



Forest Peoples Programme

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Ahmed Djoghlaif
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Convention on Biological Diversity
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Dear Dr Djoghlaif

This submission is in response to the SCBD notification concerning the **Revision and Updating of the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the Post-2010 Period** (Ref.: SCBD/ITS/DC/LC/69800).

We would like to thank the Secretariat for compiling document UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/2 and we would like to submit the following comments and suggestions:

Page 4, 7th paragraph

Sub-paragraph a) deals with addressing underlying causes of biodiversity loss. We agree that this is very important and suggest that this point be expanded. At the moment, the paragraph highlights one of the underlying causes (consumption patterns); we feel that there should be a clearer explanation/description of what the underlying causes are (either in this paragraph or in another one in the 'Issues' section), otherwise it remains rather vague.

Page 6, bullet points at top of the page

The bullet points are good. We would like to suggest the addition of one bullet point: 'To empower indigenous peoples and local communities to sustainably manage and protect biodiversity and restore degraded ecosystems.'

Page 8, 2nd paragraph

Again, similar to the first comment above, in the 'introduction' of strategic goal 1, the explanation about indirect drivers should be more complete. At the moment it mentions two indirect causes (population increase and patterns of consumption). Are the indirect causes taken from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment? If so, there should be a reference and a summary of that work. It should also be suggested whether the COP (or subsidiary bodies) should carry out further work on identifying indirect or underlying causes.

Page 8, last paragraph

In the third line, where it reads '...including the economic value.', we suggest to change it to '...including the economic, social and cultural values (added words

are underlined).’ While we agree that the economic value of biodiversity is important, we suggest that the emphasis on the importance of biodiversity should not be limited to its economic value.

Page 10, Technical rationale under Target 7

Lines 7-8: we suggest to add a few words for the sentence to read: ‘In addition, customary use of biodiversity by indigenous and local communities play a significant role in the sustainable use of local ecosystems and can often offer lessons of wider applicability’ (added words are underlined).

Page 11, Strategic Goal C (bottom of page)

Nowhere in the titles of the strategic goals is there a mention of local livelihoods or achievement of the MDGs. We feel that this could be addressed in strategic goal C (also taking into consideration Target 15 at page 13) by adding a few words so that the goal reads as follows: ‘Promote direct action to safeguard and restore biodiversity and related ecosystems services, contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to local livelihoods and the achievement of the MDGs (added words are underlined)’.

Page 12, technical rationale under Target 11

Lines 9-10: the reference to indigenous and local communities is very brief and weak. We suggest to replace it with the following text: ‘Protected areas should be established and managed in close collaboration and with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, and with full respect for their rights. Protected areas should contribute to sustainable livelihoods and eradication of poverty and must not in any way cause harm to indigenous and local communities. Indigenous Conservation Territories and Indigenous Peoples and Community Conserved Areas¹ should be supported and encouraged as they significantly contribute to conservation.’ This would be in line with the Programme of Work on Protected Areas and COP9 decision on protected areas.

Page 14, technical rationale under Target 18

Lines 3-4: we suggest the last sentence to read: ‘The rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and related biological resources, should be protected (added words are underlined). Our rationale for suggesting this is as follows: if the rights over related biological resources are not protected, how can TK be practiced and protected? It cannot be practiced in a vacuum or in museums, it has to be practiced in the field, in touch with the ‘related biological resources’.

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After point c) we suggest the addition of the following point:

‘d) Promote cooperation and synergy with international human rights instruments to ensure the achievement of objectives relevant to biodiversity and human wellbeing. Enhanced cooperation on themes related to biodiversity, climate change and human wellbeing should be developed with the UN Human Rights Council and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.’ We believe that this would significantly strengthen the position of the CBD in terms of emphasizing the role of biodiversity in providing for human wellbeing and the synergies between biodiversity and people.

¹ This terminology was adopted by the IUCN World Conservation Congress (resolutions 4.049 and 4.050) in Barcelona in October 2008, building on the term Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas used in the CBD.

Page 16, bullet points under Support mechanisms

2nd bullet point: this text is good, but we would like to add a few words at the end of the sentence so that the whole sentence reads as follows: Often the best solutions will be driven by local demand, using legal and institutional frameworks set at a higher level or at appropriate local levels (such as local customary institutions) (added text is underlined).’ Our rationale for suggesting this is as follows: local solutions do not necessarily have to use legal and institutional frameworks set at a higher level; local solutions should also be allowed to use legal and institutional frameworks developed at the local level, e.g. be they local governments or local indigenous customary institutions.

Page 17, bullet points under E. (Support mechanisms...)

We agree with the three bullet points but would like to suggest that a bullet point concerning cultural diversity should be added.

Page 17, last paragraph (MYPOW)

The roman number of the element should be VII, not VI.

We look forward to further contribute in the development of the updated Strategic Plan.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maurizio Ferrari'.

Maurizio Farhan Ferrari, Ph.D
Environmental Governance Coordinator