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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
First meeting
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Item 8 of the provisional agenda

PREPARATION OF THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN THE THIRD SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Submissions from Governments

Note by the Interim Secretariat. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties has before it document UNEP/CBD/COP/1/12 prepared by the Interim Secretariat. The second session of the Intergovernmental Committee recommended that that document should draw principally on written inputs from Governments, to be received by 15 August 1994, containing their views and suggestions. By 15 August two written contributions from Governments had been received by the Interim Secretariat. A further seven statements were received after that date. As recommended by the Intergovernmental Committee (document UNEP/CBD/COP/1/4, para. 273), the submissions from Governments are being made available for information, attached to this note. Any observations that may be received later will be included in addenda to the present document.

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AUSTRALIA

1. It is suggested that the contribution to the CSD could:

- (a) Briefly outline the global status of biological diversity and state the importance of addressing its loss;
- (b) Explain why the Convention was developed;
- (c) Outline progress achieved at the international level towards the early and effective implementation and operation of the Convention. The contribution could refer to the establishment and work of the ICCBD, the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Meeting of Scientific Experts on Biological Diversity, and focus on progress by the COP on key matters including:
 - (i) Institutional arrangements relating to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice; Secretariat; financial mechanism; and clearing-house mechanism;
 - (ii) Progress on significant policy issues;
 - (iii) Development of a future work programme by the COP;
 - (iv) Cooperation with other international bodies, e.g. UN Specialized Agencies, other convention secretariats, and international financial institutions;
 - (v) Update on ratifications;
- (d) Indicate the high degree of correspondence and complementarity between Chapter 15 of Agenda 21 and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Emphasize that the Convention provides a central and direct means for implementing Chapter 15;
- (e) Identify any relevant Convention provisions which are important for implementing actions under Chapters 10-14 of Agenda 21:
 - (i) Indicate the considerable contribution that the implementation of the Convention will make to meeting the objectives of Chapters 10-14 and implementing specific actions in the various programme areas;
 - (ii) Indicate the need to ensure that activities in pursuit of Chapters 10-14 take into account and are coordinated with relevant actions taken under the Convention.

2. The following points are relevant to actions contained in Chapters 10-14, from the perspective of the Convention. Also attached is a table which illustrates how the Convention provisions contribute to the achievement of many of the actions in these Chapters. The table is only intended to provide examples and is not exhaustive.

Chapter 10 - Land resources

3. As is recognized in Chapter 10, the integrity of life-support systems and the productive capacity of land depend on essential ecological services provided by biological diversity. The contribution to the CSD could emphasize that effective planning and management of land resources require

biological diversity conservation and sustainable use to be fully integrated into and coordinated with activities in sectors which are relevant to land use and which can have significant impacts on biological diversity, for example human settlements, agriculture, forestry, fishing and tourism.

4. The Convention is an important means of achieving such coordination. The Convention generally provides a framework for integrating conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of biological resources. A number of specific provisions are also relevant to integrated planning and management, as indicated in the attached table.

Chapter 11 - Combating deforestation and statements of principles on forests

5. Forests contain a large proportion of the world's biological diversity. The conservation and sustainable use of forests and forest resources are therefore crucial to the effective implementation of the Convention. As indicated in the attached table, implementation of the Convention can contribute significantly to achieving many of the initiatives identified in the statement of forest principles and Chapter 11.

Chapter 12 - Combating desertification and drought

6. Desertification is a significant form of degradation and of loss of habitats and ecological communities, resulting in the reduction of biological diversity. Together with the Convention on Desertification, measures taken under the Convention on Biological Diversity to prevent the loss of biological diversity or to restore it in areas vulnerable to desertification are important means for addressing desertification. Article 20, paragraph 7 of the Convention, concerning financial resources, provides for consideration to be given to "the special situation for developing countries, including those that are most environmentally vulnerable, such as those with arid and semi-arid zones, coastal and mountainous areas".

7. Many of the activities under Chapter 12, particularly those in Programme Area B relating to maintaining or increasing natural vegetation cover, are directly relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

8. In addressing Chapter 12, the CSD contribution could encourage development of anti-desertification activities which also contribute significantly to biological diversity conservation. For example, increasing vegetation cover can promote and stabilize hydrological balance in dryland areas and maintain land quality and land productivity.

9. However, the use of local native plant species, rather than alien or translocated species, should be promoted in revegetation programmes to maximize biological diversity conservation. The use of non-local species may be the best option for rehabilitation in some situations, where vegetation that can provide a habitat for some native species may be preferable to no vegetation at all or to the use of totally alien species.

10. Papers on the relationship between biological diversity and desertification have been considered by the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Desertification. Further work may be required to identify the linkages between desertification and biological diversity. It may be possible for the Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and Desertification, or appropriate subsidiary bodies, to cooperate in identifying activities which meet objectives of both Conventions.

Chapter 14 - Sustainable agriculture and rural development

11. The contribution to the CSD could indicate that the adoption of sustainable agriculture will assist in achieving conservation of biological diversity. Conversely, many of the Convention provisions are relevant to achieving sustainable agriculture. Of particular relevance are provisions concerning the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, which include plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture. The contribution could refer to the work currently being undertaken to revise the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources and to harmonize it with the Convention on Biological Diversity, in collaboration with the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
AND CHAPTERS 10-14 OF AGENDA 21

SUBJECT	AGENDA 21 OBJECTIVE/ ACTION	RELEVANT CONVENTION PROVISION
Chapter 10 - Land resources		
Integrated policy formulation	10.6 (a)	Articles 6 (b), 8(i), 10 (a), 14 (b)
Policies for sustainable use of land resources	10.6 (b)	Articles 6, 8 (c), 8 (i), 10
Incentives for sustainable management of land resources	10.6 (d)	Article 11
Traditional and indigenous methods	10.7 (d)	Articles 8 (j), 10 (c)
Impacts of activities	10.8 (b)	Articles 7 (c), 14 (a) & (b)
Information, monitoring and assessment systems	10.11	Articles 7, 18.3
Enhancing scientific understanding	10.14	Articles 12, 17, 18 (the work of the SBSTTA in accordance with Article 25 may also be relevant)
Development of capacity for planning and managing land resources	10.16 - 10.18	Articles 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21
Chapter 11 - Combating deforestation		
Participation of key groups in forest-related activities	11.3 (b)	Articles 8 (j), 10 (c)-(e), 13, 17, 18.4
Relating forest use to other land uses	11.3 (c)	Articles 6 (b), 8 (e), 10 (a)
Public education	11.3 (e)	Article 13
Strengthening training institutions	11.3 (f)	Articles 12, 18
Research, including on traditional uses of forest resources	11.3 (g)	Articles 7, 8 (j), 12, 15, 17, 18, 25
Forest data	11.4 (a)	Article 7, 17, 18
International and regional cooperation	11.5	Articles 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 25
Conservation and sustainable use of forests and forest resources	11.13	wide range of Articles
Sustainable management of forests	11.13 (a)	Articles 6 (b); 7, 8 (c) & (i); 10
Rehabilitation of degraded forests and revegetation	11.13 (a) & (d)	Articles 8 (f), 9 (c), 10 (d)
Protected areas, conservation and sustainable use	11.13 (b)	Article 8, particularly 8 (a) & (b), 9, 10

Buffer zone management	11.13 (c)	Article 8 (e)
National forest plans/programme	11.13 (f)	Article 6
Controlling impacts on forests	11.13 (g)	Articles 7 (c); 8 (g), (h) & (i); 14
Data and information	11.14	Articles 7, 15, 8 (j), 12, 17, 18, 19.1
Environmental impact analysis	11.22 (a)	Article 14
Incentives	11.22 (a)	Article 11
Criteria and guidelines	11.22 (b)	Articles 6-10 provide requirements for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including of forests
Improving forestry practices	11.22 (c)	Article 10 (b) & (e)
Ecologically sustainable development of forestry sector	11.22 (d)	Article 6 (b)
Promoting non-wood forest products	11.22 (f)	Articles 7 (a), 10 (c) & (e), 12, 15.6 & 15.7, 16, 19
Wildlife management	11.22 (h)	Articles 7 (a); 8 (c), 10 (b), (c) & (e), 15, 16, 19
Promoting small-scale forestry enterprises	11.22 (i)	Article 10 (d) & (e)
Comprehensive assessment methods	11.22 (j)	Article 7
Information, monitoring and assessment	11.31	Articles 7, 14, 17, 18.4
Chapter 12 - Combating Desertification and Drought		
Knowledge base	12.6	Article 7 (c) & (d), 12, 18.3
Preventive measures	12.18 (a)	Articles 6 (b), 8 (c), 10
Afforestation, reforestation and restoration	12.18 (b) & (c)	Articles 8 (f), 10 (d)
Participatory management of national resources, including rangeland	12.18 (e)	Articles 8 (j), 10 (c) - (e)
In situ protection in and conservation, including of biodiversity	12.18 (f)	Article 8
Forestry development in drylands	12.18 (g)	Articles 10 (e), 11
Indigenous knowledge	12.23 (a)	Articles 8 (j), 17.2, 18.4
Research programmes	12.23 (b)	Articles 12, 18
Support of community-based organizations	12.25 (b)	Article 10 (d)

Chapter 13 - Sustainable Mountain Development		
Survey of forest, crop, plant and animal resources	13.5 (a)	Article 7 (a)
Database and information systems	13.5 (b)	Article 7 (d)
Knowledge on technologies and agricultural and conservation practices	13.5 (c)	Articles 8 (j), 12, 17, 18
database on environmental risks	13.5 (f)	Articles 7 (c) & (d)
Prevention and control of soil erosion	13.16 (a)	Articles 8 (f) & (l)
Popular participation in management of local resources	13.16 (c)	Articles 8 (c), 10 (d)
preservation of threatened areas	13.16 (e)	Articles 8 (a), (b), (d)
Incentives	13.16 (f)	Article 11
Income generating activities	13.16 (g)	Articles 10 (e), 15
Regional cooperation and data exchange	13.18 (b)	Articles 5, 12, 17, 18, 19
Partnerships with NGOs and private groups	13.18 (c)	Articles 10 (e)
Chapter 14 - Sustainable agriculture and rural development		
Integration of environmental and sustainable development into food and agriculture sector	14.8 (a) 14.9 (h)	Article 6 (b)
Access of rural people to resources	14.17 (b)	Articles 8 (j), 10 (c) & (d), 16
Land resource surveys	14.45 (a)	Article 7
Reclamation of degraded lands	14.45 (b)	Articles 8 (f), 10 (d)
Collect and study useful plants	14.57 (b)	Articles 9, 12
In situ on-farm and ex situ conservation of PGRFA	14.57 (c)	Articles 8, 9
Sharing of benefits arising from PGRFA	14.57 (d)	Articles 8 (j), 15, 16, 19
Inventory livestock breeds	14.66 (a)	Article 7
Preservation of animal breeds at risk	14.66 (b)	Articles 8 (k), 9 (c)

BRAZIL

1. Among the sectoral issues in the agenda of the third session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, biological diversity is one of particular importance to developing countries, owners of the major part of existing biological resources. Chapter 15 of Agenda 21 stresses that States have the sovereign right to exploit their own biological resources pursuant to their environmental policies, and, through their respective Governments, they must take appropriate measures for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from research and development and use of biological and genetic resources, including biotechnology, between the sources of those resources and those who use them. It also envisages to ensure the participation of indigenous people and local communities in the economic and commercial benefits derived from the use of their traditional methods and knowledge. Thus, it recognizes that these traditional methods and knowledge, held by indigenous people and local communities, cannot be considered as the "heritage of mankind", as stated by the European Union during the second session of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Convention on Biological Diversity, held last June in Nairobi. As a matter of fact, chapter 15 of Agenda 21 refers to the Convention on Biological Diversity with respect to the rights of the countries of origin of genetic resources, as defined in the Convention, particularly developing countries, to benefit from the biotechnological development and the commercial utilization of products derived from such resources. The consideration of this issue by the Commission on Sustainable Development must therefore be guided by these principles, fundamental to the implementation of Agenda 21.
2. As regards genetic resources, in particular, the third session of CSD may recommend that future *ex situ* gene banks must be developed and located preferably in the countries of origin of such resources. It would also be appropriate to recommend that the Global System for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources be adjusted to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
3. As it concerns biosafety, the third session of CSD may express support to the negotiation of a protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which could establish adequate procedures with respect to the safe transfer, management and utilization of all living organisms modified by biotechnology.
4. It should also be mentioned that the transfer and development of technology in benefit of developing countries are crucial to the sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of their biological diversity by developed countries. In this regard, it would also be important to mention the need for the adoption of appropriate national legislation and policies to ensure the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
5. The Convention on Biological Diversity has become the main framework for the international debate concerning biological diversity. It aims at the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies and by appropriate funding, and so, it is intrinsically related to Agenda 21. The Convention on Biological Diversity, therefore, contains the fundamental pillars for the implementation of Agenda 21 - transfer of and development of technologies, and the financial provisions necessary for the sustainable use of biological resources. Presently, with the beginning of the implementation of the Convention, it would be a timely initiative if the third session of CSD reaffirmed the need that national programmes of action reflect the interests of Contracting Parties in accordance with the fundamental principles of this instrument, without hampering the balance between obligations of developed and developing countries.

CANADA

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development is a high profile forum which can be used to promote biodiversity on the international agenda, identify complementarities with the work of other forums and agencies and influence their sustainable development agenda.
2. The contribution of the Conference of the Parties should stress the importance of all three objectives of the Convention, as outlined in its first article. The Convention on Biological Diversity is the primary international instrument for advancing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, as reflected in the references to the Convention found in chapter 15 of Agenda 21. CSD should use its political influence to encourage countries to ratify and implement the Convention.
3. The activities of CSD should complement those of the Convention. Biodiversity, as it is set out in the Convention, is a corner-stone of sustainable development and should be seen as such. CSD should clarify the mutually supportive relationship between biodiversity and sustainable development to help countries set complementary priorities in both areas. For example, over the past few years, international agencies have called for much national planning (National Environmental Action Plan, National Sustainable Development plan, national plan for plant genetic resources). CSD should encourage more effective inter-agency coordination so that countries clearly understand the role of national biodiversity strategies and action plans in relation to sustainable development and other national planning and in relation to the activities of international agencies.
4. The contribution of COP should give information on the status of the Convention and where it needs to go, and provide an assessment of the successes of the Convention, of areas where further progress is needed, and practical steps needed to achieve this.
5. The successes of the Convention include its early entry into force and the progress made on process and coordination. A good example of coordinating its activities with other forums was ICCBD's support for the work of the FAO Commission on Plant Genetic Resources. The bottom-up country-driven emphasis provided by the Convention is another strong point.
6. COP needs to make progress towards choosing the institution to operate the Convention's financial mechanism, and needs to give better guidance regarding its programme priorities. One of the ways for CSD members to help that process would be to ensure better communication between government departments within each country which are responsible for implementing the provisions of the Convention.

CHINA

1. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP) is the supreme and an independent organ for the implementation of the Convention. It is not a subsidiary body of any intergovernmental agency including the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and should not be perceived as an organ reporting to CSD. It reviews biodiversity issues within the framework of the Convention, and its decision is legally binding on all Contracting Parties and should not be renegotiated or amended by any other intergovernmental body.
2. CSD is the institutional mechanism to follow up Agenda 21, including its chapter on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. It will discuss biodiversity issues in a broader range, including reviewing and assessment of the implementation of the Convention and making

suggestions to COP in this respect. When biodiversity issues are discussed within CSD, the fundamental principles and the provisions concerning the interests of the developing countries in the Convention should be fully taken into consideration.

3. For biodiversity conservation and other sustainable development issues, there should be adequate coordination between COP and CSD.

4. As the task manager on the theme of biodiversity for the preparation of the next session of CSD, UNEP should play an active role in transmitting information between COP and CSD.

DENMARK

1. Following the discussions regarding this issue at the second session of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nairobi, the Danish Government will hereby emphasize that the issues to be discussed at the 1995 meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) in our opinion are of the utmost relevance to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

2. In this context the Danish Government finds it important that a strong and coherent input is given by CBD to CSD.

3. The first seeds towards such a strong and coherent input could be planted by having the Interim Secretariat of the Convention or any other appropriate body to go through the chapters of Agenda 21 (10-15) which are on the agenda for CSD's third session, and comment on those chapters from the perspective of the Convention making any suggestions for action that would seem relevant and desirable to pursue. A document with such comments and suggestions for action together with the input from the planned Madrid meeting and input from other Governments reacting to the request contained in document UNEP/CBD/IC/2/Inf.5 could constitute a valuable input for the first session of the Conference of the Parties.

4. The implementation of CBD, however, is still in its very early stages, meaning that the first Conference of the Parties will have a large number of organizational issues to deal with, and cannot be expected to discuss in depth very many substantive issues. Therefore, in our opinion, the main objective of the input from CBD to CSD cannot be only to provide concrete guidance on substantive issues, but also:

(a) To help in the establishment of a common understanding of what issues CBD should be expected to deal with, or should take the lead on;

(b) To point to areas where the active involvement of CBD will be needed in order to ensure the integration of biodiversity considerations in sectoral and cross-sectoral initiatives;

(c) To point to areas where the successful implementation of CBD will necessitate discussions and initiatives in other more cross-sectoral fora like CSD.

5. For the purpose of specifying elements to be covered under these categories, we have the following suggestions at present. Before being used to structure a final input to the 1995 CSD meeting, they would of course have to be revised in the light of discussions at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including in particular the multi-annual work programme to be established:

(a) Issues where CBD should take the lead:

- (i) Establishment of an international process to support and monitor the development of national strategies and action plans to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;
- (ii) Establishment of funding criteria for internationally funded biodiversity projects through the Global Environment Facility;
- (iii) Establishment of arrangements concerning access to genetic resources and benefit sharing, including possible models for national legislation;
- (iv) Establishment of biodiversity objectives, strategies, action plans and indicators to support the integration of biodiversity concerns into sectoral and cross-sectoral planning for forests and other types of land use;
- (v) Establishment of international regulations concerning biosafety, the long-term objective being to establish a binding legal instrument under CBD, possibly in the shorter term assisted by a set of non-binding international guidelines, also under CBD.

(b) Issues where CBD should be actively involved in the development of sectoral and cross-sectoral initiatives:

- (i) Promotion at the international level of cooperation and coordination between various agreements, organizations, programmes and agencies so that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is promoted in the context of sustainable development;
- (ii) Promotion of cross-sectoral integration at the national level, so as to establish mechanisms for the integration of biodiversity objectives into national planning, including the establishment at the national level of indicators which would enable policy-makers to monitor trends.

(c) Issues where implementation of CBD will benefit greatly from action in other fora, specifically CSD:

- (i) Policies and strategies to promote technology transfer, including analysis of the potential impact of Intellectual Property Rights;
- (ii) Trade-related policies with potential impact on the environment, including initiatives related to terms of trade and commodity prices, internalization of environmental and social costs and protectionism versus market access and competitiveness, especially in the field of sustainably produced exports;
- (iii) New and innovative mechanisms for funding of sustainable development, including initiatives related to debt relief, private investments, benefit sharing arrangements, tax systems and economic and fiscal initiatives in general.

ITALY

1. The Italian Government, by resolution of the Interministerial Committee for Economic Planning of 16 March 1994, approved the document "Strategic lines and first preliminary programme for the implementation of the Biodiversity Convention in Italy".

2. The above document defines the main activities to be carried out for implementation of the Biodiversity Convention. To this aim it outlines 9 "working areas".

3. Some of the activities are related to the topics that will be discussed at the next CSD meeting. With reference to the chapters of Agenda 21, our suggestions for the above meeting are the following:

Chapter 2 - International cooperation to accelerate sustainable development in developing countries and related domestic policies

4. The following actions should be promoted:

(a) Bilateral cooperation in the following sectors:

- (i) Country studies;
- (ii) Interventions on protected areas and related sectors (management of protected areas, ecotourism etc.);
- (iii) Interventions in favour of local communities and informal agents as to conservation of biodiversity *in situ* and *ex situ*;
- (iv) Interventions for transfer of biotechnologies;
- (v) Technical-scientific training in environmental matters;
- (vi) Environmental impact assessment for development programmes.

(b) Specialized personnel as support to the international structures set up for multilateral cooperation on environmental matters (UNEP, UNDP, World Bank, GEF etc.);

(c) Cooperation at regional level for the adoption of measures for conservation of biodiversity (e.g. in the Mediterranean Basin);

(d) Definition of procedures for the safe use of modified genetic organisms in developing countries;

(e) Adequate preliminary risk management, providing all the necessary information for the safe use of modified genetic organisms;

(f) Definition of mechanisms to verify the socio-economic effects deriving from the use of modified genetic organisms.

Chapter 4 - Changing consumption patterns

5. The target is to make the various social components aware of the importance of biodiversity, so that they can modify their consumption and behaviour patterns:

- (a) Reinforcing information campaigns on protected areas;

(b) Carrying out new information campaigns on biodiversity over the whole territory, taking advantage of the experience of NGOs and local institutions.

Chapter 8 - Integrating environment and development in decision-making

6. The containment of biodiversity risk factors with behaviour patterns by:

- (a) Identifying categories for projects with significant impacts on biodiversity at genetic, species and ecosystem levels;
- (b) Integrating laws in force and in progress on EIA with projects having a negative impact on biodiversity. Reinforcing public participation in environmental impact assessment procedures;
- (c) Applying the precautionary principle for those categories of projects whose impact on biodiversity is not evident;
- (d) Focussing on activities that represent a serious danger to biodiversity, and verifying the adequacy of the intervention plans decided on;
- (e) Preparing coordinated plans of intervention together with the other countries involved, whenever transboundary impacts on biodiversity occur (e.g. sea pollution, nuclear accidents).

Chapter 10 - Integrated approach to the planning and management of land resources

7. Issues relevant to the Biodiversity Convention could be the following:

- (a) Verification of the advisability of concentrating national competence regarding landscape protection in view of a more effective environmental protection;
- (b) Establishment of agro-ecological parks based on the enhancement of local experience, particularly with regard to the endangered areas/species monitored in the network of data banks, so as to favour the introduction of species preserved *ex situ*;
- (c) Implementation of programmes for environmental recovery and natural renewal of degraded ecosystems, with priority for those related to protected areas and biotic corridors.

Chapter 11 - Combating deforestation

8. The use of forestry is recommended to partially solve the problem.

9. A similar approach to the European action for the Alps is desirable to promote cooperation among countries for mountain protection (Andes, Himalayas, etc.)

Chapter 14 - Promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development

10. To promote similar actions to those adopted by EU with the CAP (Community Agricultural Policy) and regulations No. 2070, 2080, 2081.

Chapter 16 - Environmentally sound management of biotechnology

11. This topic is to be considered within the general framework of international cooperation and technological transfer. Suggested actions could be as follows:

(a) Adopting the FAO code of behaviour and the international commitment of 1983. Reinforcing actions undertaken in this direction by international organizations (UNEP, FAO, UNESCO, UNIDO);

(b) Applying the procedures for assessment of the environmental impact of biotechnologies in cooperation activities with developing countries;

(c) Assessing, by means of specific analyses, the social and economic consequences of transfer of biotechnologies to developing countries.

Chapter 17 - Protection of the oceans, all kinds of seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, and coastal areas, and protection, rational use and development of their living resources

12. A common action with Mediterranean countries for conservation of biodiversity is proposed.

Chapter 27 - Strengthening the role of non-governmental organizations: partners for sustainable development

13. Suggested actions:

(a) Encouraging the participation of NGOs in programmes aimed at increasing knowledge of the natural resource heritage;

(b) Identifying the most appropriate measures for enhancing the role of NGOs and local communities, by setting up centres for education in biodiversity;

(c) Carrying out, over the whole territory, new information campaigns dealing with the themes of biodiversity, having recourse to the experience of NGOs and local institutions;

(d) Including NGOs and local institutions in research programmes on *ex situ* conservation.

Chapter 31 - Scientific and technological community

14. Suggested actions:

(a) Completion of a national network of knowledge;

(b) Establishment of observation and monitoring centres.

SWEDEN

1. As a political forum providing policy guidance to Governments, CSD should highlight and reinforce the objectives of the Convention. Its deliberations should take as a starting point that Parties to the Convention have already assumed obligations to ensure:

(a) Conservation of biological diversity;

(b) Sustainable use of its components;

(c) Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources from biological diversity.

2. The Convention objectives apply to all biological resources including those in the sectoral cluster under review at the third session of CSD (land, desertification, forestry and biological diversity). Discussions

need to focus on the importance of the ecosystem functions that biological resources perform and the ecosystem services they provide to mankind. If humanity is to have a future on this Earth, biological diversity must be preserved so that these functions and services are maintained.

3. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without responsible management of biological resources. Both conservation measures and a reorientation of all economic activities towards sustainable production methods and sustainable consumption patterns are required. At its third session CSD will need to deliberate on what is meant by sustainable production methods and sustainable consumption patterns in the sectors under review.
4. Sustainable use of biological resources will be another key concept in the debate. Biological resources must be exploited in such a manner that long term degradation or loss of biological diversity is avoided. Sustainable use is necessary, but not a sufficient precondition for achieving sustainable development as regards biological diversity. Many of the world's species and ecosystems have already degraded or been exploited to such an extent that conservation measures are now urgently needed to protect their last remnants and preserve them from extinction. Both *in situ* and *ex situ* measures will be needed. The relationships between the state of biological diversity and economic activities in sectors using biological resources need clarification. Underlying reasons for loss of biodiversity must be better understood. It should also be established that the sectoral actors, in their activities, need to take responsibility for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
5. As regards land use and desertification, CSD should focus on human activities as the decisive factor for achieving sustainable development. Agricultural ecosystems are the result of centuries of human influence on the landscape. The maintenance of agricultural biodiversity and its genetic resources is of central importance to the efforts to secure improved agricultural yields also on poorer soils and marginal lands to feed an ever increasing world population. References could be made to the ongoing FAO work including to adapt the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources to the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity. As a concrete measure, the need for all countries to develop inventories over their plant genetic agrobiodiversity should be stressed.
6. Sustainable forestry requires action in areas with boreal as well as tropical and other types of forests. Commercial forestry and economic activities using forest products or biological resources obtained from forest areas are economically very important to many countries, including Sweden. Interesting new technologies and innovative practices that have been developed for forestry and for the efficient use of forest resources should be further explored.
7. Transfer of technology, dissemination of available knowledge and capacity-building could yield quick results in the sectors under review and should be promoted.
8. At its third session, CSD should also underline the linkages between the work done on these and related issues under the auspices of the Convention and in other fora such as FAO, UNESCO, UNEP and UNDP and by other governmental and non-governmental bodies.
9. The discussions on biotechnology during the review of the cross-sectoral cluster should focus on the content of the guidelines that are needed as an urgent interim measure until a legally binding Protocol on biological safety has been negotiated and adopted.

10. At its third session CSD should also urge States that have not yet done so to adhere to the Convention on Biological Diversity as soon as possible.

[Original: French]
[15 August 1994]

SWITZERLAND

1. Introductory remarks

In order to place the contribution by CBD to CSD in its proper context, the following points should be borne in mind.

The Convention is a binding legal instrument, its supreme body being the Conference of the Parties. The Commission, however, is an institutional body charged with the follow-up to Agenda 21. It is in this light and this context that it is important to develop cooperation between the Convention and the Commission: the Convention will be set up as an "independent" body, but in any event, it will be deeply interested in having, indeed it even needs, the support the Commission may have to offer under its mandate to implement the Rio decisions.

2. Report to CSD

2.1 The report of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to CSD might present a summary of the early work undertaken to implement the Convention, in which emphasis could be given, in particular, to those aspects which contribute to the different cross-sectoral activities of Agenda 21 concerning forests, combating desertification and land and water use.

2.2 More specifically, the contributions of CBD to the third session of CSD should include the following elements:

A progress report on the implementation of the Convention since the Rio Conference;

The identification of the obligations of CBD which related to the implementation of the various chapters concerned of Agenda 21 (chapters 10-18 of sect. II).

The identification of the activities of Agenda 21 in chapters 10-18 which contribute to the conservation of biological diversity in order to pinpoint CSD's specific contributions to the conservation of biological diversity.

3. Institutional links

3.1 In order to further the respective objectives of CBD and CSD, the possibilities of formal coordination between both these organs must be explored. To this end, we suggest that a mandate for the mutual exchange of information be given to both the secretariats of CBD and CSD, taking into account the elements mentioned above in paragraph 2. As regards CBD, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), to be established under the Convention by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting, should be requested by the Conference to provide pertinent information to that effect.

[Original: Spanish]
[11 August 1994]

URUGUAY

1. In reply to the request from the Interim Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity concerning the items to be considered by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its third session in 1995, it is our view that the following items should be considered in the discussions to be held on sectoral as well as multi-sectoral items by CSD:

- (a) The promotion of capacity-building and education on biological diversity;
 - (b) The transfer of environmentally friendly technology;
 - (c) Regional coordination and cooperation in the management of shared biological resources;
 - (d) Financial support to national programmes for the formulation of strategies on biological diversity.
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