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### CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Eleventh meeting

Hyderabad, India, 8–19 October 2012

Item 5.4 of the provisional agenda\*

## PROGRESS REPORT ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING

### INTRODUCTION

1. In its decision IX/24, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the Gender Action Plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Gender Action Plan was put in place to “define the role that the Convention Secretariat will play in stimulating and facilitating efforts, both in house and with partners at the national, regional and global levels, to overcome constraints and take advantage of opportunities to promote gender equality. It is also a reflection of the increasing awareness that gender equality and women’s empowerment are important prerequisites for environmental conservation and sustainable development.”<sup>1</sup> By decisions X/19, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to enhance efforts to fully implement the Plan of Action in order to mainstream gender considerations in all aspects of the work under the Convention and to formulate clear indicators to monitor progress.

2. This document reports on progress made since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to fully implement the Gender Plan of Action in order to mainstream gender considerations in all aspects of work under the Convention; reports on progress towards formulating clear indicators to monitor progress mainstreaming gender in all aspects of work under the Convention; and proposes a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

### I. PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE GENDER PLAN OF ACTION

3. Gender mainstreaming, the principal method of implementation of the Plan of Action, aims to bring the diverse roles and needs of women and men to bear on the development agenda and to transform unequal social and institutional structures in order to make them profoundly responsive to gender.

4. The Gender Plan of Action outlines a framework for integrating gender within all Secretariat divisions and units during the 2008–2012 period. Since the Plan of Action’s initiation, efforts to mainstream gender into the activities of the Secretariat have been enhanced. The details of the accomplishments towards the

\* UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1.

<sup>1</sup> Gender Plan of Action located at: <http://www.cbd.int/programmes/cross-cutting/gender/cop-09-inf-12-rev1-en.pdf>

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implementation of the Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity can be consulted in the annex to this document.

## **II. PROGRESS TOWARD FORMULATING CLEAR INDICATORS TO MONITOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING**

5. In decision X/19, the Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to formulate clear indicators to monitor progress of efforts to fully implement the Plan of Action in order to mainstream gender considerations in all aspects of the work under the Convention.

6. The development and monitoring of broader indicators to measure gender mainstreaming has been challenging as gender is seldom and inconsistently mainstreamed into established environmental indices and forms of measurement. Equally, environmental issues do not play a prominent role in reports focused on gender considerations.<sup>2</sup>

7. Recommendation XV/1<sup>3</sup> of the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice took note of a preliminary indicator framework for monitoring the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. As this preliminary indicator framework does not yet include explicit gender considerations, it could offer an opportunity to integrate gender considerations in the monitoring of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Targets.

8. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and strategic partners have proposed the Environment-Gender Index (EGI) to monitor progress toward gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of global environment agreements. This index could provide support towards the generation of specific gender-biodiversity indicators for monitoring all Aichi Targets, but in particular Targets 14 and 18. Further information is provided in an information document for the meeting.

9. Other efforts to monitor gender considerations within the convention by the Executive Secretary include the development of preliminary Poverty-Biodiversity indicators. These preliminary indicators will take gender considerations into account while contributing to monitoring all Aichi Biodiversity Targets and providing particularly relevant guidance to Targets 2 and 14. Details will be presented in an information document.

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<sup>2</sup> Castañeda, I. *Gender and Climate change: shifting from parallel and thematic to strategic agendas* (Conference: "Women, Sustainable Development and Food Sovereignty/ Security in a Changing World") Cornell University, Law School. March 30-31, 2012, Ithaca. The authors analysed the following reports and indices: Global Gender Gap Report (WEF), Human Development Report (UNDP), Progress of the World's Women (UNIFEM – UN WOMEN), The State of the World Population (UNFPA), The State of Food and Agriculture (FAO), Annual Report (UNEP) and the CEDAW Country Report Analysis of Environmental-Sustainable Development Linkages of 10 countries.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.cbd.int/recommendation/sbstta/?id=12968>

### III. DRAFT DECISION ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* its decision X/19, in which it requested the Executive Secretary to enhance efforts to fully implement the Gender Plan of Action in order to mainstream gender considerations in all aspects of the work under the Convention and formulate clear indicators to monitor progress,

*Emphasizing* the importance of gender mainstreaming in all programmes of work under the Convention in order to achieve the objectives of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness thereof,

*Emphasizing the importance* of establishing and monitoring indicators composed of gender disaggregated data to working towards sustainable development and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Finland for its generous financial contribution and encourages other Parties to contribute to the work of the programme to ensure that the Gender Focal Point will continue to be able to work on gender mainstreaming within the three Rio conventions;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other relevant organizations, when preparing indicator-based information for the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, to disaggregate information relevant to gender, where possible;
3. *Requests* that the Executive Secretary update the current Gender Plan of Action (2008-2012) to 2020, taking into consideration the Strategic Plan for biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
4. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, particularly the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) and other women's organizations, to collaborate in the development of the Environment-Gender Index (EGI) proposed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN);
5. *Continues to urge* Parties to promote the mainstreaming of gender considerations in developing, implementing and revisiting their national and, where appropriate, regional, biodiversity strategies and action plans and equivalent instruments, in implementing the three objectives of the Convention, taking into account the guidance provided in the Technical Series No. 49 and the Gender NBSAP Training Module;
6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene, subject to the availability of financial resources, further global, regional and subregional capacity-building workshops and exchange of experience on issues relevant to the Gender Action Plan;
7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to report at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the development of indicators to monitor gender mainstreaming in activities of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

*Annex***PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENDER PLAN OF ACTION<sup>4</sup>**

1. The Gender Plan of Action<sup>5</sup> outlines a framework for integrating gender within all Secretariat divisions and units during the 2008–2012 period. It includes strategies and targets and proposes instruments to address gender concerns in all areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Gender Plan of Action is the main reference document for all stakeholders as regards the mainstreaming of gender into their work on the conservation of biological diversity. The Plan of Action follows the model of the “web of institutionalization” developed by Caren Levy.<sup>6</sup> Levy proposed that the conditions under which gender can be institutionalized are represented by at least thirteen elements, each representing a site of power. Given the power relations underlying these elements, both opportunities and resistance may arise when change and transformation take place. These elements are not merely a list of variables or entry points. They form a web in the sense that they are linked and interrelated in a particular way and ultimately reinforce each other. These elements are put into place, operated and shaped by different agents or groups of people in a range of interrelated spheres of activity. These spheres are: policy, organizational, citizen and delivery. Given the specific characteristics of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the “citizen” sphere will here be referred to as the “constituency” sphere.

***A. Policy sphere***

***The policy sphere focuses on developing a policy framework to secure the mandate, political support and resources for gender mainstreaming in implementation of the Convention and work of the Secretariat.***

***1. Make gender and biodiversity a strategic priority of the Convention***

1. To be effective, gender needs to be mainstreamed into the Strategic Plans of the Convention and the Protocol. Progress reports should include updates on the status of activities included in the Gender Plan of Action. Gender should also be fully incorporated into revisions of Strategic Plans. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity should provide regular updates to Parties and partners on efforts to achieve gender equality.

**Achievements to date**

2. At the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in Nagoya, no less than 68 references to gender were included in major decisions. Decision X/19, in particular, was devoted to gender mainstreaming. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 also includes the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets of which Target 14 which addresses the specific needs of women in relation to ecosystem services.

3. The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, for the first time explicitly calls for the participation of women in decision- and policy-making surrounding access and benefit-sharing, albeit as a cross-cutting issue, and not as a target in its own right. It is nevertheless an important part of the approach towards the activities intended to achieve each one of the 20 targets.

***2. Secure commitment from donors to support gender and biodiversity***

4. A specific budget line with dedicated funding should be set up to support gender mainstreaming activities. Awareness of the importance of gender mainstreaming must be built among donors, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to leverage dedicated funding. Where possible, gender mainstreaming should be encouraged across funding bodies.

<sup>4</sup> Text is based on: Aguilar, L and Rogers, F. 2012. Gender Plan of Action Convention on Biological Diversity. IUCN. Costa Rica

<sup>5</sup> Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity (unep/cbd/cop/9/inf/12/rev.1), prepared for the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Bonn, 19-30 May 2008. The full text is available online at: <http://www.cbd.int/programmes/cross-cutting/gender/cop-09-inf-12-rev1-en.doc>

<sup>6</sup> Levy, C. *The Process of Institutionalising Gender in Policy and Planning: The “Web” of Institutionalisation*. Development Planning Unit, University College London. Working Paper No. 74. United Kingdom. 1999.

### **Achievements to date**

5. The Government of Finland contributed an initial €190,000 in 2008 for a full-time Gender Programme Officer position in the Secretariat and to support harmonization of gender mainstreaming across the three Rio Conventions. Finland then provided an additional 250,000 € to support implementation of the Convention's Gender Plan of Action and activities to mainstream gender in the three Rio conventions and the Global Environment Facility during the period 2011-2012.

6. In addition, and as a result of the GPoA, the Secretariat succeeded in securing nearly US\$ 450k for this purpose, including US\$ 50k from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, GB£10k from the UK, a pledge of US\$ 25k from the Government of Norway, US\$ 300k from HIVOS – the Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands, and US\$ 30k from the Swiss Development Corporation to fund women's participation at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

#### *3. Secure high-level commitment for gender and biodiversity within the Secretariat*

7. Senior management and leadership commitment to gender mainstreaming is essential to the success of efforts to fully integrate gender into the policies and activities of the Secretariat and Convention. Awareness-raising efforts should be implemented to secure this commitment and efforts made to integrate gender within the four-year rolling work plan of the Secretariat.

### **Achievements to date**

8. In September 2011, the Executive Secretary on behalf of the Heads of all the three Rio conventions, announced at the United Nations General Assembly that the Secretariat would work with the other Rio conventions to harmonize gender mainstreaming efforts. This commitment led to the organization of gender mainstreaming days at the Rio Conventions Pavilion at each Convention's Conference of the Parties (UNCCD October 2011; UNFCCC November and December 2011; CBD October 2012) as well as at Rio+20 (June 2012).<sup>7</sup>

### ***B. Organizational sphere***

***The organizational sphere emphasises equality in staffing in the Secretariat, developing gender capacity among staff, and promoting equal opportunity policies.***

#### *1. Appoint a gender focal point within the Secretariat*

9. A full-time gender focal point (GFP), with expertise in both gender and biodiversity and accompanied by the necessary resources, should be appointed. The GFP will work closely with UNEP's Senior Gender Adviser; lead a gender task force (GTF); conduct gender analysis of the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity; advise management and staff on integrating gender in their work; conduct gender training and awareness-raising; monitor gender implementation within the Convention; collect and disseminate gender-biodiversity information and data; guide and support the NFPs and other CBD stakeholders on gender-biodiversity; and establish alliances with bodies working on gender within the One UN Pilot Programme.

### **Achievements to date**

10. Following the adoption of the GPoA, a full-time, dedicated GFP position with a clear TOR was established in the Secretariat. Since then, further funding to ensure the continuation of the position has been secured from donors.

#### *2. Strengthen gender-specific capacity of all Staff*

11. All staff should receive gender training. Sharing of experience and lessons learned from others who have implemented gender mainstreaming activities is vital; experience shows that 'learning-by-doing' is one of the most effective means for staff to assimilate concepts and replicate them in their work.

<sup>7</sup> More information on the content and outcomes of these meetings can be consulted at the following addresses: UNCCD - <http://www.riopavilion.org/unccd-cop-10-republic-of-korea/>; UNFCCC - [http://www.riopavilion.org/storage/durban\\_session\\_summaries\\_day2.pdf](http://www.riopavilion.org/storage/durban_session_summaries_day2.pdf); Rio+20 - <http://www.iisd.ca/download/pdf/sd/ymbvol200num8e.pdf>.

**Achievements to date**

12. Several training sessions have been conducted to build capacity among Secretariat staff.
3. *Ensure gender equality is reflected in all human resources activities; Increase staff awareness of responsibility for gender mainstreaming; and Develop indicators to measure extent of gender mainstreaming within the Secretariat*
13. Human Resources should adopt UNEP's HR gender policy; this also complies with wider United Nations policy on equal opportunities. The GFP is responsible for informing the Secretariat of the Convention of the provisions of the UNEP HR gender policy.
14. Gender mainstreaming is not restricted to 'specialists' but is the responsibility of all staff; it is reflected in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The Convention on Biological Diversity will draw on UNEP's staff manual with respect to staff responsibilities for gender mainstreaming and work with relevant divisions and programmes to ensure that all staff members understand them. Gender mainstreaming needs to be an integral part of job descriptions and contracts of employment and accompanied by rewards and incentives.
15. Working with the GTF and gender specialists, the GFP should develop indicators to assess the degree of gender mainstreaming within the Secretariat and to measure the performance of senior managers and others during appraisal processes.

**Achievements to date**

16. The Secretariat complies with all of UNEP's HR policies, including the gender policy. Work on indicators of gender mainstreaming is ongoing.

**C. Delivery sphere**

***The delivery sphere centres on gender mainstreaming in the implementation of the Convention, as well as on how gender is addressed in the theories, methodologies and applied research that underpin interventions and activities.***

1. *Collect and disseminate gender-environment methodologies*

17. The Secretariat should collect and disseminate information on gender and biodiversity to create a knowledge base to inform action by the Conference of the Parties, individual Contracting Parties and partners in support of implementation of the Convention. Sources include United Nations sister organizations, international organizations, regional networks and NGOs. Case-studies and other documents (e.g. experience of indigenous women) showing the linkages between gender and biodiversity should be prepared for internal and external use through the Knowledge Management Platform of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the clearing-house mechanism, and the website of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

**Achievements to date**

18. Four gender-responsive fact sheets were developed in collaboration with IUCN covering agriculture, biodiversity, biosafety and NBSAPs. These factsheets and other information can be downloaded from a dedicated Gender and Biodiversity webpage which has been developed as part of the larger official CBD website.<sup>8</sup>

2. *Link gender, environment and poverty reduction*

19. The links between gender, environmental sustainability and poverty eradication are not always clear to all the actors working on biodiversity conservation at international, regional and national levels. Efforts are needed to clarify and strengthen these links through case-studies. Gender-specific causes and impacts of poverty and environmental degradation should be addressed. Pilot CBD-level project work on gender and biodiversity should be linked to country-level implementation of the One United Nations approach.

**Achievements to date**


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<sup>8</sup> <http://www.cbd.int/gender/>

20. Several high-level side events and roundtable discussions have been organized on gender and biodiversity on the margins of various multilateral meetings, including one titled “A constraint to economic growth, biodiversity protection, poverty reduction and sustainable development: Linkages between MDG 1, 3, and 7” at the Millennium Goals Summit held at the United Nations General Assembly, convened in New York in September 2010. Through the discussions there were several common actions that were called for towards the achievement of MDG 3.<sup>9</sup>

3. *Identify, develop/improve and promote gender-biodiversity implementation tools and methodologies*

21. Tools are needed to facilitate the transition from policy to implementation of gender mainstreaming. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity has developed work programmes, principles and guidelines to assist Parties as they organize their work for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. These should be reviewed for linkages to gender; thereafter, additional ‘how-to’ tools should be developed to integrate gender into biodiversity-related activities.

**Achievements to date**

22. Case-studies on gender and access and benefit-sharing were conducted in Ecuador and Costa Rica and Guidelines for Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Equity in ABS Governance were developed through a multi-stakeholder process.<sup>10</sup>

23. Presentations to delegates on mainstreaming gender considerations into NBSAPs and implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity were made during the Gender Mainstreaming days at the Rio Conventions Pavilion. Gender considerations have been taken into account in upcoming Good Practice Guides on Biodiversity and Food Security as well as Biodiversity and Human Health.

24. The development of a training module for mainstreaming gender into national biodiversity strategy and action plans.

4. *Establish the basis for Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to integrate a Gender perspective into the National Biodiversity Planning Processes*

25. Implementation of the Convention and Protocol focuses at the country-level on national biodiversity planning processes, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and National Biosafety Frameworks. While these provide a logical entry point for gender mainstreaming, the link between gender and biodiversity conservation may not be obvious to National CBD and Biosafety Focal Points. Awareness-raising activities should be supported for National Focal points to help them draw on-and learn from- national level processes, including from stakeholders already active on gender or gender-environment activities. Opportunities should be provided for Parties to report back on approaches, progress and obstacles to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the associated meeting of the Parties (COP-MOP).

**Achievements to date**

26. In 2010, in collaboration with IUCN, the Secretariat stepped-up its gender efforts with the development CBD Technical Series No. 49 Guidelines for Mainstreaming Gender into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.<sup>11</sup>

27. Parties to the Convention adopted Decision X/19 calling for gender mainstreaming in all programmes of work under the Convention and called on Parties to make use of guidelines provided in the document to develop, implement and revise their national and, where appropriate, regional biodiversity strategies and action plans and equivalent instruments. The decision emphasized the crucial role of gender mainstreaming in order to achieve the three objectives of the Convention and its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

<sup>9</sup> Results of the meeting can be consulted at <http://www.cbd.int/gender/activities/MDG/>

<sup>10</sup> Document “Mainstreaming Gender Equity and Equality in ABS Governance”  
[http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/oceania/oceania\\_resources\\_and\\_publications/?4482/G-ABS](http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/oceania/oceania_resources_and_publications/?4482/G-ABS)

<sup>11</sup> Available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-49-en.pdf>

#### *D. Constituency sphere*

*To be truly effective, gender mainstreaming needs to include the constituency sphere going beyond the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to involve and mobilize other stakeholders ('constituents') including, but not limited to, United Nations agencies, international organizations, I/NGOs, academic and scientific institutions, and civil society.*

*1. Build partnerships and establish networks to promote gender mainstreaming within the Convention on Biological Diversity*

28. A review of the activities of relevant partners (e.g. UNEP, Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network, Inter-Agency Task Force on Gender) should be conducted to identify opportunities for collaboration and avoid overlap. Findings could be included in a dedicated database. Based on this review, the Secretariat should support efforts of partners through the provision of technical advice and scientific information, support for resource mobilization for implementation of mandate activities of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocols, and knowledge sharing. Concurrently, potential contributions of partners to the Gender Plan of Action should be assessed, especially activities, tools and methodologies. Any partnerships for implementation should be carefully designed to avoid overlap or gaps and to maximize impact. Similarly, opportunities should be explored for consolidating partnerships to enhance information-sharing and capacity-building among different organizations. Finally, new partnerships should be explored with like-minded organizations whose objectives support those of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

#### **Achievements to date**

29. Following the development of the GPoA, the Convention on Biological Diversity engaged concretely with a number of prominent international organizations and alliances that promote gender equality and mainstreaming, including IUCN, GGCA, WEDO, Women's Biodiversity Network, and the UNDP Small Grants Programme. The CBD Gender Focal Point also participated in both the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Gender and the work on the Joint Coordination Group on Gender.

30. Following the development of the CBD GPoA, a Women's Caucus of I/NGOs was established at meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to work towards building awareness of gender issues in biodiversity circles.

*2. Link the CBD Gender Plan of Action with gender activities of the United Nations System*

31. There are several existing mandates for gender mainstreaming within the wider United Nations system. To avoid overlap and gaps, links should be forged with other parts of the system involved in gender mainstreaming policies and activities with a view to sharing experience and lessons learned. Benefits could be achieved by connecting with the Inter-agency Task Force on Gender and by including gender in the agenda of the Joint Liaison Group and Biodiversity Liaison Group, for example.

#### **Achievements to date**

32. As one of the three Rio conventions, the Convention on Biological Diversity participated in efforts to harmonize gender across the Rio conventions and the Global Environment Facility, leading up to and at Rio+20. These efforts led to, among others, the establishment of a Joint Gender Coordination Group for the Rio conventions.

33. On behalf of the Rio conventions, the Convention on Biological Diversity organized, secured and enabled space for multi-stakeholder participation in an Ecosystem Pavilion, held at most of the major multilateral meeting with gender as a central theme.



34. At Rio+20, a joint publication between the three Rio conventions titled “The Rio Conventions: Action on Gender”<sup>12</sup> was launched highlighting the each Convention’s increased attention to gender considerations.

3. *Build awareness of biodiversity among gender and women’s organizations*

35. It may be necessary to conduct awareness-raising activities and enter into partnerships to create awareness of biodiversity issues among other organizations dedicated to gender issues and women’s rights, e.g. through the communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) Global Initiative. Where feasible, information should be made available in as many of the official United Nations languages as possible. Outreach activities will be important to disseminate information, especially among regional organizations and groups active in developing countries. Opportunities should be explored for involving gender and women’s organizations in the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

**Achievements to date**

36. Ongoing partnerships between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the IUCN, WEDO and the GGCA are working towards increasing public awareness of biodiversity in gender issues. The Women’s Caucus also contributes to this awareness building.

4. *Build capacity of women, particularly indigenous women, to participate in processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity and decision-making*

37. Efforts should be made to build capacity and facilitate participation of women, especially indigenous women at all levels of decision-making relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity, e.g. COPs. A needs assessment should be carried out in collaboration with gender experts and women and the necessary training and capacity-building put in place. Efforts should also be made to increase participation and representation of women, especially indigenous women, in CBD events and at all levels.

**Achievements to date**

38. In addition to the role of women being included in the text of the Convention, at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties ‘women’ were recognized as a major stakeholder group and training sessions for indigenous and local women were conducted prior to the Conference of the Parties. A dedicated Women’s Delegate Fund was extended to Parties to ensure participation of women in official delegations. These women had a mandate to promote gender in Parties’ positions at meetings of the Conference of the Parties and in other negotiations.

39. Seven three-day workshops in Latin America and the Caribbean on Article 8(j) and Access and Benefit-Sharing were held from 2009-2011. The main objectives of the workshops were to implement relevant decisions of the Convention, to build and strengthen the capacity and to increase the number of ILC representatives, particularly women, to effectively participate in the processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> The Rio conventions: Action on Gender, [unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/roi\\_20\\_gender\\_brochure.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/roi_20_gender_brochure.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> More information on the workshop series can be consulted in document: UNEP/CBD/WG8J/7/INF3