



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Fourth meeting

Montreal, 7-11 May 2012

Item 3 of the provisional agenda\*

### RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AT ITS FOURTH MEETING

#### **4/1. *Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets***

*The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention*

1. *Takes note* of the progress which has been made in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, and the urgent need for further progress;
2. *Emphasizes* the importance of, and taking into account the challenges to, setting specific, measurable, ambitious, realistic, and time-bound national targets as a means of implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
3. *Recalling* that the role of the Conference of the Parties is to keep the implementation of the Convention under review, *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties consider an update of this review in light of the information available at its eleventh meeting and issue guidance as appropriate;
4. *Recalling* decision X/2, paragraphs 3 (b) and (c), *invites* Parties to report on their plans and progress for revising and/or updating their national biodiversity strategy and action plans, and national target-setting, preferably by 30 June 2012, so that this information can be made available to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to compile relevant information from Parties, including revised and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans and examples of best practices related to national targets, and to update the information contained in this document and to make it available for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting;
6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to redouble efforts to promote the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization at international, regional and subregional

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events organized or attended by the Secretariat, in order to assist national actions in pursuing ratification or accession of the Protocol.

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

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Reaffirming* the need for enhanced technical and scientific cooperation among Parties, in line with Article 18 and related articles of the Convention, in order to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,

*Recognizing* the potential for enhanced cooperation at the regional and sub-regional level, among developing countries (South-South cooperation) and between developed and developing countries (North-South and triangular cooperation), consistent with the Convention, and, in this context, *noting* the potential role of national, regional and international organizations and the private sector in facilitating technical and scientific cooperation,

*Noting also* the potential contribution of information, technical and scientific cooperation and related capacity-building under the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,

*Taking note* of the activities of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity in 2011 and *expressing its appreciation* to the Government of Japan for its generous support,

*Also taking note* of the strategy for the celebration of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity in support of the Convention, its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,

1. *Urges* those Parties and other Governments that have not yet done so to develop, revise or update, as appropriate, their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

2. *Calls upon* Parties and *invites* other Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other relevant organizations to continue to provide support for the revision and updating of NBSAPs, to enhance wider stakeholder consultations for setting national targets and indicators at the national level, and to provide additional support to ensure completion and review of NBSAPs in a timely manner;

3. *Invites* Parties to include all stakeholders, including the indigenous and local communities and women in planning and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, thus contributing to the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Japan Biodiversity Fund and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Japan for its most generous contribution to support developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and small island developing states among them, and countries with economies in transition, in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretariat and its partners to enhance support to Parties for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets through, *inter alia*, capacity-building workshops and training modules and further work to enhance the clearing-house mechanism and related initiatives, and *expresses its appreciation* to Japan and other donor countries and host countries of workshops for their support to capacity-building activities;

6. *Thanks* all the international organizations, convention secretariats, the Global Environment Facility for their contribution in facilitating the implementation of the Strategic Plan and invites them to further support the implementation of the Strategic Plan;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Brazil and the United Kingdom for co-hosting the global workshop on NBSAPs, as well as to the Governments of Botswana, Germany, Lebanon, China, Senegal, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Switzerland, Ecuador, Fiji, Grenada, Turkey, Costa Rica, Belarus, India, France, and Ethiopia that have hosted or otherwise contributed to the preceding subregional workshops;

8. *Recalling* decision IX/8, paragraph 16 (a), *reiterates* the request to the Executive Secretary in cooperation with partner organizations to facilitate the continued exchange of best practices and lessons learned from the preparation, updating and revision of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, through appropriate forums and mechanisms such as the clearing-house mechanism and, subject to availability of resources, strengthened cooperation with regional and subregional processes, south-south and triangular cooperation and voluntary peer-review;

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue promoting and facilitating, in partnership with relevant organizations, activities to strengthen implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, at the national, subregional and regional levels, and *encourages* other donors and Parties to complement the funds provided by the Government of Japan;

10. *Welcomes* the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/3/Add.1) and *agrees to*:

(a) Keep the work programme for clearing-house mechanism under review in light of the need to contribute significantly to the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan and to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge sharing and information exchange;

(b) Strengthen communication with, and build the capacity of, the national focal points for the clearing-house mechanism;

(c) Call on Parties to share information through national clearing-house mechanisms or other relevant mechanisms on results from monitoring of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and for projects funded through Articles 20 and 21;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Establish a standard information-exchange mechanism for the clearing-house mechanism to interconnect the central and national clearing-house mechanisms;

(b) Continue to use automated translation tools to facilitate exchange of technical and scientific information, in line with Articles 17 and 18;

12. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to develop, in cooperation with relevant partner organizations, a coherent, consistent and coordinated approach to technical and scientific cooperation, with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of Article 18 and related articles of the Convention in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, building upon existing mechanisms;

13. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to engage in a process towards establishing a capacity-building network of national and regional centres of excellence in biodiversity to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, and to collaborate with the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, as appropriate;

14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to explore, in cooperation with Parties and partner organizations, the development of thematic and regional or subregional pilot initiatives for enhanced technical and scientific cooperation in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

15. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, *urges* Parties, in particular developed country Parties, and *invites* donor organizations to support enhanced technical and scientific cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism for implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

16. *Invites* Parties and all stakeholders to use the following message in activities related to the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (UNDB): “Living in harmony with nature”;

17. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to promote the implementation of the strategy for the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, within the programme of work of communication, education and public awareness (CEPA), based on the availability of resources and maintain the Decade’s web portal to highlight all activities;

18. *Encourages* bilateral and multilateral agencies to support the implementation of the strategy for the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition;

19. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to undertake, subject to the availability of financial resources, a review of the impacts of disasters and conflicts on biodiversity and ways and means to take actions for implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets under such conditions, and *invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to integrate as far as feasible the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 in the initiatives of the UNEP programme of work on conflicts and disasters, and to submit a report to the next meeting of SBSTTA in accordance with the rules of procedure highlighted in decision IX/29;

[20. *Also recalling* Article 20, paragraph 4, of the Convention, and its decisions IX/11 and X/3, *highlights* the need for adequate means for implementation in order to enable developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and *urges* the effective commitment of the developed country Parties related to the provision of financial resources, transfer of technology and benefit-sharing.]

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