



**REPORT OF THE STOCKTAKING, COORDINATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF MONITORING PLAN MEETING FOR ACHIEVING  
AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGET 11 BY 2020  
Isle of Vilm, Germany, 24-27 April 2019**



DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Stocktaking, Coordination and Development of Monitoring Plan Meeting for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 by 2020 held on the Isle of Vilm, in Germany, from 24 to 27 April 2019, was convened by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity with the generous financial support of the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund (JBF), and hosted by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN). It brought together coordination agencies from identified sub-regions, UN and other organizations, as well as representatives of Parties that are members of the global *Partnership for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 with its Attendant Multiple Benefits*.

The meeting aimed to take stock of recent progress in Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and facilitate and coordinate accelerated and effective implementation to achieve this target by 2020, through concerted efforts. The primary objectives included, *inter alia*, sharing and discussing sub-regional draft action plans for decentralized implementation of national priority actions and commitments for Target 11; discussing the status and gaps of the elements of Target 11 and the available opportunities for addressing these gaps; facilitating consultations to enable prioritization of activities leading up to 2020, and identifying work which could be undertaken in the post-2020 period; deciding on appropriate tracking and monitoring mechanisms, and reporting modalities to inform the upcoming meetings of the Convention, in particular the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP 15).

The meeting, which ran for three-and-a-half days, involved discussions on the current status of the elements of Target 11 and draft Action Plans led by representatives of the coordinating agencies for nine of the 12 identified sub-regions. This was followed by group discussions on regional priorities, identification of gaps and opportunities, and the development of sub-regional Action Plans and modalities for monitoring and reporting. The meeting also included thematic sessions led by subject-matter experts, for all qualitative elements of Target 11, including discussions on current progress, tools available for measuring and monitoring progress, what could be done prior to 2020, and what could be included in a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The thematic areas discussed included: ecological representation, connectivity, ecosystem services, areas important for biodiversity, management effectiveness, as well as governance and equity. There was also a discussion on other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), including results of recent expert workshops, the updated version of the guidelines for recognizing and reporting OECMs, and the role that recognition of OECMs can play in addressing all elements of Target 11. Finally, there was a session on mapping and the role that spatial data can play for nature and development.

One very important outcome of the meeting was the establishment of a Global Steering Committee to oversee, guide and monitor the status of implementation over the next months, leading up to COP 15. Other outcomes included, *inter alia*: agreement regarding monitoring and reporting by sub-regional coordination agencies; design and use of an Action Plan template to ensure coherence of data; creating a database for storing OECMs data in WDPA; development of a Barometer/Dashboard for visualizing progress on the elements of Target 11 and encouraging healthy competition; preparation of various guidelines to assist Parties; decision to assist Parties in updating the World Database of Protected Areas, ensuring consistency with the data in the sixth National Reports; and agreement to publish a journal article outlining outcomes of the meeting, including a Call to Action for accelerating progress to achieve Target 11 to be published in an upcoming edition of *Parks*.

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. In response to [decision XIII/2](#) of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) on progress towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12<sup>1</sup>, and in line with the global [Partnership for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 with Attendant Multiple Benefits](#) and the Phase II Strategy on protected areas of the Secretariat, the Executive Secretary convened this Stocktaking, Coordination and Development of Monitoring Plan Meeting for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 by 2020, held on the Isle of Vilm, in Germany, from 24 to 27 April 2019<sup>2</sup>.

2. In paragraph 9(d) of the above decision, COP invited “Parties, other Governments, relevant partners, regional agencies, bilateral and multilateral funding agencies, in conjunction with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity,... to facilitate support networks at the regional and sub-regional level... to build capacity and support the implementation of national actions identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and, as appropriate, through the regional workshops for the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and 12...”.

3. Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 is one of the twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 that are expected to be met by 2020. It is well recognized that the achievement of this target will generate multiple benefits for the wellbeing of society during the current and future generations. As there are still 20 months left, enhancing progress in the elements<sup>3</sup> of Target 11 and achieving this target with its attendant multiple benefits by 2020 is highly likely.

4. Hence, in order to encourage concerted efforts to speed up progress in implementation of all priority actions and facilitate the achievement of Target 11, this meeting is organized with the following main objectives:

- a) Share and discuss various sub-regional draft action plans for decentralized and effective implementation of national priority actions and other commitments (including those in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs);
- b) Hold thematic areas sessions to discuss status, gaps and opportunities of each element of Target 11, including progress to date, what can be done before 2020, what tools are available, and what should be incorporated in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- c) Facilitate thematic/regional consultations to facilitate prioritization of activities and effective implementation before 2020, and identify activities for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- d) Discuss and identify tracking and appropriate monitoring mechanisms to ensure coherence of information, and facilitate reporting;

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<sup>1</sup> Target 11: (provided in the background (para. 7) below); Target 12: *By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.* The achievement of Target 11 will directly and substantially contribute to the achievement of this target, among others.

<sup>2</sup> Most of the participants arrived in Vilm, on 24 April 2019.

<sup>3</sup> The elements of Target 11 are: 17% coverage for terrestrial and inland waters, 10% coverage for coastal and marine areas, effective management, governance and equity, areas important for biodiversity, areas important for ecosystem services, ecological representativity, integration, and connectivity.

- e) Have a dialogue on modalities to effectively report to the meetings of the Convention, and, in particular, the fifteenth meeting of the COP (COP 15); and
- f) Establish a Global Steering Committee to oversee, guide and monitor the status of implementation and reporting.

5. The meeting assembled coordination agencies of seven of the twelve sub-regions, UN and other organizations, representatives of developing and developed Parties of the Convention that are members of the global *Partnership for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 with Attendant Multiple Benefits* and the Protected Areas Team of the Secretariat to hold this dialogue to facilitate the achievement of Target 11 by 2020 and provision of baseline information for the post-2020, as well as help enable sustained capacity building mechanisms in the sub-regions in line with the objectives of the Partnership, decision XIII/2 of the COP and the Phase II Strategy on Protected Areas of the Convention.

6. The meeting was made possible by the generous financial support of the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund (JBF), as well as contributions from European Commission and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) through staff support. It was hosted by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) of the Government of Germany, and organized with the collaboration of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature-World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN-WCPA). The BfN with the collaboration of the Secretariat of the CBD also issued information notes for participants with details of logistical arrangements, information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other matters for the meeting to facilitate attendance.

## II. BACKGROUND

7. In [decision X/2](#), in 2010, COP 10 adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 which states that: “By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”.

8. In 2014, the midterm evaluation of progress in the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets assessed in the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 4)*, Target 11 showed a promising picture, suggesting that with more focus and systematic efforts, many elements of the target could be achieved by 2020.

9. Hence, to facilitate the achievement of Target 11, the Secretariat developed a two-phase strategy. The first phase (2015-2016) involved, *inter alia*, the organization of a series of six regional workshops to collect information on the status, gaps and opportunities for the elements of Target 11, as well as national priority actions (roadmaps) for implementation before 2020, as a country-driven process. The results of the analysis of the roadmaps were presented to COP 13 in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2016 ([UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/17](#)). Overall the results showed that the implementation of the roadmaps would not only lead to progress in the elements of Target 11 but also help achieve or even surpass the target and lead to multiple benefits including contribution to other Aichi Targets, numerous targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate change mitigation and adaptation; disaster risk reduction and resilience to changing socio-economic and environmental conditions.

10. The second phase of the Secretariat’s protected areas strategy (2017-2020) aims to, *inter alia*, facilitate decentralized implementation of the roadmaps and other national commitments, in a concerted manner with comprehensive coordination among all relevant partners, and to enable a sustained capacity

building mechanism in all regions. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in decision [XIII/2](#) paragraph 9(d), also called for this approach when it invited Parties, other governments, relevant partners, regional agencies, bilateral and multilateral funding agencies, in conjunction with the Secretariat, to *inter alia*, facilitate support networks at the regional and sub-regional level.

11. In just three years since 2016, there has been noticeable progress on some elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. Global terrestrial protected area coverage increase to 15.0% in June 2019. Marine coverage has almost doubled, increasing from 4.1% in April 2016, to reach 7.6% in June 2019 (17.6% for national waters; 1.2% for areas under national jurisdiction). Among many others, there has been a corresponding improvement in ecological representation for marine areas; the number of marine ecoregions with at least 10% coverage has increased from 84 out of 232 in April 2016, to 109 out of 232 as of January 2019. There has also been improvement in the connectivity of terrestrial protected areas, with the global coverage of protected-connected lands increasing from 7.5% in 2016 to 7.7% in 2018.

12. Thus, a global *Partnership for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 with Attendant Multiple Benefits by 2020* was launched on 22 November 2018, on the margins of COP 14, at Sharm El-Sheikh, in Egypt. The primary objective of this Partnership is to facilitate the achievement of Target 11 in a concerted manner. The Partnership is expected to stimulate regional implementation support networks and donors to align their activities towards the decentralized implementation of focussed actions for the achievement of Target 11. With the envisaged alignment of activities and funding through this Partnership, the partners can reinforce their on-going efforts, energy and resources to reach or surpass Target 11 within the next months.

13. The Secretariat of the CBD continues to collaborate with coordination agencies to enable Regional Implementation Support Networks of partner in 12<sup>4</sup> UN sub-regions to facilitate effective and decentralized implementation of national priority actions and commitments. The coordination agencies have already on-going capacity building support programme(s) for the countries of their region; are familiar with the different on-going and up-coming projects and programmes in the countries, and have taken up the coordination responsibility to enhance progress of the elements of Target 11 and achieve this target by 2020. Most of the coordination agencies have already designed an action plan based on the national priority actions, NBSAPs and other national commitments of the countries of its region, by mapping them vis-a-vis on-going and planned activities of partners in the region, and in consultation with the Parties concerned and the Secretariat, to facilitate effective implementation in each country.

14. Therefore, this meeting will stock-take and coordinate to speed up effective and decentralized implementation to achieve Target 11 within the next few months, and develop a monitoring plan for reporting to upcoming meetings of the Convention, in particular COP 15, in 2020, and determine the way forward in terms of what should be reported to the post-2020 period.

### **III. DAY ONE – 24 APRIL 2019 – EVENING**

#### **A. INTRODUCTION AND ELECTION OF CHAIR OF MEETING**

15. As already planned, an informal gathering of the participants took place in the evening of Wednesday, 24 April 2019, upon the arrival of the participants of the meeting. The programme of the meeting is presented in **Annex 1**. Arrangements were also made for Ms. Naomi Kingston, Head of Protected Areas Programme at the United Nations Environment Programme, World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to join the meeting via Skype during discussion on topics of relevance to the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and work of UNEP-WCMC.

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<sup>4</sup> East and Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central, Eastern Europe and Western Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Russian speaking), Middle East, North Africa and West Asia (MENA and West Asia), Latin America, Pacific Islands, West and Central Africa, Eastern and Southern Africa, North America, Australia and New Zealand, and the Caribbean,

16. Mr. Sarat Babu Gidda, Head of Biodiversity Science, Policy and Governance unit and Senior Programme Management Officer at the Secretariat of the CBD, welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction, including the purpose and organization of the meeting as well as the expected results which include facilitating the achievement of Target 11 with its attendant multiple benefits in the following few months leading to COP 15. He explained that the meeting will help evaluate the progress to date, what can be done, what is feasible and achievable before 2020 as well as the way forward, including into the post-2020 period. He highlighted the importance of the meeting in terms of encouraging concerted efforts and its contribution to the success of Target 11 and effective reporting of the good news to the upcoming COP 15, in 2020. He also mentioned that the Partnership is expected to help coordinate and facilitate the implementation of actions to achieve the elements of Target 11 by 2020.

17. Ms. Kathy MacKinnon, Chair of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN-WCPA) was nominated and selected to become the chair of the meeting. In her acceptance speech, Ms. MacKinnon emphasised the importance of focussing on the opportunities; what can be achieved before 2020 and ensuring achievement, as well as what can be recommended for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. She then invited the participants to introduce themselves. The list of the participants is presented in **Annex 2**.

## **B. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

18. Ms. Gisela Stolpe, Head of International Conservation Academy (German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation), made a presentation on the Isle of Vilm, the oldest German protected area and the first Wild Island of Europe with fairy-tale forests, as well as a spiritual, religious and sacred place. She explained that the natural diversity and beauty of the Isle of Vilm has attracted hundreds of landscape painters, artists including photographers over the last two centuries and that the Isle was also used as a holiday resort for prominent people.

19. She also mentioned that the island is mostly covered, with forests that are undisturbed for centuries, with oak and beech woods found among the most untouched and impressive in Germany, as well as a rich diversity of birds and small mammals. She informed the participants that part of the island is strictly closed to all human presence and that it was only when Germany was reunified, that the International Academy of Nature Conservation of the German Federal Agency of Nature Conservation was inaugurated. Furthermore, Ms. Stolpe indicated what to be careful about while staying on this special island and gave details on other organizational matters including accommodation and travel to and from the island.

## **C. WORLD DATABASE ON PROTECTED AREAS**

20. Ms. Colleen Corrigan, Senior Programme Officer-Protected Areas at UNEP-WCMC, explained how the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) can be used. She mentioned that as of March 2019, the records reached 242, 798 sites; and that the percentage of records updated and validated in the past 12 months increased to 73%. She also mentioned that there is opportunity to establish the setting for effective use of WDPA. She indicated that information in WDPA comes from over 600 sources, including Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), but that there are still big reporting gaps as not all information is recorded. Governance by government still occupies a large portion (over 80%), and not all protected areas have information on governance type. The database allows for validation, among others.

21. Regarding protected areas management effectiveness (PAME), in response to CBD notification to Parties requesting reporting, 169 countries responded, 69 different assessment systems were reported and 20% of protected areas have reported assessments even though there was some confusion over what was being requested. Overall, she reported that 10% of protected areas in WDPA have management



effectiveness information recorded in the Global Database on Protected Area Management Effectiveness (GD-PAME), which is also managed and maintained by UNEP-WCMC. She also talked about ecological representation and connectivity as well as the potential of inclusive, diverse conservation with case examples of IPLC-governed protected areas from Brazil and Namibia. The question is what more can we learn from the WDPA. She mentioned various indicators and the possibility of generating information by country, among others. She introduced the Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) Registry and talked about Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) as well.

22. Ms. Kingston, who was following on Skype, was given a chance to add her views. The main questions were: what can be currently fed into the WDPA, and what would be the steps to do so? Willingness to share information was also mentioned as an issue. The discussion showed the importance of the WDPA data and that there are still many opportunities to substantially increase or enhance progress. The issues that were raised included: how to communicate to Parties that it is a responsibility to submit data in the appropriate form to facilitate aggregation and analysis at regional and global level. It is suggested that some guidance be included in the database. WDPA data restrictions and data recording issues were also mentioned as problems.

23. Ms. Corrigan explained that in addition to polygons, the WDPA accepts point data<sup>5</sup> as some countries have information only in this form, as well as submission of data in national languages. However, the challenge with the data restrictions is mainly related to the large number of data providers and data contributor agreements. Furthermore, some countries prevent sharing of their information externally even though they allow it to be used by UNEP-WCMC for calculations of national and global protected area coverage. There may also be a need to address verification processes. Overall, although WDPA is recognized as the database for protected areas, there is still varying understanding of its role and how it is managed. There are gaps in data (e.g. on privately protected areas, OECMs, ICCAs...), some countries still submit point data which can lead to difficult data management, and there are issues with reporting from some countries and confidentiality. Reporting to WDPA is only once a year in the case of the European Union and other countries report less often or report when they make a change to their national protected areas system.

24. Hence, it is recommended to make sure that timing of reporting is right at this time. While the sixth national reports (6NRs) were mentioned, Mr. Gidda intervened by explaining that there will also be six workshops in 2020 to reconcile the figures – Parties will be asked to determine the status, gaps and opportunities and this information will be used to report to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) in 2020. Hence, Ms. MacKinnon proposed to meet with a small group later in the evening of the following day to sort out the different points raised during this dialogue and the meeting was adjourned.

## **IV. DAY TWO – 25 APRIL 2019**

### **A. INTRODUCTION TO AND PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

25. The meeting was officially opened at 8:30 am in a plenary session. Mr. Gidda started the meeting with a presentation on the operationalization of the Global Partnership for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 by highlighting the nuances and ground realities. Among others, he explained that this Partnership was launched to translate the mandate, contained in paragraph 9(d) of decision XIII/2, of facilitating the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 with its attendant multiple benefits through decentralized implementation of focussed actions, in a concerted manner, with comprehensive coordination among all relevant partners.

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<sup>5</sup> As of March 2019, more than 20,000 (8.5%) records in the WDPA are recorded as points.

26. With less than two years remaining to the target date, the Partnership will serve to stimulate regional implementation support networks and donors to align their activities towards the decentralized implementation of focused actions for the achievement of Target 11. He also reiterated that among all Aichi Biodiversity Targets with a 2020 end date, only Target 11 showed promising results during fourth assessment of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 4). The strategy is to:

- a) Start with a clear knowledge and identification of what needs to be achieved;
- b) Identify what actions should be undertaken to achieve what needs to be achieved; and
- c) Actual effective implementation of those actions.

27. He further explained that by aligning and mapping activities with their partners in their region, each coordination agency uses an action plan for its regions and also enables a regional implementation support network to facilitate decentralized implementation of focussed actions in a concerted manner to speed up progress in the elements of Target 11 and achieve or even surpass this Target by 2020.

28. He mentioned the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment that will be presented the following week. He also raised important questions for reflection by the participants, such as, how to show what is done and not done (progress and gaps), and how to monitor and report in 2020. Concerning the multiple benefits from the achievement of Target 11, he mentioned the viability of enhancing implementation of even the smallest actions. He proclaimed that it is, indeed, possible to achieve Target 11 through concerted efforts and highlighted the importance of aligning activities to achieve Target 11 while fulfilling one's own mandate. This requires identifying what is to be achieved, what actions are needed and how priority actions identified by Parties and those in the revised NBSAPs could be implemented. Then, he asked the following important questions: *a) Is it possible for all partners to come together, pooling their energies and resources together and push the cart or paddle the canoe in one direction? b) Can the Partnership facilitate the realization of at least five or six of the nine elements of Target 11 and the achievement of this target with its attendant multiple benefits by 2020?*

29. He explained that the sub-regional assessment of status, gaps and opportunities are good references and are meant to assist each of the 12 sub-regions to consider national priorities and commitments (e.g. in NBSAPs, Ocean Conference, etc.), approach partners and enable regional implementation support networks of partners in their sub-region, find out what they are involved in and how they can help align their activities, identify projects to fill the gaps in implementation to enhance the elements of Target 11 from the status in 2019, in a decentralized and concerted manner. To further illustrate, he went on presenting a case study on Cuba using examples from the projects of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). He reminded that every measure and every action to improve the status of Target 11, will enhance not only the quantitative but also qualitative elements, and increase the chance to achieve Target 11 by 2020. Hence, he concluded with a strong **Call to Action**.

30. Ms. Kathy MacKinnon, Chair of the meeting, opened the floor for questions and discussion by reiterating one of the important question raised by Mr. Gidda: Do you think it is feasible to enhance implementation, fill at least some of the gaps, improve the status of at least 4 or 5 of the elements and achieve Target 11 by 2020? She also advised the participants to continue thinking about this throughout the meeting.

31. Mr. Vainuupo Jungblut, Protected Areas Officer, Strategic Policy and Technical Programmes at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), was the first to take the floor asking how the Secretariat of the CBD can help enhance willingness and engagement of Parties. Mr. Gidda responded by expressing his intention of reaching out to Parties at Ministerial level, enclosing their road maps submitted in 2015-2016 workshop series, and inviting their attention to the letter jointly signed by the Environment Ministers of the host countries and the Executive Secretary of the Convention, to inform them of the progress in the elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 resulting from their actions

and to seek their further political support to continue implementation through the regional implementation support networks.

32. Mr. Nigel Dudley, Researcher at and Owner of Equilibrium Research, reminded that there will be a need for a clear guidance on how to report to WDPA (which can be quite challenging at this time for non-government data providers), identifying what is possible or not for UNEP-WCMC. He also mentioned that as Parties are still trying to understand OECMs, it will be necessary to provide them with a clear guidance. Appropriate accounting for OECMs can contribute to the achievement of Target 11.

33. Ms. Malta Qwathekana, Senior Policy Advisor, at International Biodiversity and Heritage Cooperation, Department of Environmental Affairs of the Government of South Africa, mentioned that she would like to facilitate a regional workshop in her region to get people to commit as well as report and prepare for COP 15. Mr. Gidda explained that, at this point, the issue is mostly about coordination of implementation, and how to address gaps to achieve Target 11. Ms. Amber Himes-Cornell, Fishery Officer at the Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Resources Division, of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), indicated that there will be a need for sector specific guidance as well. For example, how can fisheries contribute? How to make an appropriate assessment? Ms. MacKinnon responded by reminding that there is a guidance for OECMs being finalized, and that what is needed at present is concerted efforts for interpreting and implementing focussed actions to achieve Target 11 by 2020. Mr. Gidda added that there are also guiding COP decisions and that it is impossible to provide guidance for each sector.

34. Mr. Stig Johansson, Director, International Affairs, Parks and Wildlife of the Government of Finland, raised few questions for reflection: How can we address the national agencies responsible for this implementation? Where can we contribute more and how can we enhance progress, track and monitor? Will there be a need for notification to motivate Parties to upgrade their engagement? What is the best mechanism to motivate countries to move forward? In Europe for instance, the European Commission can facilitate the push forward.

35. While Mr. Jonas Geldmann, Marie Skłodowski-Curie Research Fellow at the Conservation Research Institute of the University of Cambridge and Co-Chair of the IUCN-WCPA Management Effectiveness Specialist Group, reminded of the need to resource the WDPA, Mr. Michael Wong, Regional Vice-Chair for North America, at IUCN-WCPA, reminded of the importance of informing Parties that this is the time to act, to clean-up their data and report. He also wondered whether we can rely on OECMs as panacea. He mentioned that we may need a strategy for OECMs and consider encouraging commitments for protection as well.

36. Mr. Boris Erg, Director of IUCN-WCPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia which is currently working with Secretariat of the CBD as a sub-regional coordination agency, reminded that as Target 11 has 9 elements, effectiveness assessment is not enough and that we really have to plan reporting on the other elements as well. Mr. Gregoire Dubois, Project Leader Global Conservation and Development at European Commission-Joint Research Centre (EC-JRC), supported the overall vision. However, he highlighted the importance of less cumbersome documents, identification of hotspots, and basic elements, among others. He reassured that, in this case, it is easy to establish a system to track progress every month or at some other specific interval. Commitments are explained to refer to identified actions.

37. Ms. Noelle Kumpel, Head of Policy at BirdLife International, questioned how to translate all this including OECMs to be able to have the right information by 2020. Mr. Gidda explained that actions are not taken on an individual basis but as concerted efforts by all. We also need to find ways of effectively communicating the multiple benefits, i.e. highlighting the contribution of Target 11 as natural solution to socio-economic and environmental challenges to enhance the well-being of society.

## **B. DISCUSSIONS ON CURRENT STATUS AND ACTION PLANS OF SUB-REGIONS**

38. Sub-regional presentations started in plenary after a short coffee break.

### **a) Pacific Islands Sub-region**

39. In his presentation Mr. Jungblut indicated that SPREP, also a sub-regional coordination agency for the Pacific region working with the SCBD, is involved in various conservation activities and protected areas. He mentioned that marine protected areas (MPAs) are very important to the Pacific Island countries and that, in general, protected areas play a fundamental role in safeguarding natural resources, maintaining ecosystem services, livelihoods and culture. However, an important issue in the region is access to reliable, comprehensive and relevant up-to-date information.

40. The current status in the Pacific is that while terrestrial protection is only at 5% according to the WDPA, MPAs have reached 22%. Governance and equity assessment is at 22% and while 9 of the 22 endemic and near endemic marine ecoregions have 10% protection, about 5 of 27 endemic/near endemic terrestrial ecoregions have 17% protection, and about 20% of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are covered by protected areas. Mr. Jungblut also mentioned that the majority of the Pacific Island countries have not reported management effectiveness assessments to the GD-PAME. Among sites recorded in the WDPA, 22% have not reported their governance type. He mentioned that gaps have been assessed through a range of national, regional, and global processes within the Pacific since 2013. There are 458 KBAs in the region, 402 are not fully covered by protected areas. Furthermore, 5 terrestrial ecoregions are high priority candidates for further protection as their occurrence in the region is more than 25% and protection is less than 17%.

41. Mr. Jungblut further indicated that the commitments include those in NBSAPs, National Development Strategies, the SAMOA Pathway to conserve by 2020 at least 10% of coastal and marine areas in Small Island Developing States, the Micronesia Challenge which is a shared commitment to conserve at least 30% of near-shore marine resources and 20% of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020, and the obligations to achieve the SDGs. He mentioned opportunities include, for example, GEF 6 Vanuatu ECARE project aiming to increase coverage of Vanuatu's marine ecosystems by at least 5,000,000 ha; Niue Ocean Wide (NOW) project planning to declare 40% of its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) as a marine sanctuary by 2020 (i.e. 156,000sq.km); and Tuvalu R2R, towards enhancing its Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMA), including MPAs by 15%. There will also be WDPA training in July 2019. Protected areas data collection, review and update in the region are currently supported by the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme (BIOPAMA) and partnership with UNEP-WCMC.

42. Mr. Jungblut then explained that partnership, coordination and networking are done through the Pacific Islands Round Table for Nature Conservation (PIRT) – Protected Area Working Group (PAWG) as well as the Pacific Islands Regional Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. Regional partners include PIRT-PAWG members, IUCN, Conservation International (CI), BirdLife International, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA Fiji), and BIOPAMA. While SPREP hosts and maintains the Pacific Islands Protected Areas Portal (PIPAP); SPREP, TNC and CI take care of country coordination, data collation, review update and analysis; BirdLife identifies agreed protected areas and sites that qualify as OECMs and verifies requirements; and World Conservation Society (WCS) deals with establishment of conservation deeds for conserved areas in different regions. Work on the elements of Target 11 is covered in the PIRT-PAWG Action Plan which consists of 30 activities, linked with regional nature conservation, protected areas framework objectives, and CBD indicators.

43. Regarding ideas for monitoring, Mr. Jungblut mentioned approaches such as country visits and consultation, annual PIRT meetings, bi-annual SPREP meeting of officials, and 5-yearly Pacific Island

protected areas related conferences. In conclusion, he mentioned the importance of garnering high level national political support for catalysing actions and commitments; accelerating country engagement, data collection and updating; as well as working closely with countries and UNEP-WCMC. He further mentioned stepping up efforts of the PIRT-PAWG to implement the Pacific Islands Action Plan and strengthen coordination on joint activities ideal for the Pacific region.

## **b) Latin American Sub-region**

44. Ms. Maria Renata Cao de la Fuente, Project Coordinator at Pronatura Mexico A.C. was the next to make a presentation. Pronatura A.C. is the sub-regional coordination agency for the Latin American sub-region with the collaboration of REDPARQUES working with the Secretariat of the CBD. She mentioned that ALFA<sup>6</sup> 2020 - an Alliance between Secretariat of the CBD, REDPARQUES and Pronatura Mexico, FAO and others involves work with 19 countries in Latin America.

45. Ms. Cao de la Fuente mentioned that the current status for Latin American terrestrial protected areas is 23.6% and for MPAs 18.1%. However, there are differences among countries and gaps in the qualitative elements of Target 11. She explained that overall 53.3% of all ecoregions are protected with at least 17% coverage. Furthermore, marine ecoregions with at least 10% representation in protected areas systems is 50%. While 49% of all KBAs are protected, for connectivity, the target is 100% reaching 17% coverage by protected-connected lands (based on the ProtConn Indicator) and the status in the Latin American region is on average 12.55% coverage leaving a large gap. COP decision X/31 called for evaluation of management effectiveness in at least 60% of all protected areas; in Latin American only 40.7% are so far evaluated. She indicated that even though there has been a lot of progress quantitatively, there are still gaps in terms of the qualitative elements of Target 11

46. She highlighted that reminding Parties of their commitments and the gaps would probably motivate them to fill the gaps. In the case of Latin America, only 0.7% of registrations in WDPA are Indigenous Communities Conserved Areas (ICCAs). Government does not generally recognize them as protected areas and some of them do not want to be registered either. She mentioned that various efforts are being invested currently, not only to identify such areas and but also map their coverage and secure them by recognizing and supporting them. Stronger security of tenure is also desirable in this regard. She also highlighted that the broad goal is to secure a large part of our planet as territories of life, possibly well beyond 50% as part of a mosaic of land and sea uses that sustain the life and wellness of all living beings.

47. She went on to explain that formalizing ALFA 2020 as the REDPARQUES initiative to achieve Aichi Target 11 includes: identification and recognition of OECMs in the region (country-by-country approach); recognition of the importance of biodiversity by local governments through protected areas and OECMs; discussions on OECMs and reporting mechanism (e.g. Latin American Protected Planet); and fostering a healthy competition, capacity building and “regional solutions to regional problems”. Through South-South cooperation and experience sharing, she mentioned that it is also possible to homologate criteria for PAME evaluation in the region (the minimum necessary), maybe through application of the IUCN Green List criteria? Regional discussion of the connectivity framework, especially for marine areas; and aligning GEF and other bilateral and multilateral organisms financing objectives to fill gaps are also among the activities.

48. To further develop the regional action plan a questionnaire was sent to 258 people consisting of National Focal Points (NFP) and members of the regional implementation support network; and 40 constructive answers have been received so far. The action plan has 5 objectives : a) monitoring and sharing the progress in achieving Target 11; b) supporting the countries in transforming their

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<sup>6</sup> Latin American Alliance to Strengthen Protected Areas by 2020 (ALFA)

commitments and priorities into actions; c) seizing the opportunities and aligning mechanisms to maximize resources in achieving the targets; d) strengthening ALFA 2020; and e) setting the agenda for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

49. Ms. Cao de la Fuente went on to explain the commitments of the countries, starting with the case of Cuba which has declared 16 protected areas in 2019 and will declare 15 more in 2020 to fill the quantitative gap. This will help cover 20% of KBAs, important wetlands, marine ecoregions, as well as mountain ecoregions. She also mentioned that just by updating the information in the WDPA, they could increase coverage by approximately 485,953.57Km<sup>2</sup> that would increase marine coverage from 18.1% to 20.85% at sub-regional level. An issue is that the geo-locations of some of the protected areas are not well known. However, some countries are doubling their commitments while others are updating information by comparing them with information in conventional sources.

50. In terms of regional partners of ALFA 2020 – IAPA Project (Amazonian Vision), she mentioned that activities include updating of current status of Aichi Target 11; management effectiveness protocol; facilitating the implementation of key priority actions; conducting regional workshops in Amazonian countries; aligning protected areas and OECMs with CBD decision at the local government level; capacity building; enhancing legal and institutional frameworks and communication; and working with the environment ministries of countries.

51. The way forward is also mentioned to include formalizing ALFA 2020 as the REDPARQUES initiative to achieve Target 11; identification and recognition of OECMs; recognition of conservation actions by local governments; fostering healthy competition; regional discussion on connectivity (especially marine); and aligning Global Environment Facility and other bilateral and multilateral organisms financing objective to fill in the gaps, among many others. In conclusion, Ms. Cao de la Fuente talked about the way forward focussing on a country-by-country approach and conservation by local governments. She also indicated that they will monitor progress in every country and facilitate the exchange of experiences and practices among them.

### **c) Eastern Europe and Central Asian Sub-region**

52. The presentation regarding Eastern Europe and Central Asia was by Mr. Erg. He mentioned that there was a workshop for post-2020 in the same region, the week before. They work mostly with Balkan countries, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and with the cooperation of IUCN-Central and Eastern Europe.

53. Mr. Erg mentioned that there are only two countries that met the 17% protection for terrestrial protected areas in the sub-region, and no country that met the target of 10% for marine protected areas. Coverage for the sub-region is 8.5% for terrestrial protected areas and 2.9% for MPAs, and none of the countries have reached their national targets. Furthermore, average coverage of protected-connected lands in the sub-region is 1.6% and 2 out of 17 CBD Parties have at least 17% coverage by protected-connected lands. Out of 67 terrestrial ecoregions with at least 25% of their area in the sub-region, 21 have passed 17% coverage by protected areas. Out of 11 marine ecoregions with at least 25% of their area in the sub-region, 3 have passed 10% cover by protected areas.

54. He further mentioned that there are 1305 terrestrial and 140 marine KBAs in the sub-region. Mean percent coverage of KBAs in the sub-region is 26.18% for terrestrial and 27.29% for marine KBAs. He went on to explain that as of January 2019, Tajikistan has reached the 60% PAME assessment target for terrestrial while Armenia and Tajikistan have reached the 50%; Russia and Turkmenistan have surpassed 60% for MPAs. Gaps are found in both the quantitative and qualitative elements. For example, 1,263 KBAs are not fully covered by reported protected areas; 46 terrestrial (of which 42 are high priorities) and 8 marine ecoregions, as well as 2 pelagic provinces are candidates for further protection as their occurrence in the region is more than 25%.

55. Furthermore, Mr. Erg presented cases of commitments from countries of the sub-region which could address specific gaps identified for elements of Target 11. Azerbaijan plans to enlarge terrestrial protected areas by 12%; Belarus by 22%; Turkmenistan by 10-12%; Russia intends to reach 17% protection by 2020, among others. In terms of opportunities in the region, he reminded of the potential for designation of large-scale protected areas and OECMs, as well as MPAs; for connectivity, he mentioned the work of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and Central Asian Mammal Initiative (CAMI). He also reminded that bringing Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) in Danger, with none or partial protection, under protected areas or OECMs; and improving the management effectiveness of all sites, are further actions of high priority. He also indicated that 2.5 million hectares of land are pledged for restoration in the 2018 Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape in Caucasus and Central Asia – including substantial pledges by Armenia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

56. Mr. Erg mentioned the regional partners as including Michael-Succow-Foundation, Frankfurt Zoological Society, and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), BirdLife International, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), EC, Caucasus Nature Fund (CNF), Ramsar Regional Initiative for Central Asia (RRI-CA), Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP), Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), Flora and Fauna International (FFI), Panthera, FAO/UNECE, UNDP, UNEP, among others. For instance, FAO and Michael Succow Foundation are involved in Central Asian Desert Initiative (CADI); WWF-ECONET and Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), WCS, Panthera, among others, are involved in research; and partners, such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the European Union and the Government of Germany's International Climate Initiative (IKI) and Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and UNDP have leveraging potential.

57. He also talked about the ongoing work to address specific gaps for the regional action plan: a) identification of partners and contributors (completed); b) analysis of gaps and opportunities (ongoing); c) alignment of ongoing activities (ongoing); and d) translation of opportunities into action (up-coming). In terms of ideas for monitoring, he highlighted the importance of NBSAP, and 6NRs; monitoring regional progress, aligning activities thematically and tailoring them to the Aichi Target 11 elements, and other global initiatives (e.g. the Green List, Bonn Challenge, WHC Conservation Outlook, WDPA, etc.).

58. In conclusion, he talked about the importance of designated national and partner contact points, permanent consultation with key national and international partners; e.g. ad hoc Aichi Target 11 working group(s); based on a common approach (standardized template and guidance notes); capacity development; leverage with on-going and planned initiatives and funding programmes e.g. CEPF Mountains of Central Asia (MCA), Save our Species (SOS) Larger than Tigers, etc. He also pointed out that the regional action plan is in progress.

#### **d) Central and Eastern European Sub-region**

59. Ms. Jana Kus Veenliet, Scientific Manager at Zavoid Symbiosis, in Slovenia, and representative of IUCN-WCPA Europe, also a coordination agency working with the SCBD, made a presentation on the status and action plan for Central and Eastern Europe. She mentioned that Europe has surpassed the 17% target for terrestrial and is almost reaching the 10% marine coverage target. There are 4,358 terrestrial and 1,152 marine KBAs in Europe and that their mean percentage coverage by protected areas is 68%. However, 72% of KBAs are not fully covered by protected areas and hence, bringing these under protected areas or OECMs, improving management and focussing on Alliance for Zero Extinction sites (AZEs) and IBAs in Danger would be ideal for the region. While coverage of pelagic ecoregions by protected areas is insufficient, there is reasonably better coverage for terrestrial and marine ecoregions. Further protection will be needed for 18 terrestrial, 9 marine and 5 pelagic ecoregions. 5 terrestrial ecoregions are a high priority as they have sufficient suitable unprotected land to meet the 17% target without restoration.

60. Ms. Kus Veenvliet indicated that some countries in Europe have reached the 60% PAME assessment target, though not all. An important challenge in Europe is the conflict between protected areas and agriculture, in general. She mentioned that in the next year, they can encourage the countries in the region to further enhance progress in the management of protected areas and that there is need to account for OECMs. There is also room for improvement of coverage of ecoregions both in terrestrial and marine areas. In conclusion, she also highlighted issues related to resource allocation. While there is a lot to do, there is either not enough resource for investment or a need for appropriate reallocation. To this, Mr. Erg also commented that upstream engagement with Partners could help in terms of funding and technical support.

61. Commenting on the presentation on Central and Eastern European region, Mr. Stig Johansson, Director, International Affairs at Park and Wildlife in Finland, mentioned that issues probably are different in the Northern and Western Europe, from other parts of the region where there are many strongly binding tools and partners that can assist the region. Ms. Natasha Ali, Programme Officer for Protected Areas Information and Policy, at IUCN-Global Protected Areas Programme (GPAP) mentioned the case of BIOPAMA which addresses gaps in the Pacific region. She also talked about issues related to reporting on management effectiveness and the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas.

62. Then, Mr. Dudley reminded that the KBA Partnership does not require KBAs to be covered by protected areas. Mr. Andrew Rhodes Espinoza from National Commission of Protected Natural Areas (CONANP), representing the Government of Mexico and supporting Mr. Dudley also questioned the return on investment in KBAs being covered by protected areas. He mentioned that the Amazon needs to also map transboundary regions. While Ms. Qwathekana raised questions regarding the challenge of accounting for the elements of Target 11, Mr. Johansson highlighted the need *to identify existing pipelines (protected areas already in the process of being gazetted) and making use of that to accelerate progress in Target 11* (e.g. Natura 2000).

63. Ms. Kumpel reminded that it is important to be careful when trying to measure the elements of Target 11 so that we do not lose information due to potential trade-offs. However, Ms. MacKinnon, Chair of the meeting, indicated that there should not be any trade-off issues as the objective will be to just pick the “*low-hanging fruits*” and enhance progress within this short timeframe before reporting to COP 15 of the Convention. She reminded further about the need to consider the political realities in some countries (e.g. Canada) and the difficulty of pushing for all of the elements at the same time. Mr. Gidda also remarked that we are not pushing just the quantitative elements, but encouraging, doing our best to speed up implementation and record what is done, and appropriately report.

64. Mr. Wong also reminded of the importance of delineating between what we need to focus on during the period leading to COP 15 from what can be done during the post-2020 period. Mr. Geldmann added that these coming months should also be used to learn and prepare for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Mr. Rhodes Espinoza highlighted the importance of thinking in terms of the media headline and coverage that we want to see in 2020 and making it happen by investing the necessary efforts.

#### **e) North American Sub-region**

65. Mr. Wong, Regional Vice-Chair for North America, at IUCN-WCPA, also a sub-regional coordination agency collaborating with the Secretariat of the CBD, started by discussing the status of Target 11 in Canada (Canada Target 1). He mentioned that terrestrial protected areas currently stand at 10.4%. Although the gap is less than 7%, this is very a big space as Canada covers a very large area. He indicated that marine coverage reached 7.92%, increasing from under 1% just two years ago. This represents very important work in Canada. Furthermore, OECMs played an important role in this. He



mentioned that there are 55 Acts in Canada related to the creation of protected areas covering 77 distinct types of protected areas.

66. Mr. Wong also indicated that for 95.43% of the protected areas, governance is by Government, shared governance represents 3.7%, by IPLCs 0.09%, not reported 0.8% and private governance 0.01%. Regarding management effectiveness, he mentioned that it is at infancy but that there is some work incorporating the Green List criteria in the assessment of protected areas. He reported that many of the protected areas do not account for KBAs, and expressed his hope that the new funding by the government may help.

67. In terms of opportunities, he mentioned the existence of indigenous reserves, private protected areas and OECMs for the long term, but not necessarily prior to 2020. To achieve its commitments, Canada is providing funding to improve protected areas. Also, he informed the participants that the best kept areas are the Federal protected areas and that Canada has allocated \$1.3 billion for conservation over the next three years. Government support is available for investment in protection which the Government supports by matching the invested amounts. For instance the Green Budget Coalition (GBC) brings together 22 leading Canadian environmental organizations, to present an analysis of the most pressing issues regarding environmental sustainability in Canada and to make a consolidated annual set of recommendations to the Federal Government regarding strategic fiscal and budgetary opportunities. Mr. Wong also mentioned the presence of many regional partners, such as Oceans North, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), WWF-Canada, Parks Canada, Canadian Wildlife Federation, among others.

68. Mr. Wong then talked about OECMs. He indicated that a decision support tool has been developed and that multiple mechanisms and governing authorities will have to be considered for individual sites. He also mentioned the screening standards common to protected areas and OECMs, and those that help differentiate among them. As part of Canada's accounting framework, Canada will track fully established, interim and candidate protected areas. He also mentioned Edehzhie in the Dehcho region the Northwest Territory, Canada's first Indigenous PA (14,249 Km<sup>2</sup>), supported by the Nature Fund and an example of reconciliation in action. This site, he mentioned, will also be recognized as a National Wildlife Area in 2020, affording long-term protection for the site. The purpose is conservation of wildlife and ecological integrity, maintaining the Dene Edehzhie relationship, allowing for traditional harvesting, and incorporating Dene language and culture into decisions. There are also Conservation Zones in Canada which are significant traditional, cultural, heritage and ecological areas in which specified land uses are prohibited (over 2 million ha or 0.3% of the country).

69. Mr. Wong also provided information on Canada Target 16 which states that: *“By 2020, Canada has a comprehensive inventory of protected spaces that includes private conservation areas”*, and the related Database managed by the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). Then, he indicated that the next step includes reviewing the draft OECM screening tool, following jurisdictional review. He concluded by reminding that Canada has accomplished a lot in the last two years and reassuring that this country is committed to reaching the 17% target by 2020 and that this can be done. To prevent protected areas from becoming paper parks, he highlighted that it may be better to designate them based on the Green List criteria. These criteria contain the recommendations to follow for the establishment of protected areas (good governance, sound design and planning, effective management, together supporting successful conservation outcomes). Mr. Johansson commented that Natura 2000 management effectiveness criteria are also worth looking into.

### **Visit of the Isle of Vilm**

70. The participants of the meeting, led by Ms. Stolpe, made a very interesting tour of the Island during lunch time. Ms. Stolpe explained the geographical and historical aspects and showed the

participants all of the important parts to the Island. She pointed out the natural changes that have been occurring on the Island over the years as well as the care and protection efforts invested to conserve it. She also offered to provide the key to the famous museum on the Island for the participants to enjoy the artwork during their break after the meeting.

#### **f) South Asian Sub-region**

71. Ms. Ruchi Pant, Programme Manager, National Resources Management and Biodiversity, at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) started by mentioning that UNDP India and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) have been designated by the SCBD as coordinators for enabling sub-regional implementation support network and facilitating implementation and achievement of Target 11 in nine<sup>7</sup> countries in the South Asia region. Although this region includes India and Pakistan which are not the best of friends, ICIMOD is expected to create the harmony necessary to achieve Target 11. She indicated that they already crunched all of the information sent to them by the Secretariat into one information table. They have listed all of the countries, gathered the latest information, commitments and actions including those in the NBSAPs, both for marine and terrestrial areas.

72. She mentioned that Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Nepal have already surpassed the target and fulfilled their commitment in their NBSAPs for the terrestrial coverage (48%, 30%, 24% coverage respectively); India reported 27% protected areas (PA and MPA) in its 6 NR. There are few countries that are lagging behind. Ms. Pant also indicated that there are numerous opportunities for speeding up progress and achieving all of the 9 elements in the South Asia region. These include multilateral and bilateral projects, including GEF, to advance progress in the elements of Target 11. Among the opportunities, she listed rationalization of PAs boundaries (e.g. Iran's national priority action); expansion of PAs (Bangladesh's national priority action mentions this for both PAs and MPAs; reporting on PAs involving harmonization of data and enhancing reporting to WDPA to solve current underreporting; expanding the definitions of PAs, i.e. adding more area by redefining the PA category.

73. She further indicated that UNDP is willing to work with ICIMOD and that most of the opportunities in this region lie in the OECM area, and not really the establishment of protected areas. For instance in India there are some rules – e.g. proper monitoring has to be done and government rules and regulations respected. She further noted that four broad governance categories for the classification of OECMs in India are being considered. Those managed by Government, Community, Privately and Co-managed. Preparing indicators for evaluating OECMs (Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) for OECM). There are opportunities in identifying, mapping, analysing governance regimes, validating and reporting. She also showed various mapping of different elements of the status of Target 11 in India. She indicated that by adding all protected spaces, it is possible to show the contribution that these areas make to the global status.

74. Ms. Pant highlighted that for protected areas, there is an opportunity for completing all reporting of unreported protected areas, wetlands, and eco-sensitive zones that are protected in India. In terms of OECMs in India – Armies, Biodiversity Conferences (ABD) in the past, Community Conserved Areas (CCA), Private Protected Areas (PPAs), and home gardens are proposed for consideration. Partners working on various activities include GIZ, The World Bank, GEF, UNDP-GEF, India Business and Biodiversity Initiative, BirdLife International, UN Environment GEF-Wetland International; CBD National and PoWPA Focal Points; International NGOs such as WWF and IUCN and national partners including Government institutions, industries and corporates, civil society and academic institutes... **She requested for Mr. Dubois' cooperation to help her ensure that all the protected areas that she talked about are properly recorded.**

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<sup>7</sup> These countries consist of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri-Lanka.

75. She mentioned that they have already compiled a regional Action Plan and communicated with partners to help identify and map OECMs. Future actions include analysing and reporting OECMs, in-person training on GIS mapping and use of METT to get information on sustainability, creating an E-Network under NBSAP Forum, the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), capacity building, and regional workshops. For instance, for management effectiveness of tigers, evaluation is covered in all 700 parks. She pointed out that the challenge in general is encouraging and enhancing the engagement of governments to report. At least in India they intend to test the governance assessment tools and will also approach National Geographic for this. There are still some gaps and challenges and incomplete information, including for management effectiveness. The fact that UNDP is the main GEF implementing agency may help facilitate implementation in this region.

76. She concluded by pointing out further that ideas for monitoring include tracking and monitoring progress of implementation of the regional action plan and follow-up, e.g. with CBD National Focal Points; countries regarding their national priority actions and encouraging them to report to WDPA. Challenges include the need for specific indicators for evaluating effectiveness of Target 11 elements such as connectivity and governance; limited time, financial resources and manpower; and multiple reporting agencies.

77. Mr. Dubois asked about technical support in the region and Mr. Wong reiterated the challenges of obtaining data in the next few months. Mr. Elpidio V. Peria, Programme specialist at the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), also doing collaborative work with the Secretariat of the CBD as coordination agency in East and Southeast Asian Sub-region, shared that, at times, they use questionnaires to get the required information. However, a reminder is given by Mr. Gidda that **information should go through the official vetting process with the Parties or officially submitted by the Parties. It is agreed that contacting National Focal Points with a letter from the SCBD could be useful in this case.**

78. Ms. Qwathekana asked also if, indeed, BIOPAMA will cover the rest of Africa and the Caribbean, as these sub-regions currently lack coordination agencies. BIOPAMA is collecting information and may include these regions as well. Mr. Erg informed the group that BIOPAMA has published a document, *inter alia*, mapping of protected areas and international projects. He commented that their approach looks top-down.

#### **g) Western and Central African Sub-region**

79. Mr. Omer Ntougou, Executive Secretary of the Central African Network of Protected Areas representing WCPA West and Central Africa, which will coordinate the work in these regions, shared that the main problem in the regions is that biodiversity and conservation are not on the top level Government agenda or programmes. Conditions are also different in West and Central Africa. In West Africa<sup>8</sup> 13% of the area of 16 countries is protected on average. Some countries have surpassed the target while others lag behind. In Central Africa<sup>9</sup>, on the other hand, protected areas represent 18% on average in the eight countries. At the exception of Cameroon and Democratic Republic of Congo which did not still meet the quantitative target, all of the other countries have surpassed the target of 17%, even though some of them did not attain the very ambitious goal they had set for themselves.

80. Mr. Ntougou went on to discuss the difficulties in management of protected areas in Central Africa, the different types of protected areas (national parks, forest reserves and sanctuaries) and those protected areas that are sustainably financed (such as the ones in Congo and Central African Republic).

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<sup>8</sup> Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

<sup>9</sup> Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe.

He mentioned that protected areas in Central and West Africa are threatened by poverty, terrorism and armed conflicts, poaching, and lack of inter-sectoral integration, among others, causing biodiversity degradation and massive displacement of people. All of the countries in these regions are putting emphasis on enhancing management effectiveness even though many of the sites are under-financed, and suffer from insufficiency or lack of other resources such as human, equipment.

81. In terms of actions to be undertaken between now and 2020, Mr. Ntougou also mentioned the identification of cultural and indigenous heritage areas (APAC or ICCA). Although many sites are identified, many more are not known or valued, and sometimes they cover large areas. There are also opportunities to boost the protection of marine areas, by also identifying areas of ecological and biological importance (e.g. EBSAs). These areas are already identified for the entire Atlantic Coast of Africa and protective measures could be defined consensually. In West Africa, the challenge is that only two countries have attempted to reach Target 11 for marine and coastal areas – coverage is only 1% on average and only Guinea-Bissau has reached the target. In Central Africa, at the exception of Gabon (29% coverage), the other countries have not attained this target (8% coverage on average). Regarding MPAs collaboration is currently starting between West and Central Africa.

82. Mr. Ntougou went on to explain that many countries are motivated and recognize the importance of effective management of the existing protected areas. However, funding is a very serious problem in the regions - especially sustainable financing - and there is also a problem of generating sufficient and reliable information and data. Currently, tri-national transboundary regional agreement (Gabon, Congo and Cameroon) is being developed under BIOPAMA, especially for MPAs. This aims towards sustainable management. He concluded that it is under this framework that countries are trying to develop other PAs. He further indicated that analysis of KBAs is not finalized - they have identified the sites and are looking for funding.

#### **h) East and Southeast Asia Sub-region**

83. Mr. Peria made a presentation to provide some updates from Southeast Asia. ABC facilitates implementation to achieve Target 11 in line with the agreements with its member states. ACB is preparing a SMART action plan with the collaboration of United Nations University. He started by mentioning that priority actions should not be understood as official statements of policy as they would still undergo further discussions at the various levels of authority in the case of Southeast Asia.

84. He, then, presented the status and gaps in progress of the elements of Target 11 for Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Thailand and Singapore for both terrestrial and marine protected areas. Although some countries provide status information, there are still challenges in getting the right feedback (funding being an issue), including language barriers to communicate with main decision makers of Parties. Due in part to diversity of interest, it is not always easy to get them to monitor and report. For instance, Thailand is interested in OECMs and sees opportunities in them.

85. In terms of regional partners, he indicated, IUCN, WCS, Flora and Fauna International-Myanmar, WWF-Philippines, Tebtebba Foundation and Haribon Foundation, among others. He further indicated that ASEAN member States, through the units in the appropriate ministries dealing with protected areas are, at the moment, working to address challenges in implementation arising from Target 11 commitments. Partners are also reminded that their activities should also include the priority actions and commitments of Target 11 to enhance progress and achieve the target on time.

86. Mr. Peria also explained that the proposed regional action plan (June to December 2019) includes: fine-tuning priority actions and commitments by validating the numbers and specifics; fast tracking and regular monitoring of protected areas already in the pipeline; OECM regional initiative (including in-depth seminar on methodologies and technical guidelines); inventory of possible areas for consideration as OECMs including existing approaches like Ramsar declaration; coordinated actions to

identify and recognize OECMs; resource mobilization (refining funding requests etc.); and expert pooling and deployment including prioritization of requests for technical support.

87. In terms of ideas for monitoring, Mr. Peria suggested agreeing on the specific datasets to be monitored, pinpointing the right official with sufficient level of authority who may be willing to provide information; global datasets presentation for validation; and putting together all other types of information from various sources. **The way forward, he indicated, relies on the Secretariat of the CBD continuously requesting Parties for action.** This is because regional implementation support hubs are not and cannot be enough. **Maybe there is a need for communication/notification from the Executive Secretary of Secretariat of the CBD posted on the CBD website or use of other compliance mechanisms; and submission of lessons learned and subsequent actions to support discussions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.** It is also important to develop a clear vision.

88. He also reported on the ASEAN post-2020 workshop on implementation of Target 11 that took place just before this meeting<sup>10</sup>. The vision for the post-2020 was a quantifiable target to ensure ecosystem integrity; transforming cross-sectoral collaboration including mind sets through mainstreaming across sectors. He concluded by mentioning the four thematic areas that generated various suggestions: a) mainstreaming, b) resource mobilization, c) communication; and d) integrating diverse perspectives and assuring that the priorities fit in the Asia Protected Areas Partnership (APAP) meeting.

### **C. REGIONAL GROUP SESSIONS: NORTH AND LATIN AMERICA, ASIA AND PACIFIC, EUROPE AND AFRICA**

89. The Participants were divided into three groups: a) North and Latin America, b) Asia and the Pacific, and c) Africa and Europe, to help summarize regional priorities based on the discussions of status, gaps and opportunities, discuss sub-regional actions plans, and modalities for tracking, monitoring and reporting to upcoming meetings of the Convention, and most importantly to COP 15. The groups also discussed the way forward including what should be recommended for the post-2020 period. After extensive discussion, the groups met in a plenary session to report the results of their session for further discussion. This was done to help summarise the gaps and opportunities, and the priority actions that will be needed in the next few months to enhance progress in the elements of Target 11. The results of the first round group sessions were presented and discussed further in plenary.

#### **a) Report by the Group Representing North and Latin America**

90. Mr. Wong, who served as the rapporteur of the group, presented the summary of the discussion. He mentioned that the priorities for terrestrial areas would be to finalize the existing commitments during the remaining few months prior to COP 15. The vast opportunities for enhancing the status of **OECMs in the Americas can contribute substantially to Target 11.** He mentioned that the group found that there are still gaps in management effectiveness, ecological representativity as well as connectivity. Although, there are also other gaps these three are found to be the most important ones.

91. In the marine realm, he indicated that the aim of the region would be to arrive at the required 10% coverage to achieve the target by also accounting for OECMs. The gaps are similar to the ones for terrestrial areas. Once again, there are opportunities in Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCs), OECMs, sub-national protected areas systems – e.g. ALFA 2020; North American Wilderness and Protected Areas Agreement (NAWPA); and REDPARQUES. He expressed their belief that through concerted efforts (partners, civil society, etc.) progress can be enhanced and multiple goals can be

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<sup>10</sup> Regional Workshop on Accelerating Aichi Target 11 Implementation in the East and Southeast Asia Regions, Manila, Philippines 22-23 April 2019

achieved using synergy, integration, and by highlighting contributions and benefits for attracting funding and encourage engagement. (See section on summary of thematic areas session for the region for complete information).

### **b) Report by the Group Representing Europe and Africa**

92. The rapporteur for this group was Ms. Kumpel. She mentioned that the landscape approach is not dealt with so far, including sustainable use, mainstreaming, and integration. Interim targets include valuation of protected areas, accounting for those protected areas that are not recorded in WDPA, as well as evaluation of management effectiveness. Regarding data in the WDPA on privately protected areas (PPAs), registration is still complicated.

93. She also mentioned that the group thought that it will be **important to identify pipelines and build on that, work on activities that can be consolidated and included considering the few number of months remaining**: e.g. focussing more on the qualitative elements of the Target, filling gaps such as in effective management, enhancing ecosystems services within protected areas – and also preparing for the post-2020 period. In his comment, Mr. Erg reminded that it will be important to focus on what can be achieved as a group to achieve whatever can be achieved prior to 2020 and postpone the rest to the post-2020 period. (See section on summary of thematic areas session for the region for complete information).

### **c) Report by the Group Representing Asia and the Pacific**

94. The rapporteur for this group was Mr. Jungblut. He started by giving a summary on the regional priorities. The Pacific is mostly marine-focussed with community-based management as the predominant model. He mentioned that the group welcomed the OECM decision of the COP, PAME assessments and increased terrestrial coverage, KBAs, and ecological representation. He mentioned that, for instance in Malaysia, states have more power hence there is a focus on OECMs. In India, work with OECMs and implementation has started in a four step process: identification, mapping, analysing, and reporting.

95. In terms of gaps, he mentioned that in the Pacific region there is a need for more PAME assessments to be carried out across countries, and more attention to be given to terrestrial protected areas coverage, incorporating KBAs (including AZEs) in protected areas and OECMs. **Both Asia and the Pacific require guidance and experience on application of the OECM criteria/requirements.** It is also mentioned that in Malaysia, there are many areas managed by private entities needing to be recognized as OECMs or PPAs. In India, because private sector work and initiatives related to protected areas go largely unnoticed (e.g. mangrove protection by some private entities) **guidance is needed on reporting to the WDPA.**

96. In terms of opportunities, replicating India's experience in resource mobilization in other areas is possible: proposals to donors for additional resources around October/November; NBSAPs support through the BIOFIN; support to states as needed; workshops on OECMs nationwide (4-step process); internships for mapping OECMs; and alignment with the National Biodiversity Act. India has biodiversity awards every two years, through an assessment committee, with 800 cases captured so far; targeting awards around PAME assessments could improve management effectiveness.

97. As IUCN has developed the Green List and associated criteria, candidate sites for Green Listing in the Asia-Pacific region, voluntary standards can be selected, but it will take 3-4 years to complete the assessments for both protected areas and OECMs. However, there are no Green List sites in India or the Pacific Islands or Malaysia so far. Green Listing in the Pacific will need promotion. IUCN/Oceania Region and others should take a greater role in promoting this. There are further opportunities in regional and national project and GEF 6. The IUCN-WCPA guidelines for OECMs document is being revised and screening tools exist but need to be tested (e.g. FAO training on OECMs in fisheries management). There

is a need for guidance for interpreting and operationalizing the guidelines. Testing on an informal basis would be helpful too (OECMs have to be areas effective for conservation, as quality prevails above just area coverage). The opportunities also include WDPA training for the Pacific sub-region.

98. In terms monitoring and reporting, this has to be done through the WDPA; the question is, how exactly. Mr. Jungblut also mentioned that the group also observed that not everything needs to be reported against Target 11 – e.g. traditional closures wouldn't qualify as OECMs because they would fall under Aichi Target 6 as sustainable fisheries measures. OECMs are important to be counted as part of achieving Target 11. Traditionally, the focus was on how many protected areas were established – this has shifted to a focus on qualitative aspects. Many countries also report that they want to focus on effective management rather than establishing more protected areas.

99. There is variation in what is reported on by countries – e.g. Ramsar sites are inconsistently reported as protected areas in some cases. The group also observed that Focal Points might not necessarily be dealing with OECMs though UNEP-WCMC now recognizes reporting from NGOs, other entities or individuals. Regarding the ICCA Registry, the group reminded that some ICCAs are located in protected areas and there is need to avoid the danger of double counting. The temporal version of WDPA tracks changes in country data over time (WDPA ID changes, etc.). Self-recognition and reporting of ICCAs and OECMs is IPLC lands, is mentioned to additionally avoid reporting without consent. In the case of India there are many OECMs and a lot of work is done already but not yet reported. Protected areas information is traditionally from government – but will the government report on OECMs as well? e. g. army areas which are government managed can be co-managed, government or NGO managed. Mr. Jungblut concluded by mentioning that in terms of monitoring, **review of the sixth national report can be used, but it should be suggested that each region undertakes this, NBSAP review and update, as well as other existing national and regional monitoring and reporting mechanisms.**

#### **d) Discussion on Results from the Regional Group Sessions**

100. After dinner, the group met again in a plenary session. Ms. Kathy MacKinnon, Chair of the meeting summarised the results from the three group sessions. She highlighted the focus on OECMs by all of the groups, on how to improve the data in the WDPA and taking care of protected areas in the gazettement pipelines and existing commitments to achieve Target 11. The final cut-off date for reporting was also discussed after dinner.

101. Ms. Corrigan mentioned that they will be dealing with data storage and processing. The challenge is lack of resources as there is no core funding to keep this running ideally and consistently. In the long-run the issue will be how to manage this process sustainably.

102. From UNEP-WCMC, Ms Kingston and Ms. Heather Bingham, Programme Officer, Conserving Land and Seascapes also at UNEP WCMC **informed the meeting that they would be preparing a guidance document (about 1-4 pages) for reporting to the WDPA and asked the group:** What should this guidance document look like and what should it contain? What information would the participants want to see in it?

103. Mr. Dudley explained that it is indicated that point data can be accepted in the WDPA; privately protected areas (PPAs) can be wonderful but how they can be verified is not clear. So, solutions are needed for these challenges. He recommended that **maybe UNEP-WCMC prepare a one page guidance saying this is what you can do, not this, how to verify, how and when to submit the information at least before the steering committee selection. He mentioned that it is also important to indicate who can submit the information (Ministry or others also accepted?).**

104. During the discussion on issues related to the process of submission, Ms. Ali gave examples of how BIOPAM operates, through creation of regional hubs serving as intermediaries between governments and WDPA for data collection and submission process (a sort of traceability of information). In the

Digital Observatory for Protected Areas (DOPA), it is easier to track inconsistencies between calculated and not calculated areas. For instance Path Tracker is doing a great job but it is outside WDPA.

105. Mr. Florian Werner, Technical Adviser at the Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) had the participants reflect on a few questions: why should data change after they are submitted? Can't countries submit the data online as they submit their sixth National Report? Does WDPA, indeed, need WCPA to help with data collection? It was also noted that WDPA accepts information from different sources (e.g. government, regional entities, NGOs, etc.). These were among issues that needed to be sorted out.

106. Ms. Qwathekana reminded about the need to summarize and present data, using the sixth National Report and all other relevant information sources and after correcting discrepancies. The focus should also be on providing information that can close the gap using the same reporting system used to update the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 5). **However, are we running the risk of over-flooding the Parties or just overclouding as there are discrepancies between the sixth National Report and information in WDPA? So, countries should be advised to correct the discrepancies in these two reporting tools.** She explained that online reporting is the same as reporting for WDPA and discrepancies occur generally due to lack of verification and partly due to resource issues. Mr. Dubois then asked why submitting data to WDPA is encouraged – this is just because they have a mandate - the potential for everyone is to improve is enormous.

107. Mr. Werner mentioned the importance of a tracking system at and before submission. There is a need for transparency in the process and traceability for the submitted information. He mentioned that reporting to the WDPA is very important and useful but there may be many in the field that are not even aware of this database, or may need better mapping like Bin, Google etc. Then, Ms. MacKinnon offered to help by asking how WCPA can contribute to this process. Mr. Geldmann commented also that UNEP-WCMC can do everything that is required, but there may or may not be need for extra funding.

108. Ms. Kingston, still participating through Skype, indicated that there are multiple sources of information in every country. Reliance on a group of volunteers to do this type of collating of information may be a possibility. There may be a need for digitalization, as pointed out by Mr. Geldmann earlier but for this funding will become an issue. WCPA can help UNEP-WCMC demystify some of the information. However, funding and streamlining the whole process will be needed. It was also mentioned that UNEP-WCMC is spending too much time processing information as it still has issues with some reported data. He mentioned that digitalization is probably the way to go, but transparency and traceability have to be accounted for in this process. Other points raised during the discussion included need to measure sub-national government inputs, finding ways of collating information from indigenous reserves; enhancing qualitative aspects of the Target; as well as need and challenge to address connectivity in marine areas in South and Southeast Asia as well as South Africa.

109. The Chair of the meeting, Ms. MacKinnon, then established a **Friends of the Chair** group, consisting of Mr. Johansson, Mr. Dudley, Ms. Qwathekana, Mr. Wong, Ms. Corrigan, Mr. Dubois, Mr. Geldmann, and Mr. Werner, to submit a summary of the most frequently asked questions and responses in order to develop **Guidance**. The meeting was then adjourned for the day.

## **V. DAY THREE – 26 APRIL 2019**

### **A. THEMATIC AREAS SESSIONS**

110. Ms. MacKinnon introduced the agenda of the day and the topics that will be presented in plenary. The thematic areas sessions scheduled for the day consisted of discussions focused on: a) Progress made so far; b) What can be done before 2020 in order to enhance progress and facilitate the achievement of Target 11; c) What tools are available to track, monitor and report progress; and d) What



should be incorporated into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The following elements were considered<sup>11</sup>:

- a) Ecological Representation and Connectivity;
- b) Management Effectiveness;
- c) Governance and Equity;
- d) Areas Important for Biodiversity;
- e) Areas Important for Ecosystems Services;
- f) Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures including current and planned projects for implementation and recognition and reporting issues such as verification; and
- g) Mapping Nature for Development Initiative.

### **a) Ecological Representativity and Connectivity**

111. Mr. Dubois, started by mentioning that the European Commission- Joint Research Centre (EC-JRC) has been closely working with UNEP-WCMC during the last few years as the science and knowledge service of the EC-JRC's mission is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle. They use WWF ecoregion boundaries and WDPA data for terrestrial and marine coverage to assess ecological representation and connectivity.

112. He indicated that there are 827 terrestrial ecoregions of which 39 have 75-100% coverage; 67 between 50 and 75% coverage and only 22 with no coverage, as of January 2019. Overall, 35% of them are sufficiently covered and meet Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. There are 20 key indicators recorded in DOPA (including on land degradation, fragmentation, etc.). He also indicated that all statistics are available for download at the DOPA website, including the changes between July 2018 and January 2019 showing the substantial improvement regarding protection of marine ecoregions. 587 ecoregions have gained protection between July 2018 and January 2019, 110 showed no change, but 130 lost protection (a small proportion). He mentioned that there are 269 marine ecoregions as of January 2019, and 32% of them meet Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 (10% coverage). Only a small number, 14 marine ecoregions, have no coverage at all. The changes from July 2018 to January 2019 indicate that 114 marine ecoregions gained protection, 52 showed not change and 51 lost protection.

113. Mr. Dubois warned about the danger of global targets. As many ecoregions span multiple countries, this may create the expectation that someone will enhance progress in this element. Are governments making efforts to protect 17% of the ecoregions covering their countries? The current status, he indicated, is that even though there is substantial progress, there is still a lot of work to be done. He showed the maps as an invitation to make efforts quickly to enhance progress in ecological representation and connectivity. He pointed out that there is still a lot of area to easily cover in Africa and Latin America, for instance. He also reminded of the fragile political situation around the world as a barrier to progress in some countries and of the importance of knowing how to set priorities.

114. He explained that DOPA Explorer provides estimates at country, ecoregion and protected area levels for land degradation and carbon stocks (in soil and above ground), changes in water balance and various other indicators. The overall discussion included shortfalls and country level priorities; global and country level gaps; Target 11 and the ProtConn indicators (an indicator of connectivity, which accounts for the size and spatial arrangement of protected areas); WDPA data used for DOPA indicators (e.g. ProtConn); the value of small protected areas in enhancing connectivity; ensuring permeability of unprotected lands; among other topics. Furthermore, he indicated that densely protected areas present challenges and transboundary ones require linkages of coordinated management.

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<sup>11</sup> Although the element integration was in the programme, it was not covered separately due to technical problem. The expert who was scheduled to present and lead did not make it to the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances.

115. It was indicated that connectivity is a priority. For instance, connectivity has been improving in Brazil but there is still a lot of work to do in large countries such as China, Russia and others. Connectivity is improving in Asia and stable in Europe, and enormous changes have been made in Oceania. He noted that connectivity has improved faster than protected area coverage between 2010 and 2018. In conclusion, he mentioned that DOPA provides interesting details and information for researchers to download for their research work and publications, and for use in national reporting, and changes for the better are quite possible. He also showed updates of country level priorities. Everything is available in the DOPA website

## **b) Management Effectiveness**

116. Management Effectiveness (ME) was covered by Mr. Geldmann. He mentioned that there is no comprehensive global assessment for defining management effectiveness from planning to outcome (i.e. for assessing whether protected areas are managed effectively or not). He indicated that, even though highly connected, management effectiveness and the IUCN Green List are not the same and presented their identifying characteristics and criteria.

117. Talking about the country level status, he mentioned that there are 240,000 Protected Areas in the WDPA, but only 30,000 have management effectiveness assessments reported. In the terrestrial realm, the 60% PAME assessment target (in line with COP decision X/31) is met by 21% of countries, 30-60% of protected areas assessed in 22% of countries, and under 10-30% in 28% of countries. In the marine realm, 60% PAME target is met by 16% of countries, and 30-60%, in 6% of countries. Hence, the marine realm shows a huge gap in management effectiveness assessments. At the regional level, Africa has the highest proportion of protected areas with reported PAME assessments, followed by North America, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean at approximately the same level, West Asia, Asia-Pacific and Polar regions. There is no information on management effectiveness for about 200,000 protected areas.

118. Mr. Geldmann then highlighted the need to understand if countries have enough resources; the huge variation in the assessments done so far; and the importance of evaluating the content of assessments (Currently the GD-PAME reports only year and methodology of assessment). Most of the time, lack of adequate funding or staff, multiple objectives, multiple actors and variable capacities are the barriers to delivering the biodiversity outcome that we expect. He then explained why PAME is important; how to get a better assessment during the following months; and what can be achieved before 2020. He reassured that a lot can be done depending on the countries and implementing agencies. This is because a) there is a wealth of information that is not yet captured and that should be introduced formally in the database; b) it is not difficult to do; c) this is not the same as delivering spatial data; d) the assessment must make sense for the area. He advised that we need to ensure changes over the next months and reminded that UNEPWCMC is essential if the data is going in the GD-PAME and counts towards the evaluation.

119. He reminded that for progress in management effectiveness, **there will be need for in-country capacity building, simple, flexible and scalable metrics, and a digital infrastructure and a pipeline** to the GD-PAME. There is also the IUCN resolution that requests its members, government agencies and non-governmental organization to build assessments of management effectiveness into their protected areas management plans; calls upon them to develop capacity building initiatives for management effectiveness assessment, establish knowledge sharing mechanism and develop tools to facilitate assessment of management effectiveness, prioritize the use of management effectiveness tools that assess the condition of biodiversity, work with UNEP-WCMC to track global and regional progress in assessing management effectiveness; and that requests donors and funding agencies to make funding available for long-term monitoring programmes. He concluded by mentioning that as it will not be possible to ensure that all

protected areas are being effectively managed by 2020, it will be important to make sure that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework has more focus on the quality of protected areas.

120. During the discussion that followed, Mr. Johansson mentioned the need for methodology, ways of resolving reporting differences, and an approach that allows aggregation of data at global level by enhancing reporting at national level. Mr. Gidda observed that the January 2019 WDPA information is used for the most recent DOPA release and that the problem is that WDPA was not updated or accurate at the time (e.g. China removed all national protected areas from the public version of the WDPA). He suggested that PPAs, ICCAs and OECMs should also be mapped. He also mentioned that he would like to see information from the 12 sub-regions and commitments integrated in DOPA. He asked Mr. Dubois that if the Secretariat provided spatial data on commitments and opportunities, if he could use them to show how this can help address gaps in ecological representation and connectivity by 2020. However, as mapping may require resources which are scarce, it may be too expensive to do so at this time.

121. Mr. Wong talked about data inconsistencies and, at times, poor quality and suggested to carefully approach Parties to enhance the quality of the information that they provide to the WDPA. He mentioned that one size cannot fit all as countries will operate according to their circumstances, priorities and targets. While all this is great research, he advised that one should be careful not to push too hard for change in decision-making. Additionally, Mr. Geldmann proposed the **need to create the pipeline for the data to go into the right place**. Once again, Mr. Gidda reminded that it is important to **ensure that the data is submitted through official channels**. Mr. Dudley agreed that data quality has to be reasonably high, and that data should be officially submitted, or else it will not be of much use.

### c) Areas Important for Ecosystem Services

122. Mr. Dudley started by mentioning that protected areas support local and national economies through the diversity of ecosystem services they provide. However, the benefits are much more than economic and these are what form part of the argument for supporting protected areas. That this is an important issue, he explained, Governments still do not fully get. The problem is that when we look at the benefits, we generally do not associate them with protected areas. Hence, knowing their economic value and contribution is very important. He showed the Dyfi Biosphere Reserve in Wales, UK, as an example. He also showcased a floodplain that prevents downstream flooding, an ecosystem service from a protected area. The problem is that only very few people in the valley see it that way.

123. The benefits from ecosystems services for the current and future generations are multiple, substantial and vital. There is a wide range of research and a methodology carried out with WWF and the World Bank containing a wealth of information and evidence. Although Governments know the value of ecosystem services in principle, they seldom prioritize them as they focus on other national and local priorities. Mr. Dudley reminded about **usefulness of logos (logical arguments and facts); pathos (appeal to the emotions); and ethos (guiding beliefs)**. Hence, there is a need for a smart way, facts and creative approach to convince Governments that this too is a priority.

124. He also provided examples such as the benefits identified in Montenegro - Lake Skadar National Park which produces over US\$4.6 million a year from fish production and honey alone; the pine nut harvest in Bikin National Park and surrounding reserves in Russia which earned villagers around US\$60 million, and verified carbon standard funds to compensate for the Sochi Olympics' emissions earned over US\$550k in 2014; Bogota (Colombia) gets 80% of its drinking water from Chingaza National Park, worth millions of dollars every year, but most residents have no idea of this link (water security); list of IUCN multiple benefits, benefits from medicinal plants in Bhutan; tourism benefits to India (total revenue from Ranthambore National Park in India was estimated at US\$3.2 billion in 2011); total tourism in German Biosphere Reserves equalled 65.3 million visitor days and US\$3.4 billion gross tourist

spending; National Parks earns millions of dollars and support hundreds of jobs in Finland; South Korea national park, etc.

125. He highlighted that it is very important to know all the benefits; not only economic but also environmental, aesthetic, health, social, cultural spiritual etc. Hence, protected areas are not wasted space. He also mentioned that with the support of the SCBD, they are collecting a set of case studies of immediate economic benefits from protected areas. He mentioned that economic values from protected areas vary in scale, security, sources of funding and particularly in who benefits from them. For example far fewer people benefit from ecosystems services in Tanzania than do in Iceland. He mentioned also that not all protected areas can pay their own way and we must not over-emphasize economic values.

126. For post-2020, he hinted that there may be a need for a target on ecosystems services and a portfolio of targets linking with all Conventions (such as UNFCCC for climate change mitigation and adaptation, UNCCD, Ramsar), and the SDGs. He also suggested identifying ecosystem management that can be easily recognised as potential OECMs at national level. He expressed his feeling that this can easily be done within the next months. What do we need? Lobby governments? He also encouraged the **identification of metrics as not all the elements of Target 11 can be measured and the provision of guidance to Parties for the distribution of the benefits from protected areas**. He mentioned that at the Paris Climate Summit, 18 Latin American countries recognized protected areas as natural solutions to climate change.

127. He concluded by reminding that the next steps include identifying a typology of ecosystem service areas that could be potential OECMs; determining a metric for measuring ecosystem services; putting in place clear social and equity guidelines; dialogue/conversations outside the environmental ghetto; a set of demonstration projects with links to other Conventions, the SDGs and economic and social vehicles; better guidance; and continuing to make the case for the protection of areas important for ecosystem services.

#### **d) Governance and Equity**

128. Mr. Phil Franks, Principal Researcher at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) started his presentation by explaining key concepts related to governance and equity: a) Governance diversity/Governance type which includes governance by government, private governance, IPLC governance including ICCAs, and shared governance; and b) Governance quality/good governance principles including legitimacy and voice, accountability, fairness and rights, as well as performance and direction. He mentioned that equity/fairness is an aspect of good governance and that the three dimensions of equity include recognition, procedure and distribution<sup>12</sup>. While progress related to governance is observed (some information are available), he reported gaps in equity data in general.

129. He indicated that system level assessment currently focuses mainly on governance diversity (one methodology); site level assessment, on the other hand, focuses mainly on governance quality (at least 14 different methodologies are in use). The four overlapping domains of protected areas assessment consist of well-being outcomes (e.g. Social Assessment for Protected Areas (SAPA) methodology), ecological outcomes, governance (Governance Assessment for Protected and Conserved Areas (GAPA), and management effectiveness (e.g. METT).

130. Mr. Franks then discussed the IUCN Green List Global Standard, an important achievement for systematic assessment of governance criteria. He mentioned that IUCN is leading on systems' level assessment. A few assessments have been done in some countries but not many. According to the Green List Standard, good governance, sound design and planning, and effective management are needed for successful conservation outcomes. Some elements of governance directly link to equity but not all. He

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<sup>12</sup> CBD/COP/DEC/14/8, Annex II: Voluntary guidance on effective and equitable governance models

then highlighted the substantial importance of equity as clearly indicated in the PoWPA (2004) goals 2.1. (Promote equity and benefit-sharing [focussing on distributive equity]) and 2.2. (Enhance and secure involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders [focussing on participation]). He also informed the participants of the meeting that there are various projects being undertaken by IIED, IUCN and GIZ.

131. As progress to date, he mentioned the launch of IUCN Green List Certification with governance as one of three pillars; the development of equity principles and merger with governance principles; CBD decisions of COP 13 and 14 on governance and equity and the voluntary guidance for effective and equitable governance; development of methodologies and tools for governance and equity assessment (e.g. GAPA from IIED, Natural Resources Governance Tool (NRGT) from WCS); system level governance assessments; and site level governance assessment. For instance, 32 Parties report some form of assessment, and at least 50 comprehensive assessments have been carried out in at least 10 countries. He then discussed governance principles including equity recognition, procedure and distribution, and other governance related details.

132. In terms of what can be done by 2020, he mentioned facilitation and engagement in capacity-building initiatives; an accelerated programme of site-level social, governance and equity assessment linked to the Green List and system level assessments; development of a simpler METT like tool for governance and equity; **inclusion of data on governance quality and equity in WDPA; sharing of case studies on progress; and a CBD Technical Series document on social, governance and equity assessment.**

133. For the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, he recommended a **shift in language from equitable management to equitable governance of protected and conserved areas as equity is primarily a governance issue**; inclusion of indicators for governance and equity; full integration of gender considerations; stronger emphasis on strengthening shared governance, among others. He concluded by showing authority, responsibility, and accountability in governing protected areas as a continuum.

#### e) Areas Important for Biodiversity

134. Ms. Kumpel made a presentation on the progress and potential for reaching the element of Target 11 relating to areas of importance for biodiversity or KBAs. In general KBAs are sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity, identified following the Global Standard. She indicated that KBA locations can be found via the World Database of KBAs, or through the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT). She explained that the **two priority types of KBAs to protect/conservate are: a) AZE sites (with concentrations of endangered or critically endangered species); and b) IBAs in Danger (in need of immediate action).** She mentioned that IPBES' Global Assessment and SDG Indicator for 14.5.1, 15.1.2 and 15.4.1 refer to them as the proportion of important sites for biodiversity that are covered by protected areas (for different ecosystem types: terrestrial, freshwater, montane, and marine). She also talked about the KBA Partnership and Standards developed for the first time through agreement and consultation of the conservation community to support both Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and 12.

135. She discussed details about the KBA identification process including at national level, scoping of species and sites as well as review process to ensure consistency. She reminded that *areas of particular importance for biodiversity* are explicitly mentioned in Aichi Biodiversity Target 11. She reported that mean coverage of KBAs is 45.7% but is very variable across countries and regions (e.g. low for both marine and terrestrial in the Pacific - ~20% - and high in Europe, near 70% for both terrestrial and marine KBAs). Overall 19.9% of KBAs are completely covered by protected areas and 45.1% are partially covered. **She promised to provide the data for compilation.** A lot to be done in terms of IBAs and AZEs sites to reach satisfactory levels of protection. For instance, protected or partially protected AZE sites represent 57% leaving a gap of 43% of unprotected areas.

136. She shared the information from the article on shortfalls and solutions for meeting national and global conservation targets by Butchart et al (2015)<sup>13</sup> and presented the distribution of various species for difference taxonomic groups in existing protected area networks. For instance, 78% of coral species have protected area coverage greater than the target; 55% of birds, 47% of marine fish, and 46% mammals have also protected area coverage but only less than 25% for all other groups. She mentioned that coverage is poorer for threatened species e.g. 21% birds and 27% mammals. She explained that while protection trend has been increasing over the last decades, it was not the same for all taxonomic groups.

137. Using Marxan to identify near-optimal portfolios, 17.9 million km<sup>2</sup> more land (i.e. total 27.9% terrestrial surface) will require conservation to meet all national terrestrial protected areas targets, protect at least 17% of all terrestrial ecoregions, cover all unprotected KBAs and threatened species (Butchart et al., 2015). 27.1% of land is needed if the target for ecological representativeness is set at a larger spatial scale (17% coverage of biome-realms) for instance. GEF funded AZE projects (2015-2019) are contributing to the conservation of Earth's most irreplaceable sites for endangered biodiversity. She mentioned that recent achievements included global updating/mapping of AZE sites; formal recognition of all AZE sites as KBAs; integration of AZE conservation in NBSAPs and CBD national reports of 20 countries; inclusion of AZEs in safeguards and policies of international financial institutions (e.g. World Bank); and CBD decision XIV/1, paragraph 14(i) suggesting focus on the protection, management and conservation of the most significant areas for biodiversity, such as through the initiatives of the AZEs and others,<sup>14</sup> through protected areas, OECMs, and specific species conservation measures.

138. As part of actions before and post-2020, she mentioned OECMs with examples such as indigenous peoples' areas, spiritual or cultural sites, community conservancies, private/state nature reserves, reserved forests, sea wrecks, military training areas, fisheries management agreements. She also talked about a Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI)-funded project on OECMs that also identified how many unprotected KBAs have management systems potentially meeting OECM definition (characteristics, effectiveness) through IBA monitoring data and satellite imagery, etc. She also reported some key results of in-country surveys in 10 countries<sup>15</sup>, such as some 566 (76.5%) KBAs have at least one potential OECM system in place; 73% of OECMs have biodiversity conservation or ecosystem services as a stated objective; and that there are 740 unprotected terrestrial KBAs in these 10 countries<sup>16</sup>.

139. She, further, mentioned that potential OECMs in unprotected KBAs in the 10 countries are managed mostly by government, followed by local communities and indigenous groups, NGOs and business, and a small portion by spiritual interests. The primary management objectives are found to be, *inter alia*, preservation of ecosystem services, conservation of nature for income generation, indigenous livelihoods, religious or spiritual values, and government activities. Funding of these OECMs is covered by the central government, international NGOs, and multiple other sources. OECMs appear to be prevalent in unprotected KBAs, have little NGO involvement or support and may not be as effective as protected areas. However, in areas of high pressure, they may be preferred by local people.

140. For actions leading to 2020, she proposed sending a **letter to CBD Focal Points** asking them to follow up on Decision XIV/1 and scaling-up efforts to meet Aichi Targets 11 and 12 by protecting and conserving KBAs with AZEs as a priority, including, a) gazettement of new protected areas if possible by mid-2020; and b) identification/registration of new OECMs which may be more feasible. This can be followed up by regional coordinators, with support by KBA Secretariat and ABC/BirdLife (webinars, factsheets, etc.). For post-2020, she concluded by mentioning the importance of promoting expansion and effective management of protected areas/OECMs in KBAs; regular monitoring of biodiversity

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<sup>13</sup> For all details, see Butchart et al. (2015), Shortfalls and solutions for meeting national and global conservation areas targets. *Conservation Letters*, 8(5), 329-337.

<sup>14</sup> CBD/SBSTTA/22/INF/23

<sup>15</sup> Australia, Bolivia, Canada, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Philippines, and South Africa

<sup>16</sup> Results presented in Donald et al. (2019), The prevalence, characteristics and effectiveness of Aichi Target 11's "other effective area-based conservation measures"(OECMs) in Key Biodiversity Areas, *Conservation Letters*, e12659

features to achieve conservation outcomes for protected areas and OECMs ensuring both quality and quantity; new AZE-KBA project for GEF 7 (planned); and more partners encouraged. We need to ensure that conservation of biodiversity is the base to everything.

141. Mr. Erg mentioned the difficulty of assessing the qualitative elements of Target 11 and ensuring the process is mainstreamed and integrated in decision making and policy. Ms. Ali mentioned that with funding from the Swiss Government to UNEP-WCMC, they now have up to date statistics on KBAs. However, she noted that going through the different levels of KBAs is a bit confusing (i.e. there is no need to differentiate AZEs, IBAs, etc.). As there are indicators for ecosystems services, there may be a need to link appropriately national capital and ecosystems account with the indicators. This is important as more than 10% of Gross Domestic Products (GDP) is led by biodiversity in many countries.

142. Ms. Qwathekana reminded how expensive such assessments could be for countries – one reason why developing countries under-report. She proposed to additionally use information from IPBES and others, instead of relying on one source/resource, etc. Mr. Johansson also attracted the attention of the participants by reminding them to consider the relevant guidelines of Article 8J, including free, prior and informed consent.

#### **f) Other Effective Areas-based Conservation Measures**

143. The next presentation was by Ms. MacKinnon, also chair of the meeting, who started her presentation by reminding that Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 explicitly refers to other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs). After COP 10 introduced the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity in 2010, IUCN was asked to develop guidance for the CBD and hence, a WCPA Task Force was formed in 2016. Expert workshops were held in U.K., Germany, Canada, and potential OECMs were tested in several countries between 2016 and 2018. By 2018, the IUCN draft guidance was developed and its global review completed. Two CBD workshops one for [Target 11](#) and one specific to the [marine realm](#) were also organized with joint session on all relevant topics in February 2018. The results were considered by the twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 22) and COP 14 (Decision XIV/8). She mentioned that the April 2019 updated version of [guidelines for recognizing and reporting OECMs](#) is available.

144. She went on to discuss the three approaches to OECMs: a) primary conservation (meets all elements of the IUCN protected area definition, but are not officially designated; b) secondary conservation (conservation outcomes are a secondary management objective), and c) ancillary conservation, where biodiversity outcomes are just a by-product of management of activities. She also explained in detail the definition of OECM adopted by [COP XIV/8](#) as well as the difference between protected areas whose primary objective is biodiversity conservation and OECMs (which should deliver effective and enduring in-situ conservation of biodiversity regardless of its objectives), and that both are geographically defined spaces.

145. She also talked about the legitimate governance authorities and four governance types which IUCN has recognized as governance by: 1) government, 2) private, 3) indigenous and local community, and 4) mixed. She also discussed the meaning of “managed” in the text of Target 11 and OECM definition, including that management should be consistent with the ecosystems approach with the ability to adapt to achieve expected biodiversity conservation outcomes, among others. OECMs are also in place for the long-term with sustained outcomes.

146. Ms. MacKinnon also highlighted that the recognition of OECMs is expected to include the identification of the range of biodiversity attributes for which the site is considered important (including support to ecosystem functions and services, and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, other locally relevant values; and avoidance of negative impacts on biodiversity). She also gave various examples as to what could potentially be counted as OECM and what not, and reminded that potential

areas should be screened very carefully on a case by case basis. **She further indicated that OECMs present increased opportunities to meet all of the elements of Target 11 and many targets of the SDGs, including adaptation to climate change, helping fill gaps in ecological representation, connectivity, areas important for biodiversity, KBAs and protecting species at risk; i.e. in terms quality and not just quantity.** She then presented the example from Namibia where areas governed and managed by local communities substantially contribute to conservation and improving ecological representation. She discussed the four criteria used in the screening tool, strongly advising that potential OECMs should be screened on a case-by-case basis. She concluded by highlighting that **OECMs present a good conservation opportunity currently and in the post-2020 period.**

147. Ms. Qwathekana asked on how to enhance connectivity using OECMs as many activities are going on in South Africa. The response was that identifying and recognizing the areas and developing the synergies between the different elements of Target 11 will help link OECMs to protected areas and enhance connectivity. Mr. Johansson asked also on how to accomplish the verification and reporting on OECMs. As most of these areas may be outside the hands of governments, **there will be a need for Free, Prior, Informed Consent.** Mr. Rhodes Espinoza shared the information that there are some federal protected lands that can be reported as OECMs, but that this will involve a lot of challenges and discussions. Mr. Dudley mentioned that in the context of fisheries all this will be a bit different to which Ms. Himes-Cornell commented that the key is in the definition of long-term. **So, defining long-term may be an issue in some cases.** In response to Ms. Kumpel's questions, it was indicated that UNEP-WCMC has the mandate to collect/store data and share it through WDPA. **This information has to be covered in the guidance/guidelines on OECMs. Mr. Gidda will send a notification in line with the existing decision (XIV/8), to encourage reporting.** Mr. Dubois reminded that the focus should continue to be on low hanging fruits.

#### **g) Mapping Nature for Development Initiative**

148. The afternoon session started with the presentation by Mr. Martin Cadena Salgado, Technical Specialist, at the Global Programme on Nature for Development, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He first talked about the UN Biodiversity Lab platform which, he explained, does not require expertise to use. The platform provides access to over 100 global data layers and national data collating and overlaying of information He said that spatial data can play a powerful role for nature and development to identify risks and assess trade-offs for conservation and sustainable use; as well as support accountability for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the nature-based SDGs.

149. Mr. Cadena Salgado mentioned that the UNDP analysis of post-2010 NBSAPs and Fifth National Reports (5NR) found on average less than 5 maps per 5NR and less than 4 maps per NBSAP – this is because 80% of 5NR and NBSAPs do not have maps that support decision making. Less than 4% of all maps are focussed on ecosystem services. He explained that the UN Biodiversity Lab aims to build spatial data literacy to enable better decisions as a vehicle for transparency and accountability; and apply insights from spatial data across sectors to achieve Aichi Targets and SDGs. It also provides policymakers with free high-quality global spatial data layers and analytic tools and enables 137 governments to access spatial data for inclusion in their 6 NR as well as support NBSAP implementation to achieve key conservation targets. The tool does not require GIS expertise. It gives access to over 100 global data layers and 18 biodiversity status maps, allows for uploading national data layers, creating maps and integrating them into reports, and communicating conservation successes.

150. Mr. Cadena Salgado made an illustration using the status information for terrestrial protected areas network and national coverage for both terrestrial and marine realms. He presented numerous maps by gradually adding layers of information about the quantitative and qualitative elements of Target 11. Using data from Cuba, he illustrated step by step what the tool would be able to do. By mapping all of the coverages, he indicated that it could also be possible to identify new areas that need protection, to show



how success of Target 11 can contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, water security, livelihoods, etc. However, we need to identify additional datasets that we need to refine the analyses. We can consider information from the 6 NR, GEF 5 and 6 projects for gradual overlay of commitments and to show the evolution of the contributions. This also will show the multiple project areas and other datasets that will be needed for analysis.

151. Points presented for discussion included: the sequence of mapping will matter (prioritization of issues, first KBAs? etc.); who can provide the spatial data? Although this may be technically easy to do, prioritization may be challenging: e.g. protection of KBAs may be low hanging fruit, but there are also issues of national and global benefits. Mr. Dubois said that with a little thought, this will be easy to do. The question is how feasible it is and if we can do it before 2020 and be able to have something to report. This was mentioned to be an easy task for any Latin American country - they have the resources – but maybe not for other countries. Mr. Dubois once again highlighted that it will be a question of **provoking willingness and engagement of Parties**, an idea seconded by Mr. Wong. While Mr. Franks expressed his concern about trade-offs and difficulties of identifying these, Mr. Cadena Salgado mentioned his concerns about possibilities of maladaptation. Then the question was - **Who is going to use the maps?** It is indicated that this should be well thought out. Mr. Cadena Salgado concluded by reminding that this is, indeed, the last push to enhance implementation and achieve Target 11.

## **B. THEMATIC AREAS BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

152. For these sessions the participants of the meeting were divided in three breakout groups: Americas, Asia and Africa together, and Europe. The leaders of the thematic areas which made a presentation on the themes/elements of Target 11 (see above) are asked to spend time with each group to discuss details of their theme (e.g. governance and equity, OECMs) with respect to progress to date, what can be done before 2020, what tools are available to assess progress, and what should be incorporated into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework with respect to activities in their region. The group work continued the rest of the afternoon into the evening. The groups were scheduled to report to plenary the following morning.

## **VI. DAY FOUR – 27 APRIL 2019**

### **A. REPORT OF THE BREAKOUT GROUP SESSIONS**

153. The morning started with technical announcements from Ms. Stolpe regarding administration and logistics related the participants stay on and departure from the Isle of Vilm. She also indicated for those interested that there will be a visit to the famous Gallery on the Island in the evening.

154. Ms. MacKinnon then announced a change in the programme. Because of visa problem the participant who was scheduled to make a presentation on East and Southeast Asia had arrived late and due to technical problems the South Asia presentation was incomplete. Hence, the two participants were given the chance to make their presentation<sup>17</sup> first. Then, discussions focused on regional priorities and the identification of gaps and opportunities, thematic discussions on the elements of Aichi Target 11 in terms of: (i) progress to date, (ii) implementation by 2020, (iii) available tools, and (iv) post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The objective of these discussions was to define and work with Specific, Measureable, Ambitious, Realistic and Time-bound (SMART) Action Plans and determine modalities for monitoring and reporting the results from the Action Plans.

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<sup>17</sup> The summary of these presentation have been integrated in the first part with the presentations of sub-regional coordination agencies.

**a) Report from the Regional/Thematic Breakout Group Sessions – Europe**

155. The report from the Europe group that held discussions with the different thematic group leaders was delivered by Mr. Johansson. The summary of the discussion is presented below.

**SUMMARY OF BREAKOUT GROUP SESSION - EUROPE**  
**What can be done before 2020 for effective reporting to COP 15 and**  
**What should be incorporated in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?**

**First and foremost:**

- Review the *consistency and accuracy of existing WDPA /6<sup>th</sup> National Report data*
- *Focus on the pipeline as there are only few months left:* e.g. Finland has >765 areas covering 340,000 ha in the legal designation pipeline;
- Identify clear cut OECM categories or sites and address them; Make sure everything is accounted for by WDPA – Report.
- *Identify and focus on projects which may contribute to delivering on Aichi Target 11 in the next 12 months.*
- *Use CBD and other organizations with leverage (EU, Council of Europe) to urge/push governments to speed up areas where advances can be made in the next year (coordination agencies)*
- *Create national pressure by engaging NGOs and civil society* to highlight the need to achieve the Aichi Targets such as 11 which is within reach of being achieved.
- *Use important and highly visible events* such as the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Marseilles, in June 2020, to propose constructive action.

**(a) Representativeness:**

- *Check which PA designation processes (governments, projects) which are underway* and how they affect representativity and connectivity and do the same with *clear cut OECM cases* and sites.
  - Use CBD and other organizations with leverage (EU, Council of Europe) to urge/push governments to speed up any potential areas that can be designated within the next year.
  - *National civil society and NGO pressure* to highlight the need to achieve the targets
  - *IUCN WCC Marseilles* - Governments making commitments on PAs, OECMs or any of the qualitative aspects of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 - more impact beyond 2020

**(b) Connectivity:**

- A lot of work already done - Use the updated data generated by EC-JRC;
- Do a national ProtCon analysis on connectivity if there are resources, interest and capacity to do this.

**(c) Management effectiveness:**

- Check and bring potentially missing Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) information to the GD-WDPA (talk about management effectiveness and feedback systems rather than assessments) E.g. UK, Finland etc. The entire Europe can do something about this.
- Check projects and on-going processes if any MEE exercises can be conducted within the coming year.

**(d) Governance and equity:**

- *There is no clear metric to address the issues in a uniform way.*
- Is there anything SCBD or the Partnership can do to have a simple survey –
  - (i) There is *a need for guidance from the Secretariat* for the countries to use and measure this element, to at least be able to use come up with some proxy;
  - (ii) *CBD secretariat to send a Notification, with a simple format of issues to report beyond just reporting on governance types.*

### EUROPE (Cont.)

- Most of the more systematic approaches and metrics (scorecards, METT-like assessments) will probably be a *post 2020 issues*
  - Check to what extent e.g. Akwe Kon and other participatory methodologies and efforts have been used in protected areas management planning, operations and stakeholder interactions;
  - There are several actions that speak to part of the governance and equity guidance:
    - Help to develop and introduce the tool; if possible;
    - Quantitative benefits e.g. local economic benefits, job creation by park visitation;
    - Are there co-governance arrangements, management and governance committees or similar institutional systems to inclusive efforts? Co-governance arrangements in Finland?
    - MAB and other areas with inclusive and stakeholder engaging arrangements;
    - PPAs require consultation with owners
  - Do we have case studies where we can clearly show conservation benefits from a more inclusive governance approach?
- (e) **Areas important for biodiversity:**
- ***Check which designation processes (governments, projects) are underway and if and how they cover and affect Areas important for biodiversity, and the same with clear cut OECM cases and sites.***
    - Use CBD and other organizations with leverage (EU, Council of Europe) to urge/push governments to speed up any potential areas that can be designated within the next year.
    - National civil society and NGO pressure to highlight the need to achieve the targets
    - IUCN WCC Marseilles.
    - (Governments making commitments on PAs, OECMs or any of the qualitative aspects of AT 11 - more impact beyond 2020)
- (f) **Other Effective Area-based Management Measures (OECMs)**
- ***Translation of the guidance***
  - ***Start the national discussion on the identification of OECMs***
    - Which will be *processes* and the *responsibilities*; ***How to deal with the IPLCs***
  - ***Identify clear cut cases and report them to the WDPA?*** Do countries have regulatory, set aside PAs which have not yet gone through the legal establishment process?
  - CBD and other organizations with leverage (EU, Council of Europe) to urge/push governments to speed up any clear cut OECM areas that can be designated within the next year.
    - National civil society and NGO pressure to highlight the need to achieve the targets
    - IUCN WCC Marseilles.
  - ***Pilot the use of the screening tool***
  - Do some comprehensive pilots in the identification, establishment and reporting of OECMs
- (g) **Ecosystem services**
- No clear metrics or established focus on which ES we consider
  - Mainly a post-2020 issue - requires a lot of thinking to be able to come to something that's realistic, feasible and measurable in the P2020 context
    - Metrics for ecosystems services (ecosystem account); accounting for what is done by private sectors even though focused on the most achievable ones
  - Ecosystem-based management of areas could be clear-cut or potential OECMs
  - TEEBs have been done for many countries and sectors in Europe
  - In Europe the MAES report will provide a comprehensive picture of ecosystems services in Europe
  - There are research projects such as MAIA Mapping and Assessment to Integrated ecosystem Accounts; a Horizon 2020) project which will provide information going forward
  - Identifying and pushing for private sector NC assessment Natural Capital Protocol, which are risk assessment of NC dependent companies value chains.

**b) Report from the Regional/Thematic Breakout Group Sessions – Asia-Pacific and Africa**

157. Ms. Nobesuthu Adelaide Ngwenya, Student at the University of Cambridge and representing International Union for Conservation of Nature – Global Protected Areas Programme presented the summary of the discussion of the group representing Asia and Africa.

158. She mentioned that governance and equity were the two challenging element of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 that the group identified in the first place. The challenge was how to enhance and assess these on time for reporting for 2020. It was suggested that it will probably be through the use of already tested methods. Mr. Franks mentioned that there are tools that can be used

159. For ecological representation, connectivity and corridors and KBAs the group thought that there will be a need to overcome technicality issues first. For marine areas, in particular areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), the use of the zoning system is suggested as the way to go. She mentioned that there were possibilities for using OECMs to fill corridors. Opportunities were also identified for improving management effectiveness and filling gaps in obtaining assessment results from countries. She also indicated that there were countries in the two regions which have already met the target.

**SUMMARY OF BREAKOUT GROUP SESSION: ASIA-PACIFIC and AFRICA**  
**What can be done before 2020 for effective reporting to COP 15 and**  
**What should be incorporated in the post-2020 global biodiversity Framework?**

**(a) Governance and Equity**

- Tools are available: Governance assessment tools – IUCN and GIZ manual is coming out in a few weeks;
- Social Impacts: understanding the roles of biodiversity in communities' well-being;
- **Not in-depth** assessment – Sensitivity issues...;
- **Train People** – have clusters and platforms to assess skills...
  - e. g. selection of representatives to be in the committee... talk to different stakeholders to come up with different perspectives which can be used for scoring.
- **Framework similar to METT that can be used in a short period...**
  - Could take a 1 day workshop and will be relatively cheap;
  - Easy to use and easy to aggregate the data;
  - 30 to 40 questions, each with 4-5 responses...;
  - Risks can give false impression.
- **Facilitator effects** – Operationalizing the Annex 2 of the COP XIII/2 Decision on voluntary guidance for equity element.
  - What are the issues that keep coming up; Looking at symptoms of situations and what can be done about them;
  - Map exists, but gives only a raw score;
  - Tool will be available in July for testing at national level... first pilots in September for Latin America and Africa Congress... However, Ms. Qwathekana reminded that tools can be effective where there are no problems like in South Africa and that there is a need for programmes to deal with community resistance, facilitate and meet demands from communities, conflict resolution where there are disputes...
  - General indicators that are not broad as participation... There is a need for indicators that are direct...

### **ASIA-PACIFIC and AFRICA (Cont.)**

- The first trial will have 12 countries...
  - Could be thought about in the BIOPAMA project; Process very important...
  - Africa – CBNRM initiated and 100% governed by local communities...co-management is not clear either... particularly on sharing benefits of what is accrued.
  - Indigenous community conserved areas have to be assessed;
  - The tool should pick up if devolution of power will be effective at all...;
  - Youth and communities involved and invited to meetings of COP to the Convention, ...;
    - Approach – small steps, starting with those who are interested... build confidence in communities of interest...;
    - It would really be ideal if tools show if decentralization etc will be effective at all.

#### **(b) Ecological Representation and Connectivity**

- Marine being worked on, for the Pacific ... a few countries looking at establishing KBAs and corridors... Leverage on Knowledge and information on that;
- No dedicated people for mapping connectivity... or ecological representation...
  - Africa – Livelihoods issues... setting up MPAs... tempering with fisheries... may end up being close to each other, limiting opportunities for subsistence use... Bigger gap also exposes to overexploitation of migratory species.
- Challenge with ABNJ
  - Need to be addresses with caution... For instance in Africa there are 20 approved connected marine parks... placements, structures are being discussed and still in the process for implementation, catering for all stakeholders.
  - Australia – Had to compromise and ended up avoiding main fishing areas
  - Zoning could work (e.g. Pakistan Programme).

#### **(c) OECMs**

- Work has been done but not reflected in the elements...

#### **(d) Management Effectiveness**

- Pacific region is lagging behind in management effectiveness assessment due to lack of resources;
- BIOPAMA's role is, in part, primary assessment;
- West Africa adopted IMETT... Not a one size fits all...; For Southern Africa, Sue Simon from IUCN is running workshops, identifying sites related to IBAs and AZE;
- India is using METT, but new tools are coming up and difficult to find the difference between these tools... any management effectiveness does not set standards or baseline standards to measure against.

160. It is found that identifying and classifying ecosystem services will be a challenge. There will be overlaps as well opportunities and trade-off/risks in some cases in dealing with the elements of Target 11. There are OECMs in Africa, Asia and Pacific regions. There are, also, opportunities for creating more protected areas especially in the marine realm. Challenges in connectivity is found to be more so in marine areas e.g. in South Africa. There is a very strong interest in OECMs in these regions. There will be some testing that will be done in these regions.

161. Ms. Qwathekana commented on issues related to livelihoods especially in marine areas in South Africa. The challenge is subsistence fishing and the issue of connectivity – how to avoid conflict and at the same time overexploitation? There is a programme in South Africa that deals with such issues. Ms. MacKinnon mentioned that there are many areas that can be recognized as OECMs but that we have to consider all of the criteria carefully.

162. Mr. Werner mentioned that issues related to connectivity and ecological representativeness as well as funding are often raised. He wondered whether this information can be obtained from academic journals. It is indicated that all types of information are considered but it is what is available from implementation on the ground that is the challenge. Academics should also make sure to inform the countries to appropriately report. The general inclination was that published information should be considered by Parties and reported through the appropriate channels.

### c) Report from the Regional/Thematic Breakout Group Sessions – Americas

163. Mr. Andrew Rhodes Espinoza representing the group presented the results of their discussion. Regarding OECMs, he mentioned the possibility of finishing activities related to PAs in the pipeline one year from now. Many advances (e.g. Canada) in OECMs, and also in connectivity which can be enhanced through PAs and OECMs. He mentioned that we need to identify what we want to connect and grab all opportunities and that it is important to update all data. There will be a competition element among countries but a healthy one through sharing information. In terms of the post-2020 agenda, we have to report results including all PAME assessments. For governance there are elements that can be pushed forward. Through expansion of protected areas, a lot can be achieved, such as conservation of KBAs. The summary of the regional priorities, status, gaps and opportunities is given in Table 1 and Figure 1 and thematic areas in Tables 2-3 and Figures 2-3 below.

<b>SUMMARY OF BREAKOUT GROUP SESSION: Americas</b> <b>What can be done before 2020 for effective reporting to COP 15 and</b> <b>What should be incorporated in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?</b>		
<b>Table 1: Regional Priorities for America</b>		
<b>Regional Priorities</b>	<b>Gaps</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>
<b>Terrestrial:</b> The main priority will be to meet PA Commitments	1) PAME: It is one of the largest gaps (LA 40.7%). Also, one of the top priorities because it consists in effectively managing what has already been established.  2) Representativity  3) Connectivity: Connectivity will be increased by the commitments and opportunities achieved in adding coverage.	The focus will be “ <i>To get to the numbers</i> ”. 1) Officially establish PAs already in the pipeline. 2) Subnational PAs systems (recognition and expansion) 3) IPCAs 4) OECMs PAME evaluation with the establishment of some defined criteria (What we define as “Green List light” to take the Green List criteria/components as the base for developing something achievable but relevant) It’s also about quality, not only quantity. Big opportunities in strengthening regional networks (NAWPA and REDPARQUES) An example is the REDPARQUES initiative <b>ALFA2020</b> .
<b>Marine</b>		Aichi Target 11 delivers multiple benefits to different conventions and international agendas. It is also an opportunity for financing.
	New and improved World database of Protected Areas (WDPA): It is important that countries understand that the WDPA is the official platform to report progress to the Convention on ABT11. It is also important that countries realize the benefits of reporting to the WDPA.	



Figure 1: Summary of Regional Priorities for America, considering Gaps and Opportunities

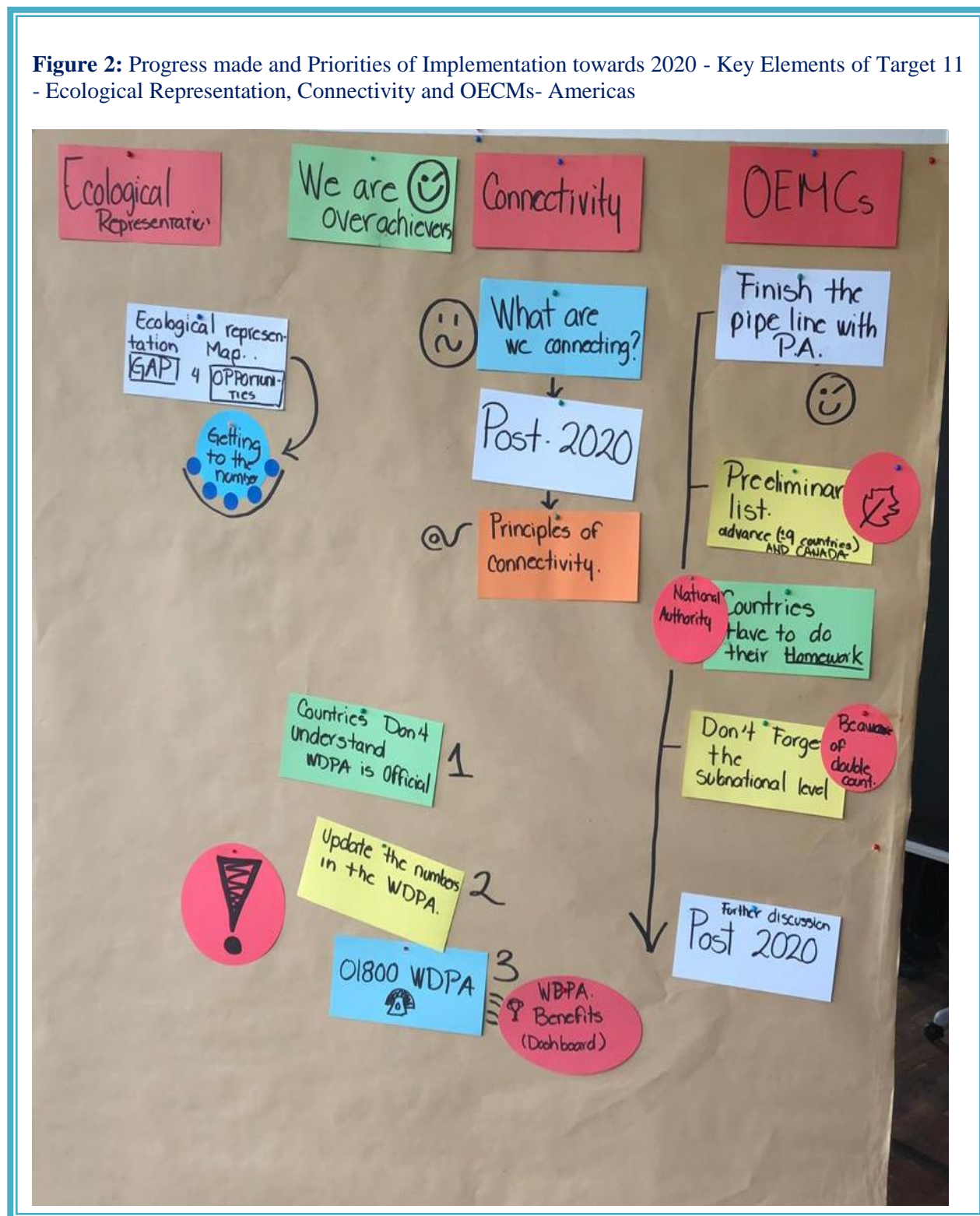


**Table 2:** Thematic Areas – Ecological Representation, Connectivity and OECMs - Americas

	<b>Ecological Representation</b>	<b>Connectivity</b>	<b>OECMs</b>
(a) Progress to date			Some discussion has started in relation potentials of <b>OECMs</b> in countries like Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Guyana.
(b) Implementation by 2020	The strategy will be getting to the numbers in PAs coverage.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The focus will be in completing the commitments in relation to PAs (“what is in the pipeline”).</li> <li>• There are a variety of area-based conservation tools at the subnational level. Exploring the possibility of recognizing and reporting them is a big opportunity in Latin American countries.</li> </ul>
(c) Available tools	The possibility of creating a map that shows the overlapping GAPS (bioregions, KBAs, etc.) that will show opportunities. (Where it is possible to impact the majority of the elements of Target 11 and deliver multiple benefits).		<p>WDPA is the official database on Protected Areas worldwide.</p> <p>Attention must be paid in avoiding double counting.</p>
(d) Post 2020		What are we connecting? Discussion on the principles of connectivity	Further discussion is needed for this topic. Each country has to do their own work in identifying which area based conservation management tools they have, and what will be the right way to recognize them (main stakeholders and legal matters for their recognition)



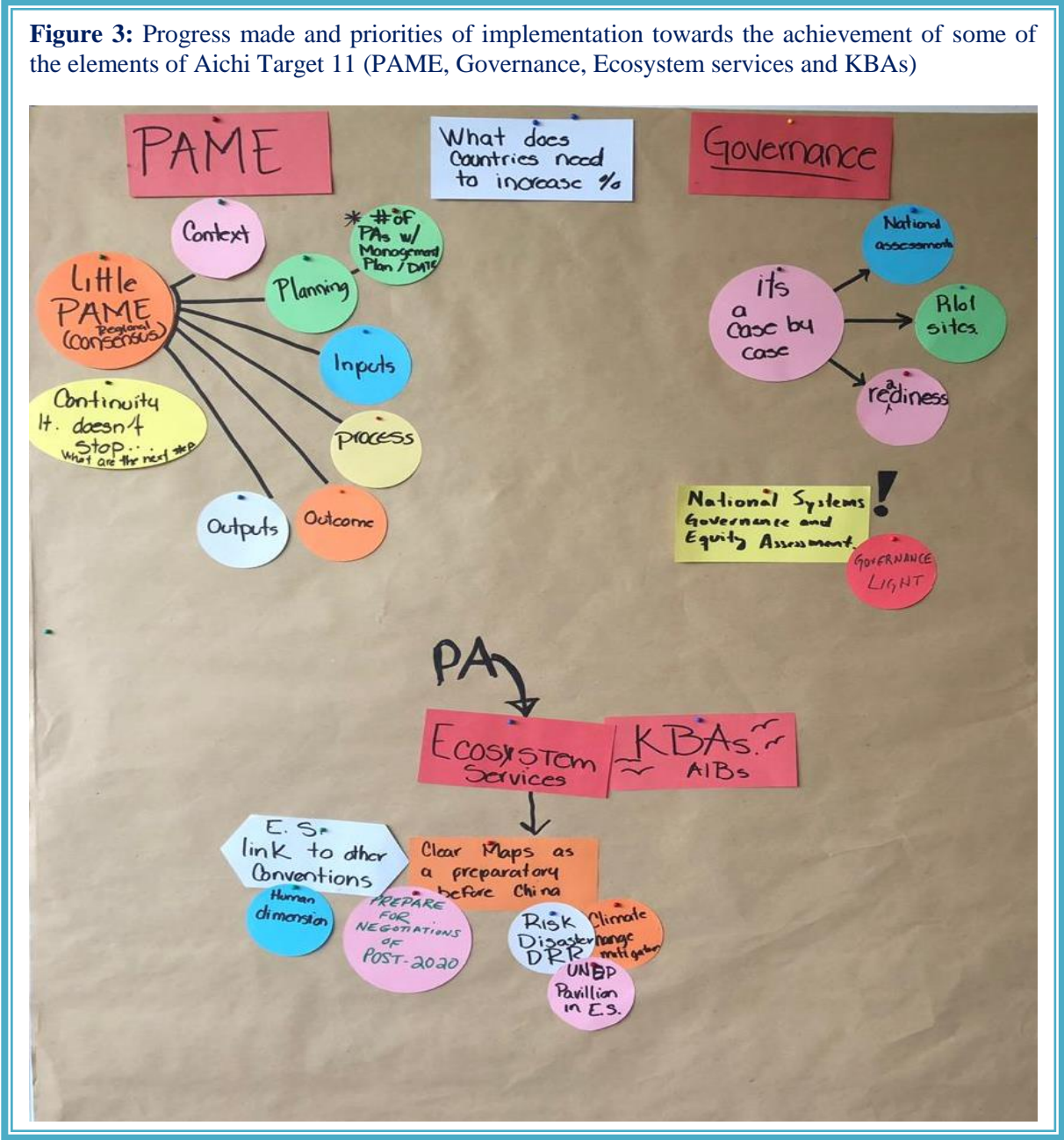
**Figure 2:** Progress made and Priorities of Implementation towards 2020 - Key Elements of Target 11 - Ecological Representation, Connectivity and OEMCs- Americas



**Table 3:** Thematic Areas - PAME, Governance and Ecosystem Services - Americas

	<b>PAME</b>	<b>Governance</b>	<b>Ecosystem Services</b>
(a) Progress to date	Nearly 40% of all PAs in Latin America have been evaluated.		
(b) Implementation by 2020	<p>The question must be: by what percentage do countries need to increase PAs with management effectiveness evaluation?</p> <p>Since PA management plans are the basis for PA effective management evaluation, it is important to know how many PAs have management plans in Latin America.</p>	<p>It is important that each National Protected Area System assess their types and forms of governance as well as equity structures, in order to have some input and/or baseline for the post 2020 targets.</p> <p>It is a case by case scenario that will depend on the country, the pilot sites where the assessment will take place and the readiness of the sites in order to be evaluated.</p>	<p>Identification of the link of ecosystem services to other conventions.</p> <p>The elaboration of clear maps as a preparatory stage before COP 15 (Disaster risk reduction, Climate Change mitigation).</p>
(c) available tools	<p>The PAME evaluation framework: Context, Planning, Inputs, Process, Outcome and Outputs.</p> <p>It is important that countries evaluate their protected areas against one or two criteria of each one of these elements.</p>	There is some progress towards frameworks and methodologies for assessing equitable management.	
(d) Post 2020	<p>The focus must be not only in the percentage of PAs evaluated, but on the result of those evaluations and the delivered outcomes in conservation values of PAs.</p> <p>Further regional discussion and consensus is needed to determine basic criteria that PAME evaluation must cover in order to speak the same language in terms of management effectiveness in PAs.</p>		<p>This is a topic that will be part of the negotiation of the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework along with KBAs.</p>

**Figure 3:** Progress made and priorities of implementation towards the achievement of some of the elements of Aichi Target 11 (PAME, Governance, Ecosystem services and KBAs)



164. Mr. Dudley mentioned that there are obvious gaps in reporting and that these should be recorded to inform Ms. Kingston at UNEP-WCMC. This was found a brilliant idea. The projects in Latin America will also be key in approaching all countries under REDPARQUES to encourage them to finalize tasks and report. There are also only 28 countries that currently report on PPAs to WDPA. Hence, there are opportunities for reporting on these to WDPA.

165. Ms. Qwathkana also noted that we need some way to recognize the efforts of Parties on the one hand and on the other hand, CBD and IUCN need to highlight the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, reminding countries about the targets and the deadline to motivate them to implement their commitments faster.

166. Mr. Gidda then mentioned that the Partnership is expected to contribute not only to the achievement of Target 11 but also SDG targets and to other international obligations. Stress on pipeline protected areas (currently in the process of being gazetted) is once again mentioned as very important. Key events that will be happening prior to COP 15 were also discussed. France will attempt to create the momentum to set the tone - so maybe we need to make a timeline and share with Parties and organizations. The timeline of some of the main activities is found **Annex 3**.

## **B. SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND THEMATIC AREAS DISCUSSIONS**

167. This plenary session discussion took place to summarize the regional and thematic areas discussions. The following topics were addressed accordingly:

### **a) The Three Proposed Products**

168. The three main products that were proposed were :

- i) How to get the current data right;
- ii) Check if opportunities and commitments have been realised;
- iii) Simple dashboard on a country basis (traffic light method) very simple, classic dashboard (barometer idea)

### **b) Focus in the Next Six Months**

169. Mr. Gidda and Ms. MacKinnon highlighted that the following first six months will focus on verifying and completing missing data and information, making sure all that needs to be reported is reported, identifying protected areas in the gazette pipeline and other low hanging fruits and quickly taking care of them, as well as enabling regional implementation support networks for aligning projects and identifying synergies to facilitate effective implementation. A key issue is also to make National Focal Points aware of all so that they cooperate and participate efficiently.

- **Updating the data in the WDPA;**
- **Identifying and accounting for pipeline of protected areas;**
- **WDPA Brief regarding who provides data and how (by mid-June);**
- **Letter from UNEP-WCMC to CBD National Focal Points (NFPs) and data providers copying regional coordinators (during the first 2 weeks of May) to ensure consistency between 6<sup>th</sup> National Report and WDPA data;**
- **The letter will go to all data providers with copies to NFPs; UNEP-WCMC (WDPA) Focal Points as well; Mr. Gidda will share the letter with CBD National Focal Points.**
- **BIOPAMA will help develop an interface for countries to see the changes in PAs and OECCMs over time**



### c) Timing of Reporting to WDPA

170. It is mentioned that the timing of reporting by Parties or organizations needs to be addressed. There are some perceived delays in reporting progress across some countries, e.g. European Union countries (some countries report directly to WDPA, others through EEA). Questions were also raised about who can submit data to the WDPA, data format requirements, and alignment of data in 6NRs and WDPA to ensure accuracy of data and timely reporting. It was observed that data verification will be challenging. So, the need for simplified **Guidance** on how to report to the WDPA is highlighted.

**UNEP-WCMC will develop a short, simple guidance on the provision of data to the WDPA, detailing format, data providers, how data can be provided, how data is managed, etc. (guidance ready by mid-June 2019 possibly)**

171. That **all submission of data be official is highlighted once again**. BIOPAMA can assist with reporting and with the **development of an interface** that allows countries to see the changes made to protected and conserved areas over time (including degazetted areas). It is also recognized that the next few months may represent a lot of work to UNEP-WCMC and that funding may become an issue for them.

172. In any case, **UNEP-WCMC will prepare a letter and a one or two pager by the end of May**. The letter must capture all of the needed data so that good results can be obtained. Ms. Kingston will send the letter with the guidance to all data providers by copying all relevant partners and national focal points. Mr. Gidda will share the letter with all CBD NFPs, and sub-regional coordination agencies and explaining to them how to proceed. **Drop-dead date for data to be provided to UNEP-WCMC to facilitate reporting to COP 15 is end of May to mid-June 2020** – because it takes time to get information from countries verify and process it. **Ideally, the data should be consistent with the 6NRs**.

173. Mr. Rhodes Espinoza indicated that the letter also needs to ask NFPs who will upload the information and that this is urgent. He recommended that the letter should be sent to the Parties as soon as the coming week.

174. Tracking and monitoring can be done by regional coordinators but as far as reporting is concerned the information will need to be submitted officially.

### d) Updated Status of Target 11 – Publication in the Parks Journal

175. The participants decided that:

**A paper with the outcomes of the meeting, updated status of Target 11, and a Call to Action to be published in the Parks journal early next year (with everyone as author and Mr. Dudley taking the lead with Mr. Dubois, Mr Werner, Mr. Gidda, Ms. Ali, Ms. Corrigan, Mr. Johansson and Ms. Mackinnon as lead contributors).**

176. Mr. Rhodes Espinoza advised that it should come out with a **call to action** section to attract attention. Then, Mr. Gidda reminded also of the importance of finding ways to make results happen using every possible means (referring to mandate from COP, Global Partnership, Regional Implementation Support Networks in 10 out of the 12 sub-regions, the SMART sub-regional Action Plans; encouragement

of alignment of activities; other opportunities (e.g. ICCAs, OECMs that still need to be accounted for and reported etc.). He mentioned that it will be important to use all opportunities to fill the gaps (low hanging fruits, pipelines etc.) and that each action implemented will contribute to the elements of Target 11. He also indicated that GEF Projects will be analysed and that UNDP has been asked to help with this. He highlighted also the importance of willingness and engagement. The title of the publication has to be selected in a way to attract attention.

#### e) **Barometer/Dashboard**

177. The next question was related to reporting modality. Mr. Wong mentioned that to prepare the initial platform for terrestrial and marine areas, it would be important to identify the audience (Parties, Ministers, NGOs, etc.) who will see the status and take decisions to facilitate progress. The platform would be to create a healthy competitive edge among Parties and relevant stakeholders – he also recommended that before pushing things through the pipelines, it will be important to determine and update all status information. This is why the above three products were proposed.

**Barometer/Dashboard – this will be a tool for recording data and visualizing. It will also have high level regional progress pages for policy, partner action pages to log who is doing what and where. UNEP-WCMC will design it with the cooperation of EC-JRC, with a mock up by end of May and fully functional in September 2019.**

178. This tool is expected to encourage participation and healthy competition among everyone striving to enhance implementation of priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and to identify remaining gaps. Mr. Dubois mentioned that we may need two different structures of information system (for July 2019 and June 2020): 1) for tracking and 2) for reporting related to WDPA. It will be important to make it simple and user friendly.

179. The *Raison d'être* of the dashboard include that it will help:

- a) Review and update WDPA and PAME data;
- b) Track current status, gaps and potential ways forward to 2020;
- c) Facilitate delivery of commitments and promotion of the global Partnership for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11;
- d) Align partners, coordinators in their activities and encourage healthy competition; and
- e) Through the use of traffic light colours –identify areas where Partners can contribute.

180. In general this system will require facility for entering data; for visualizing data (the dashboard); high level regional progress pages for policy, home page for Aichi Target 11 Partnership; Partner Action pages to log and check who is doing what and where, among others. The question was whether all these could be available by June. **Ms. Kingston would like to design and make this available before sending the letter out. EC-JRC and UNEP-WCMC planned to meet soon after the meeting to discuss details of this system and prepare the letter at the same time in order to dispatch it as soon as possible.** Ms. Kingston also mentioned that collating the existing data may take up to September. The one concern about the dashboard is ensuring that submitted information is official.

#### f) Reporting by Coordination Agencies

181. It was decided that sub-regional coordination agencies report every three months to the *Global Steering Committee* that will be soon established at this meeting. The report should provide information on the sub-regional Action Plan and activities accomplished following the Plan. Mr. Erg mentioned that this reporting can help share experiences and approaches to streamline and coordinate the overall work.

**Sub-regional coordination agencies report every three months to the *Global Steering Committee* starting with the first report at the end of July 2019, then October 2019, January 2020 and April 2020**

182. Mr. Rhodes Espinoza highlighted the importance of the Action Plan results which will have a bearing on the dashboard. In order to avoid missing or losing information, Ms. Ali advised to avoid oversimplifying information when filling the dashboard.

183. Mr. Gidda proposed that a report be submitted every couple of months or so through an online reporting mechanism. In any case, countries will have to officially submit their status, gaps and opportunities matrices and further priority action for the post-2020 period during the workshops in 2020. He mentioned that it is possible for every coordination agency, in the different sub-region, to collect the data from Parties and report on a regular basis. Ms. MacKinnon reminded that if coordination agencies report online, it will be important to check if WDPA has accepted the update. Hence, this should not be only about implementation but also about effectively reporting the results.

#### g) Action Plan Template

**A template for sub-regional Action Plans and a timeline of activities (such as implementation, monitoring and reporting) will be prepared and shared in May 2019 (Ms. Cao de la Fuente has taken the lead to prepare the template, circulate it for feedback and comments, and finalize it)**

184. The template will be simple and flexible for all sub-regional coordination agencies to readily use it. The standardized format is expected to facilitate collection and aggregation of information/data for reporting. The Latin America group will develop the initial template. Ms. Cao de la Fuente has taken the lead to prepare the template and circulate it for feedback and comments, so that all sub-regional coordination agencies start using the same flexible template. The feedback and comments from EC-JRC and UNEP-WCMC are expected to be received around the third week of May. The template will then be finalized and shared with everyone by the end of May. Furthermore, BIOPAMA which is involved in the implementation in Africa and the Caribbean and South Africa National Focal Point (Ms. Qwathekana) will be copied on these communications. **It will also be important to contact BIOPAMA in advance.**

#### h) UNDP and GEF 5 and 6 Projects

185. Regarding the analysis of spatial data from GEF projects, Mr. Cadena Salgado asked whether this will have any bearing on the gaps (i.e. to see whether the GEF projects will contribute filling gaps in ecological representation, KBA coverage, etc.). They will check this at UNDP, and he will share the

information with the coordination agencies of the different sub-regions. He also mentioned that considering spatial data from GEF 5 and 6 projects one by one, they will show the change in coverage and other qualitative elements, as well as how low hanging fruits can realistically be identified, achieved and reported, and which ones are in the pipeline or in process. He said that all this are in process and being thought of - he promised to report back with some information in the coming couple of weeks.

**Mapping Exercise by UNDP – UNDP will assist with GEF 5 and 6 projects analysis to map the status of important elements of Target 11, such as ecological representativity, key biodiversity areas, ecosystem services, etc.**

#### **i) Analysis of GSI-ICCA Information**

186. The Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (GSI-ICCA) involves 26 countries. Ms Corrigan and Ms. Karen Richardson, Consultant at the United Nations Office for Project Services, will get the exact information on progress of the project in these countries soon and will share.

**Analysis of GSI-ICCA related information and compilation. Ms. Richardson took the lead on this.**

187. It is known that accounting for ICCAs appropriately will substantially improve the status of Target 11 by enhancing progress in both quantitative and qualitative elements of the Target.

#### **j) Other Area-base Conservation Measures (OECMs)**

188. Regarding OECMs the discussion focused on their identification and management types of areas that could potentially be considered as OECMs (e.g. watersheds protected areas, etc.), the need for further guidance, and maybe webinars to assist Parties by providing this and other related information. A four pager and a screening tool will be needed around end of May – June for circulation in order to provide a quick guidance.

189. UNEP-WCMC is also encouraged to collect data on OECMs. There is a pressing need to improve reporting on OECMs in order to enhance the delivery of Aichi Target 11 in response to decision XIV/8 of the COP to the Convention. There is also a need for further guidance on OECMs.

**UNEP-WCMC is encouraged to develop a database for storing data on OECMs. Further guidance on OECMs identification and reporting is needed. IUCN-WCPA has already prepared additional technical guidance and a simple screening tool which could be tested and verified in the field.**

190. IUCN-WCPA Task Force will circulate the revised version of the guidance on OECMs, the simple guidance (the above mentioned four-pager) and the screening tool. The need for further guidance on official reporting of OECMs to WDPA was also highlighted. That anyone can simply report OECMs to WDPA was not found tenable. UNEP-WCMC is setting up a separate OECM database under Protected Planet – but even so OECM reports would need verification at national level.



### **k) Data Acquisition and Verification**

191. The Friends of the Chair proposed that based on COP 14 Paragraph 8(a), the Secretariat of the CBD should send a **letter to Ministers of Environment of CBD Parties reminding them about the deadline for achieving Aichi Target 11**, the importance of speeding up implementation and timely data submission, also copying National Focal Points, among others. Mr. Gidda can also continue sending informal reminder messages to the Parties. **A one pager technical guidance was also recommended for attachment to the message.**

**The Secretariat of the CBD to send reminder to Parties about the deadline for achieving Aichi Target 11 with a one pager technical guidance as attachment and highlighting consistency of data between the 6NRs and data submitted to WDPA.**

192. Points that should be highlighted were the importance of ensuring **consistency of data between the 6NRs and the data submitted to WDPA**, information on who submits the data, who verifies it and who is accountable. All this was expected to be sorted out around the second week of May 2019. Updating WDPA data and ensuring its consistency with the data in the 6NRs is expected to make a substantial improvement to the status of Target 11.

**WDPA data should be fully updated by end of April 2020 and consistent with data in the 6NRs.**

### **l) Guide to IUCN Regarding Low Hanging Fruits**

193. It is mentioned that we need a collective **brainstorming session** to identify management types that can potentially be OECMs. Some have been identified in the guidelines. An information document can be prepared on this for submission to one of the CBD meetings (maybe also with a Spanish translation).

### **m) Global Steering Committee**

194. Among others, a Global Steering Committee (GSC) was formed and its Terms of Reference (ToR) include overseeing implementation and monitoring progress to facilitate reporting in 2020. Members of the Global Steering Committee were selected by the participants. Mr. Gidda will provide the ToR. The members of the GSC will meet through teleconferences to accomplish their task.

#### **The GSC Members**

- Ms. MacKinnon chair of the Committee;
- Developing countries: South Africa, Mexico (Ms. Qwathkana, Mr. Rhodes Espinoza respectively);
- Developed countries: Finland, Germany (Mr. Johansson, Ms. Stolpe respectively);
- UN Agencies: UNEP-WCMC (Ms. Naomi Kingston) and UNDP (Ms. Jamison Ervin)
- IUCN Global Programme On protected Areas (Mr. Trevor Sandwith)
- + 1 more will be added eventually where necessary

### **C. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

195. The meeting was closed late in the afternoon of 27 April 2019. The participants who did not have to leave at the time, sat together for final expression of engagement, supper, followed by a visit to the famous gallery on the Island of Vilm.

## ANNEX 1: PROGRAMME

### STOCKTAKING, COORDINATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MONITORING PLAN MEETING FOR ACHIEVING AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGET 11 BY 2020

Vilm, Germany, 24-27 April 2019 (departure 28 April)

EVENING OF 24 APRIL 2019	
<b>18:30</b>	<b>Dinner</b>
<b>19:30</b>	a) Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants of the meeting</li> <li>• Vilm Island (Ms Gisela Stolpe)</li> </ul> b) Request to Dr. Kathy MacKinnon to chair the meeting
25 APRIL 2019	
<b>7:00-8:30</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>
<b>8:30-10:30</b>	a) Introduction to and purpose of the Meeting by Sarat B. Gidda (30 min) b) Discussion on current status and action plans from sub-regions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East and Southeast Asia;</li> <li>• Pacific Islands;</li> <li>• South Asia;</li> <li>• Latin America;</li> <li>• North America.</li> </ul> (15 minutes each presentations and 15 minutes discussion)
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:00-12:30</b>	c) Discussion on current status and action plans from sub-regions (b. cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Middle East, North Africa (MENA) and West Asia;</li> <li>• West Africa;</li> <li>• Central and Eastern Europe;</li> <li>• Eastern Europe and Central Asia Russian Speaking.</li> </ul> (15 minutes each presentations and 15 minutes discussion) d) Summary of discussion on current status and action plans (15 minutes)
<b>12:30-13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13:30-15:00</b>	<b>Tour of the Isle of Vilm</b>

<b>15:00-15:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>15:30-17:30</b>	First round Group Sessions: Africa, America, Asia and Europe to work on four items: a) Summary of regional priorities based on discussions; b) Identification of : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaps</li> <li>• Opportunities</li> </ul> c) Action Plans and Modalities for Monitoring and Reporting; and d) Way forward
<b>17:30-18:30</b>	Report back results from group sessions to plenary
<b>18:30</b>	<b>Dinner</b>
<b>26 APRIL 2019</b>	
<b>8:30-11:00</b>	Thematic Areas Sessions – Discussions on (a) Progress to date; (b) What can be done before 2020 (c) what tools are available; and (d) what should be incorporated into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework for: i) Ecological Representation and Connectivity; ii) Management Effectiveness; iii) Governance and Equity; iv) Areas Important for Biodiversity; v) Areas Important for Ecosystem Services; vi) Integration. (20 minutes each with 30 minutes discussion)
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:30-12:30</b>	Thematic Areas Sessions – Discussions (Cont.): vii) Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (50 minutes) a) Current and planned projects for implementation; b) Recognition and reporting issues including verification. viii) Mapping Nature for Development Initiative (UNDP) (10 minutes)
<b>12:30-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00-16:00</b>	Second round Group Sessions -Thematic Areas – Discussions (cont.): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakout Groups on specific themes and groups  (Member of the global Partnership leading on the themes hold a discussion session with each Group: Africa, America, Asia, Europe by alternating group)  (50 minutes per session)</li> </ul>
<b>16:00-16:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>

<b>16:30-18:00</b>	<p>Second round Group Sessions -Thematic Areas- Discussions (cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakout Groups on specific themes and groups (cont.) (Member of the global Partnership leading on the themes hold a discussion session with each Group: Africa, America, Asia, Europe by alternating group) (50 minutes per session)</li> </ul>
<b>18:30</b>	<b>Dinner (Groups can continue where needed)</b>
<b>27 APRIL 2019</b>	
<b>8:30-11:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report back to plenary results from the Thematic Areas/Breakout Group Sessions at regional, sub-regional and global level; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What can be done before 2020 considering gaps, opportunities and commitments;</li> <li>- Current and planned projects for tracking and monitoring up to 2020 including available tools;</li> <li>- What should be incorporated into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>(Presentations on all 8 themes)</p>
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:30-12:30</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of appropriate mechanism for monitoring and reporting results of sub-regional implementation action plans</li> </ul>
<b>12:30-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00-16:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of a Global Steering Committee (to oversee, guide and monitor the status of implementation)</li> </ul>
<b>16:00-16:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>16:30-18:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other matters</li> <li>• Closure of the meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Morning of 28 April 2019 (departure from Vilm)</b>	

## ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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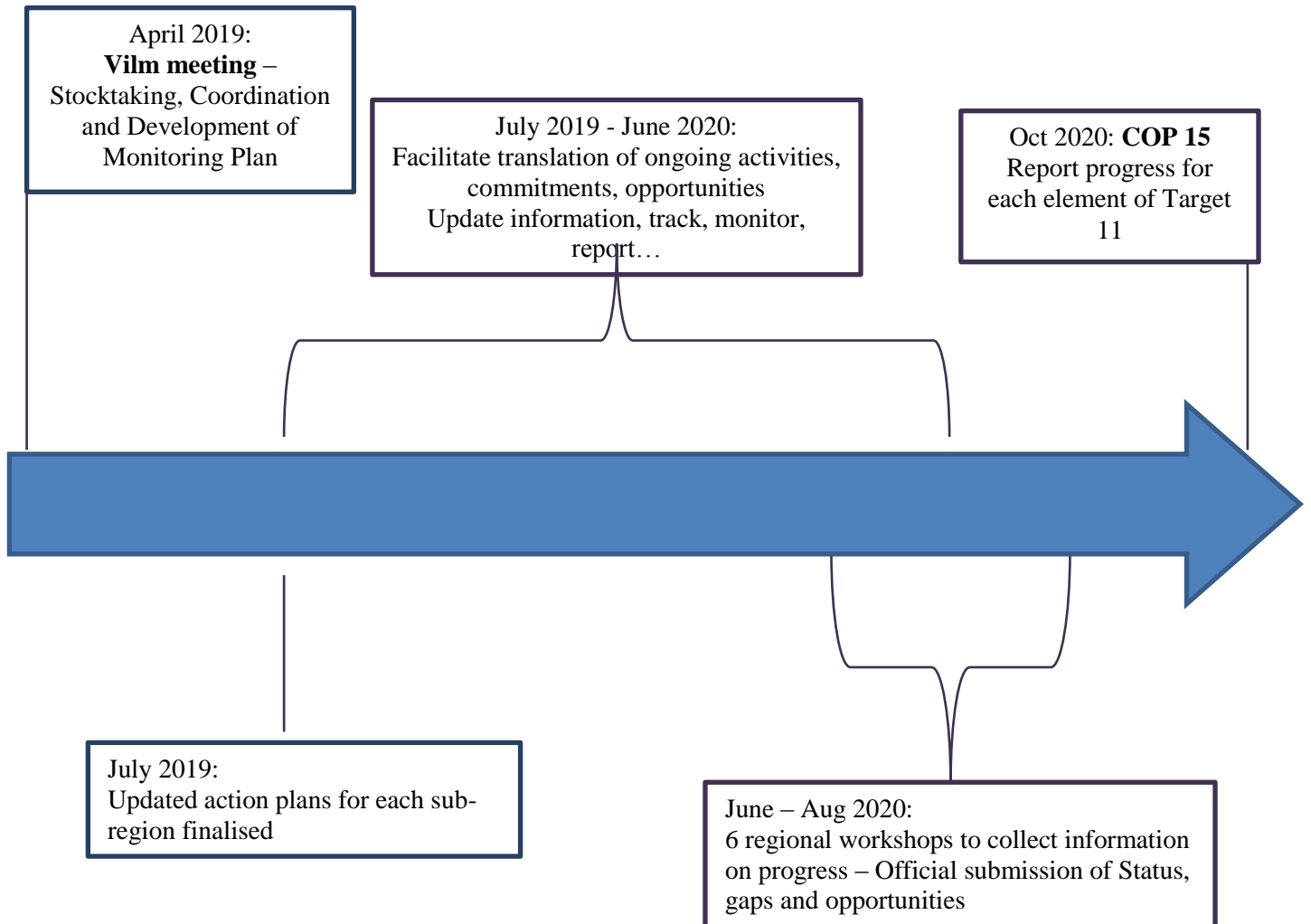
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### ANNEX 3: TIMELINE OF SOME OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES





DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

