,000		30,000	0
Japan			10/	30,000		30,000	0
Norway			11/	44,776			
United Kingdom	136,103		7/		136,103		0
Total	334,275	3,861		133,356	284,290	88,580	94,760

1/Denmark pledged for the support of participants from Central and Eastern European countries to CBD meetings

2/EEC pledged Euro 50,000 for the COP-6 and ICCP-3 Meetings in the Hague, the Netherlands on 7-26 May 2002

3/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 10,000 towards the participation of Delegates to the Article 8(j) Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 8-12 December 2003

4/Finland pledged EUR 65,000 towards the COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-27 February 2004

5/Germany pledged EUR 25,550 towards the COP-7 Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-20 February 2004

6/Denmark pledged DKK 300,000 towards the COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-27 February 2004

7/UK pledged GBP 75,000 towards the COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-27 February 2004

8/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 38,500 towards the COP-7 Meeting, as per Agreement ESR022

9/Japan pledged US\$ 30,000 towards the COP-7 Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-20 February 2004

10/Japan pledged US\$ 30,000 towards the Asia and the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for COP-7, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 8 February 2004

11/Norway pledged NOK 300,000 in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity

ANNEX V

GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BY) as at 30 June 2004

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
	US \$	US \$		US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$
Afghanistan	840	884				840	884	1,724
Albania	441	295		441		0	295	295
Algeria		6,895	6,895			0	0	0
Angola		197	1,614			0	(1,417)	(1,417)
Antigua & Barbuda	0	197				0	197	197
Argentina	331,061	113,174		161,511		169,550	113,174	282,724
Armenia	20,329	197				20,329	197	20,526
Australia		160,256	160,256		157,517	0	(157,517)	(157,517)
Austria	0	93,277			93,277	0	0	0
Azerbaijan	2,337	394				2,337	394	2,731
Bahamas	0	1,182				0	1,182	1,182
Bahrain	20	1,773		20	1,773	0	0	0
Bangladesh	855	985		855	80	0	905	905
Barbados		886	886			0	0	0
Belarus	62,381	1,871			1,871	62,381	0	62,381
Belgium	0	111,204				0	111,204	111,204
Belize		98	98		98	0	(98)	(98)
Benin		197	5			0	192	192

Bhutan	0	98			98	0	0	0
Bolivia	0	788				0	788	788
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Bosnia & Herzegovina	0	0				0	0	0
Botswana	0	985			1,970	0	(985)	(985)
Brazil	175,772	235,410		129,971		45,800	235,410	281,210
Bulgaria		1,280	984			0	296	296
Burkina Faso	331	197				331	197	528
Burundi	490	98				490	98	588
Cambodia	210	197		210	197	0	0	0
Cameroon		886	3,862			0	(2,976)	(2,976)
Canada	0	251,957			251,957	0	0	0
Cape Verde	2,454	984				2,454	984	3,438
Central African Rep.		98	0			0	98	98
Chad	2,598	98				2,598	98	2,696
Chile		20,882	16,848			0	4,034	4,034
China	0	150,899				0	150,899	150,899
Colombia	195	19,798				195	19,798	19,993
Comoros	2,598	98				2,598	98	2,696
Congo	48	98				48	98	146
Congo Dem.Rep	4,882	0				4,882	0	4,882
Cook Islands	271	98		271	98	0	0	0
Costa Rica	6,320	1,970		5,102		1,218	1,970	3,188
Cote d'Ivoire	1,631	0				1,631	0	1,631
Croatia	0	3,841			3,841	0	0	0
Cuba	17,667	2,955				17,667	2,955	20,622
Cyprus	0	3,743			3,743	0	0	0
Czech Republic		19,995	19,995			0	0	0
Denmark	0	73,775				0	73,775	73,775
Djibouti	0	98				0	98	98
Dominica		98	67			0	31	31

Dominica Rep.	8,161	2,265				8,161	2,265	10,426
Ecuador	0	2,462			2,462	0	0	0
EEC		192,858	3,201		231,044	0	(41,387)	(41,387)
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Egypt	0	7,978				0	7,978	7,978
El Salvador	0	1,773				0	1,773	1,773
Equatorial Guinea	2,598	98				2,598	98	2,696
Eritrea	92	98				92	98	190
Estonia		985	985			0	0	0
Ethiopia		394	394			0	0	0
Fiji		394	314		80	0	0	0
Finland	0	51,416			51,416	0	0	0
France	0	636,887			636,887	0	0	0
Gabon	7,457	1,379				7,457	1,379	8,836
Gambia		98	94			0	4	4
Georgia	41,653	492				41,653	492	42,145
Germany	0	962,225			962,225	0	0	0
Ghana	462	492				462	492	954
Greece		53,090	7			0	53,083	53,083
Grenada		98	98			0	0	0
Guatemala	2,467	2,659				2,467	2,659	5,126
Guinea	0	295				0	295	295
Guinea-Bissau	2,119	98				2,119	98	2,217
Guyana	0	98				0	98	98
Haiti	1,857	197		197		1,660	197	1,857
Honduras	1,574	492				1,574	492	2,066
Hungary	0	11,820			11,800	0	20	20
Iceland		3,250	3,250			0	0	0
India	101	33,588				101	33,588	33,689
Indonesia	18,495	19,700		18,495		0	19,700	19,700
Iran	25,153	26,791		25,153		0	26,791	26,791
Ireland	0	28,958				0	28,958	28,958

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Israel	0	40,877				0	40,877	40,877
Italy	0	498,867				0	498,867	498,867
Jamaica	370	394		370	394	0	0	0
Japan	0	1,697,146			1,697,146	0	0	0
Jordan	0	788			788	0	0	0
Kazakhstan	27,559	2,758		27,559		0	2,758	2,758
Kenya	20	788		20	788	(0)	0	(0)
Kiribati		98	83			0	15	15
Korea, Dem. People's Rep.	0	886				0	886	886
Korea, Rep. of	79,169	182,319		79,169	91,831	0	90,488	90,488
Kuwait	0	0				0	0	0
Kyrgyzstan	0	98				0	98	98
Lao PDR	0	98			98	0	0	0
Latvia	565	985				565	985	1,550
Lebanon	1,110	1,182				1,110	1,182	2,292
Lesotho		98	73			0	25	25
Liberia	435	98				435	98	533
Libya	19,939	6,599				19,939	6,599	26,538
Liechtenstein	0	591			591	0	0	0
Lithuania		1,674	1,674			0	0	0
Luxembourg	0	7,880			7,880	0	0	0
Macedonia	0	591				0	591	591
Madagascar	266	295		266	295	0	0	0
Malawi	543	197				543	197	740
Malaysia	0	23,147			23,147	0	0	0
Maldives	0	98			157	0	(59)	(59)
Mali		197	331			0	(134)	(134)
Malta	0	1,477				0	1,477	1,477
Marshall Island		98	98			0	0	0
Mauritania	1,429	98				1,429	98	1,527

Mauritius		1,083	1,083			0	0	0
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Mexico	26,752	106,969		26,752	7,992	0	98,977	98,977
Micronesia, Fed. States	0	98			300	0	(202)	(202)
Moldova, Rep. of	17,571	197				17,571	197	17,768
Monaco	0	394			394	0	0	0
Mongolia	0	98				0	98	98
Morocco	7,807	4,334				7,807	4,334	12,141
Mozambique	183	98				183	98	281
Myanmar	925	985				925	985	1,910
Namibia	0	689			689	0	0	0
Nauru	2,718	98				2,718	98	2,816
Nepal		394	1,297			0	(903)	(903)
Netherlands	19	171,189				19	171,189	171,208
New Zealand		23,738	23,738			0	0	0
Nicaragua		98	98			0	0	0
Niger	2,454	98				2,454	98	2,552
Nigeria	12,016	6,698				12,016	6,698	18,714
Niue	1	98		1	98	0	0	0
Norway		63,630	207		63,393	0	30	30
Oman	0	6,008			6,008	0	0	0
Pakistan	262	6,008				262	6,008	6,270
Palau		98	508			0	(410)	(410)
Panama	1,665	1,773		1,665	1,075	0	698	698
Papua New Guinea	0	591				0	591	591
Paraguay	7,502	1,576				7,502	1,576	9,078
Peru	36,548	11,623				36,548	11,623	48,171
Philippines	3,773	9,850		3,773		0	9,850	9,850
Poland	0	37,232				0	37,232	37,232
Portugal	42,723	45,506				42,723	45,506	88,229
Qatar		3,349	3,349			0	0	0
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for	Collections in 2004 for	Collections During 2004	Unpaid Pledges	Unpaid Pledges	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior

	at 31/12/03		2004	prior yrs	for 2004 & future yrs	for Prior Years	for 2004	years
Romania	0	5,713			5,713	0	0	0
Russian Federation	0	118,197				0	118,197	118,197
Rwanda		98	0		98	0	(0)	(0)
St. Kitts & Nevis		98	98			0	0	0
St. Lucia		197	203			0	(6)	(6)
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	1,769	98				1,769	98	1,867
Samoa		98	98			0	0	0
San Marino	0	197			197	0	0	0
Sao Tome Principe	271	98				271	98	369
Saudi Arabia	101,808	54,568		101,808	54,568	0	0	0
Senegal		492	5,009			0	(4,517)	(4,517)
Seychelles		197	1,100			0	(903)	(903)
Sierra Leone		98	4			0	94	94
Singapore		38,710	38,710			0	0	0
Slovak		4,235	4,235			0	0	0
Slovenia		7,978	7,978			0	0	0
Solomon Is.	2,119	98				2,119	98	2,217
South Africa		40,187	40,187			0	0	0
Spain	0	248,091			248,091	0	0	0
Sri Lanka	1,440	1,576				1,440	1,576	3,016
Sudan	4,588	591				4,588	591	5,179
Suriname	1,522	197				1,522	197	1,719
Swaziland	367	197		367	197	0	0	0
Sweden		101,133	101,133			0	0	0
Switzerland		125,486	125,486			0	0	0
Syria		7,880	3,750			0	4,131	4,131
Tajikistan	92	98				92	98	190
Thailand	0	26,535			20,228	0	6,307	6,307
Togo	271	98				271	98	369
Tonga	0	98				0	98	98

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Trinidad & Tobago		1,576	5,708			0	(4,132)	(4,132)
Tunisia	2,774	2,955		2,774	2,955	0	0	0
Tuvalu	92	98				92	98	190
Turkey	0	43,339				0	43,339	43,339
Turkmenistan	7,804	295		7,527		277	295	572
Uganda		492	409			0	83	83
Ukraine	0	5,220				0	5,220	5,220
U. K.	0	545,284			545,284	0	0	0
United Arab Emirates	0	19,897			19,897	0	0	0
Un.Rep. of Tanzania		394	19,733			0	(19,339)	(19,339)
Uruguay	19,827	7,880				19,827	7,880	27,707
Uzbekistan	11,987	1,083				11,987	1,083	13,070
Vanuatu		98	2			0	96	96
Venezuela	42,206	20,488				42,206	20,488	62,694
Viet Nam		1,576	1,376			0	200	200
Yemen	5,241	591				5,241	591	5,832
Yugoslavia	1,849	1,970		1,849		0	1,970	1,970
Zambia	563	197		563	249	0	(52)	(52)
Zimbabwe	2,931	788		2,931	788	0	0	0
Sub Total	642,155	7,741,394	607,610	599,620	5,213,762	650,144	1,920,022	2,570,166

Additional Contributions								
Canada	0	800,000				0	800,000	800,000
USA	0	100,000				0	100,000	100,000
Quebec	19	200,000				19	200,000	200,019
Grand Total	642,174	8,841,394	607,610	599,620	5,213,762	650,163	3,020,022	3,670,185

ANNEX VI

**LIST OF MEETINGS ORGANIZED BY THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
(as at 30 June 2004)**

2003		
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
16- 17 January 2003	Scoping Meeting of the Advisory Group for the 2 nd Edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook Report	Montreal, Canada
10-12 February 2003	Expert Group on Indicators of Biological Diversity	Montreal, Canada
19-21 February 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Genetic Use Restriction Technologies	Montreal, Canada
24-26 February 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and the Clearing House Mechanism	Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia
9 March 2003	SBSTTA Bureau Meeting	Montreal, Canada
9 March 2003	Meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee of the Clearing House Mechanism	Montreal, Canada
10-14 March 2003	Eighth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Montreal, Canada
15 March 2003	Joint Meeting of the ICCP and COP-6 Bureaux	Montreal, Canada
17-20 March 2003	Open-ended Meeting of the Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010	Montreal, Canada
31 March – 2 April 2003	African Regional Meeting on Capacity Building for the Clearing House Mechanism	Nairobi, Kenya
10-11 April 2003	Biosafety Clearing House Technical Expert Group Meeting	Montreal, Canada
6-8 May 2003	Fourth Workshop on Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
13-16 May 2003	Workshop of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change	Helsinki, Finland
21-23 May 2003	2010 – the Global Biodiversity Challenge Meeting	London, U.K.

3-5 June 2003	Workshop on Incentive Measures for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Components of Biological Diversity	Montreal, Canada
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
10-14 June 2003	Meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Group of Experts on Protected Areas	Tjarnö, Sweden
1-3 July 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Mountain Biodiversity	Rome, Italy
7-11 July 2003	Meeting on the further elaboration and Guidelines for the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach	Montreal, Canada
12-14 August 2003	Joint Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Meeting on the Clearing House Mechanism and the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network	Cancun, Mexico
28-29 August 2003	Meeting of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Montreal, Canada
9-11 September 2003	Central and Eastern European Regional Meeting on the Clearing House Mechanism and the European the Clearing House Mechanism	Czech Republic
18 September 2003	Liaison Group meeting on Protected Areas (in conjunction with the World Congress on Protected Areas)	Durban, South Africa
6-8 November 2003	International Workshop on Forest Protected Areas	Montreal, Canada
10-15 November 2003	Ninth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Montreal, Canada
21 November 2003	Informal Consultations on the proposed 2005-2006 budget of the Convention on Biological Diversity	Geneva, Switzerland
1-5 December 2003	Second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing	Montreal, Canada
8-12 December 2003	Third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions	Montreal, Canada

2004		
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
22- 23 January 2004	Latin American and Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Buenos Aires, Argentina
8 February 2004	Asia and the Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8 February 2004	African regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8 February 2004	Third meeting of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Coordination Mechanism	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
9-20 February 2004	Seventh Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
13 and 17 February 2004	Meeting of the Clearing-House Mechanism Informal Advisory Committee	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
22 February 2004	Joint COP/ICCP Bureau Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
23-27 February 2004	First meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
24-26 February 2004	Biosafety Clearing-House Training Workshop	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
5 - 7 April 2004	Forests and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting synergy in the three Rio Convention	Viterbo, Italy
1 May 2004	Fourth meeting of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Coordination Mechanism	Oaxaca, Mexico
20 - 24 June 2004	European Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) Workshop	Isle of Vilm, Germany