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Item 17.3 of the provisional agenda*

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES: PROGRESS REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION

Note by the Executive Secretary

Addendum

GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Technical review of the targets and analysis of opportunities for their implementation

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In line with its decision V/10, the Conference of the Parties, at its sixth meeting, will consider the adoption of a Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. At its seventh meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) prepared a proposal for the Strategy, including outcome-oriented global targets for 2010, and recommended that the Conference of the Parties consider this proposal for adoption, taking into account the results of the inter-sessional work (recommendation VII/8). In order to assist the Conference of the Parties in its consideration of the proposal for a strategy, the present note provides the main results of the inter-sessional work.

2. In its recommendation VII/8, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice requested the Executive Secretary to carry out the following tasks, prior to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

(a) To refine the quantitative elements of the targets in the draft strategy providing a scientific and technical rationale in each case, and clarifying terms as necessary (recommendation VII/8, para. 2).

* UNEP/CBD/COP/6/1 and Corr.1/Rev.1.

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This was to be done with the support of technical experts, on the basis of advice from Parties, and in consultation with participants of relevant ongoing international initiatives that contribute to plant conservation, such as the Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Strategic Plan and work of the Plants Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Agenda for Botanical Gardens in Conservation, the IUCN Species Survival Commission's Plant Conservation Programme, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), activities of the International Association of Botanic Gardens; and the people and plants initiative of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and UNESCO;

(b) To prepare an analysis of the opportunities for implementation of the Strategy through the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention, including in particular the ecosystem approach and the Global Taxonomy Initiative, as well as through existing relevant international, regional and national initiatives, and of any gaps in these programmes and initiatives (recommendation VII/8, para. 3).

3. Additionally, in paragraph 4 of the same recommendation, SBSTTA invited Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to provide information to the Executive Secretary on relevant international, regional and national initiatives.

II. REFINEMENT OF THE QUANTITATIVE ELEMENTS OF THE TARGETS

4. Two Parties provided information in response to a notification issued by the Executive Secretary on 11 December 2001. ^{1/} This is additional to the information earlier provided by 11 Parties and four organizations, in response to decision V/10. ^{2/}

5. The Executive Secretary convened a meeting of technical experts, comprising experts nominated by 13 Parties ^{3/} and seven international organizations ^{4/} in Gran Canaria, Spain, from 11 to 13 February, with the support of the Government of Spain and the Island Government of Gran Canaria. In line with SBSTTA recommendation VII/8, the technical experts reviewed the targets in the draft Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in order to refine their quantitative elements, provide a scientific and technical rationale in each case, and clarify terms as necessary. The experts had before them a note entitled "Follow-up to SBSTTA recommendation VII/8, paragraph 2, on the refinement of the 16 draft targets included in the proposed strategy" (UNEP/CBD/GSPC/1/2), prepared by the Executive Secretary with the support of various experts and international organizations. The note contains reference material relevant to each target.

6. The note prepared by the Executive Secretary, as revised in the light of the work of the meeting of technical experts, will be circulated as an information document for the sixth meeting of the Conference

^{1/} Bolivia and Spain

^{2/} See UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/10, paras. 2 and 9.

^{3/} Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, India, Indonesia, Kenya, New Zealand, Peru, Spain, South Africa and United Kingdom.

^{4/} These are: Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO); International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI); The Smithsonian Institute, Panama; IUCN; Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), and Plantlife.

of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/28), and the results of the technical review of the targets conducted by the experts are annexed to the present note.

III. OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLANT CONSERVATION STRATEGY

7. The experts also reviewed three notes prepared by the Executive Secretary with the support of various experts and international organizations on the opportunities for implementation of the draft Global Plant Conservation Strategy through the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/GSPC/1/3), existing relevant national initiatives (UNEP/CBD/GSPC/1/4) and international and regional initiatives (UNEP/CBD/GSPC/1/5).

8. These notes, as revised in the light of the work of the meeting of technical experts, will be consolidated into an information document for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/29). Key relevant thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention, and key existing relevant international initiatives are also noted in the annex to the present note.

9. The main points arising from this analysis, as identified by the meeting of experts, are the following:

(a) The thematic work programmes under the Convention on Biological Diversity cover the majority of the world's biomes and will contribute to the conservation of plants found in them. Some plant species growing in temperate grasslands, polar and subpolar regions and selected mountain ecosystems may not be covered at this time;

(b) The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation provides a framework where contributions of existing programmes of work and agreements related to plant conservation can be promoted. In line with decision V/10 of the Conference of the Parties (Global strategy for plant conservation), existing international agreements and initiatives can contribute to the implementation of the targets. Most targets in the strategy can be achieved through existing work programmes of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other international agreements and initiatives; therefore, a separate programme of work under the Convention is not needed. Existing programmes of work can be strengthened to enhance their contribution to the implementation of the Strategy;

(c) The existing cross-cutting work programmes adopted and for consideration by the Conference of the Parties can contribute to the implementation of selected targets, especially those on the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI); the ecosystem approach; invasive alien species; communication, education and public awareness; indicators; impact assessment; and implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions. As recommended by SBSTTA, the targets should be taken into account when revising work programmes in the future, to enhance their overall contribution to the Strategy;

(d) Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation will thus contribute to the implementation of the operational goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention and serve as a pilot phase for the wider application of this approach to other components of biological diversity within each of the ongoing work programmes of the Convention.

Annex

**TECHNICAL REVIEW OF THE TARGETS: REFINEMENT OF THE QUANTITATIVE
ELEMENTS, TECHNICAL RATIONALE AND TERMS CLARIFICATION AS
NECESSARY**

TARGET 1:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora

Proposed revision (No change)

A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora

Terms and technical rationale for the target

A working list of known plant species is considered to be a fundamental requirement for plant conservation. The target is considered to be attainable by 2010, especially given that it is to be a *working* rather than a definitive list, and it is limited to *known* organisms (currently about 270,000, which may increase by 10 – 20% by 2010). Some 900,000 scientific names are known for these 270,000 species. In effect the target will require the compilation and synthesis of existing knowledge, focusing on names and synonyms, and geographical distribution. Both national flora and compilations and international initiatives are important in this respect. The list could be made *accessible* through the World Wide Web, complemented by CD-ROM and printed versions. Further work on national and regional floras is necessary to lay the basis for the longer term aim of developing a complete world flora, including local and vernacular names.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Articles 7 and 9

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Global Taxonomy Initiative

Key international initiatives: International Plant Names Index, Global Biodiversity Information Facility.

TARGET 2:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

An assessment of the conservation status of [all] known plant species, at international, regional and national levels

Proposed revision

A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels

Terms and technical rationale for the target:

Over 60,000 species have been evaluated for conservation status according to internationally accepted criteria, of which 34,000 are classified as globally threatened with extinction (IUCN, 1997). In addition, many countries have assessed the conservation status of their own floras. There are currently about 270,000 known species. Of those still to be evaluated, sufficient information for a full assessment is only available for a proportion. Thus, only a *preliminary* assessment will have been carried out on the remaining, “data-deficient” species. Subsequently, further fieldwork will be essential to enable more comprehensive assessments to be undertaken.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Articles 7 and 8.

Key CBD programmes and cross-cutting issues: Thematic programmes.

Key international initiatives: IUCN – Species Survival Commission

TARGET 3:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

An understanding of basic conservation needs for threatened plant species and plant communities, with conservation protocols and/or techniques to assess and protect plant communities developed as necessary

Proposed revision

Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Conservation biology research, and methodologies and practical techniques for conservation are fundamental to the conservation of plant diversity and the sustainable use of its components. These can be applied through the development and effective dissemination of relevant models and protocols for applying best practice, based on the results of existing and new research and practical experience of management. ‘Protocols’ in this sense, can be understood as practical guidance on how to conduct plant conservation and sustainable use activities in particular settings. Key areas where the development of models with protocols is required include: the integration of *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation; maintenance of threatened plants within ecosystems; applying the ecosystem approach; balancing sustainable use with conservation; and methodologies for setting conservation priorities; and methodologies for monitoring conservation and sustainable use activities.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Articles 8, 9, 10 and 12.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Thematic programmes.

Key international initiatives: DIVERSITAS

TARGET 4:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

[10 per cent] of each of the world’s ecological regions effectively conserved

Proposed revision

At least 10 per cent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved

Terms and technical rationale for the target

About 10% of the land surface is currently covered by protected areas. In general, forests and mountain areas are well represented in protected areas, while natural grasslands (such as prairies) and coastal and estuarine ecosystems, including mangroves, are poorly represented. The target would imply (i) increasing the representation of different ecological regions in protected areas, and (ii) increasing the effectiveness of protected areas. Since some ecological regions will include protected areas covering more than 10% of their area, the qualifier "at least" is used. In some cases, ecosystems restoration and rehabilitation may be necessary. Effective conservation is understood to mean that the area is managed to achieve a favorable conservation status for plant species and communities. Various approaches are available for use in the identification of ecological regions, based on major vegetation types. Further targets may be agreed in the future.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 8.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Thematic programmes; Protected Areas, Ecosystem Approach

Key international initiatives: IUCN- World Commission on Protected Areas; UNESCO-Man and the Biosphere programme.

TARGET 5:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

Protection of [70 per cent] of the world's most important areas for plant diversity assured

Proposed revision

Protection of 50 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured

Terms and technical rationale for the target

The most important areas for plant diversity would be identified according to the criteria including endemism, species richness, and/or uniqueness of habitats, including relict ecosystems, also taking into account the provision of ecosystem services. They would be identified primarily at local and national levels. *Protection* would be *assured* through effective conservation measures, including protected areas. Experience from regional initiatives on important plant areas, as well as a similar approach on important bird areas suggests that 50% is a realistic target for 2010. In the longer term the protection of all important plant areas should be assured.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 8.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Thematic programmes; protected areas, ecosystem approach.

Key international initiatives: UNESCO Man and the Biosphere programme; Important Plant Areas Programme; IUCN- World Commission on Protected Areas.

TARGET 6:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

At least [30 per cent] of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity

Proposed revision (brackets removed)

At least 30 per cent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.

Terms and technical rationale for the target

For the purpose of the target, *production lands* refer to lands where the primary purpose is agriculture (including horticulture), grazing, or wood production. *Consistent with conservation of plant diversity* implies that a number of objectives are integrated into the management of such production lands:

- Conservation of plant diversity which is an integral part of the production system itself (i.e., crop, pasture or tree species and genetic diversity);
- Protection of other plant species in the production landscape that are unique, threatened, or of particular socio-economic value;
- Use of management practices that avoid significant adverse impacts on plant diversity in surrounding ecosystems, for example by avoiding excessive release of agro-chemicals and preventing unsustainable soil erosion.

Increasingly, integrated production methods are being applied in agriculture, including integrated pest management, conservation agriculture, and on-farm management of plant genetic resources. Similarly, sustainable forest management practices are being more broadly applied. Against this background, and with the above understanding of the terms used, the target is considered feasible. Higher targets are appropriate for natural or semi-natural forests and grasslands.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Articles 8 and 10, decision III/11

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands; ecosystem approach.

Key international initiatives: Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; Collaborative Partnership on Forests

TARGET 7:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

[50 per cent] of the world's threatened species effectively conserved *in situ*

Proposed revision

60 per cent of the world's threatened species conserved *in situ*.

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Conserved in situ is here understood to mean that populations of the species are effectively maintained in at least one protected area or through other *in situ* management measures. In some countries this figure has already been met, but it would require additional efforts in many countries. The target should be seen as a step towards the effective *in situ* conservation of all threatened species

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 8.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Thematic programmes; protected areas, ecosystem approach.

Key international initiatives: IUCN- World Commission on Protected Areas and Species Survival Commission

TARGET 8:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

[90 per cent] of threatened plant species in accessible *ex situ* collections, preferably in the country of origin, and [20 per cent] of them included in recovery and restoration programmes

Proposed revision

60 per cent of threatened plant species in accessible *ex situ* collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 per cent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Currently, over 10,000 threatened species are maintained in living collections (botanic gardens, seed banks, and tissue culture collections), representing some 30% of known threatened species. It is considered that this could be increased to meet the proposed target by 2010, with additional resources, technology development and transfer, especially for species with recalcitrant seeds. Within this target it is suggested that priority be given to critically endangered species, for which a target of 90% should be attained. It is estimated that currently about 2% of threatened species are included in recovery and restoration programmes. Against this baseline, a target of 10% is recommended.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 9.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Thematic programmes

Key international initiatives: International Agenda for Botanic Gardens, FAO network of *ex situ* collections.

TARGET 9:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

[70 per cent] of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated local and indigenous knowledge maintained

Proposed revision (brackets removed)

70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated local and indigenous knowledge maintained

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Theory and practice demonstrate that, with an appropriate strategy, 70% of the genetic diversity of a crop can be contained in a relatively small sample (generally, less than one thousand accessions). For any one species, therefore, the target is readily attainable. For some 200–300 crops, it is expected that 70% of genetic diversity is already conserved *ex situ* in gene banks. Genetic diversity is also conserved through on farm management. By working with local communities, associated local and indigenous knowledge can also be maintained. Combining genebank, on farm, and other *in situ* approaches, the target could be reached for all crops in production, as well as major forage and tree species. Other major socio-economically important species, such as medicinal plants, could be selected on a case-by-case basis, according to national priorities. Through the combined actions of countries, some 2,000 or 3,000 species could be covered in all.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Articles 8 and 9.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity.

Key international initiatives: Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

TARGET 10:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

Management plans in place for [90 per cent] of major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems

Proposed revision

Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems

Terms and technical rationale for the target

There is no agreed reliable estimate of the number of alien species that threaten indigenous plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems to such an extent that they may be considered as “major”. It is recommended therefore that the target be established for an absolute number of such major invasive alien species. The wording “At least 100” is considered appropriate. The 100 invasive alien species would be selected on the basis of national priorities, also taking into account their significance at regional and global levels. For many alien species, it is expected that different management plans will be required in different countries in which they threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and

ecosystems. This target would be considered as a first step towards developing management plans for all major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 8.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Invasive alien species; thematic programmes.

Key international initiatives: International Plant Protection Convention; Global Invasive Species Programme.

TARGET 11:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

No species of wild flora subject to unsustainable exploitation because of international trade

Proposed revision

No species of wild flora endangered by international trade

Terms and technical rationale for the target

The proposed formulation of the target is more precise since it focuses on those species that are actually threatened by international trade. So formulated, the target is attainable and is complementary to target 12. *Species of wild flora endangered by international trade* include but are not limited to species listed on CITES appendix 1. The target is consistent with the main purpose of the CITES Strategic Plan (to 2005): “No species of wild flora subject to unsustainable exploitation because of international trade”.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 10.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Sustainable use; thematic programmes.

Key international initiatives: CITES

TARGET 12:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

[30 per cent] of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed

Proposed revision (brackets removed):

30 per cent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Plant-based products include food products, timber, paper and other wood-based products, other fibre products, and ornamental, medicinal and other plants for direct use.

Sources that are sustainably managed are understood to include:

- Natural or semi-natural ecosystems that are sustainably managed (by avoiding over-harvesting of products, or damage to other components of the ecosystem), excepting that commercial extraction of resources from some primary forests and near-pristine ecosystems of important conservation value might be excluded.
- Sustainably managed, plantation forests and agricultural lands.

In both cases, sustainable management should be understood to integrate social and environmental considerations, such as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits and the participation of indigenous and local communities.

Indicators for progress might include:

- Direct measures e.g.: products meeting relevant verified standards (such as for organic food, certified timber, and intermediate standards that codify good practices for sustainable agriculture and forestry);
- Indirect measures e.g.: products from sources considered to be sustainable, or near-sustainable, on the basis of farming system analyses, taking into account the adoption of integrated production methods. Assessment of progress will be assisted by the development of criteria and indicators of sustainable agricultural and forest management.

Certified organic foods and timber currently account for about 2% of production globally. For several product categories, examples exist of 10–20% of products meeting intermediate standards. Against this baseline, the target is considered to be attainable. It would be applied to each category of plant-based products, understanding that for some categories it will be more difficult to reach and more difficult to monitor progress. Implementation would require a combination of product-specific and sector-wide approaches, consistent with the Convention's programme of work on agricultural biodiversity.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 10.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Agricultural biodiversity; forest biodiversity; sustainable use; incentive measures.

Key international initiatives: Various certification schemes such as those of the International Organic Agriculture Service and the Forest Stewardship Council

TARGET 13:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

The decline of plant resources, and associated local and indigenous knowledge, that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, reversed.

Proposed revision

The decline of plant resources, and associated local and indigenous knowledge innovations and practices, that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Plant diversity underpins livelihoods, food security and health care. This target is consistent with one of the widely agreed international development targets, namely to “ensure that current trends in the loss of environmental resources are effectively reversed at both global and national levels by 2015”. It is recommended feasible to halt the decline by 2010 and subsequently to reverse the decline. Relevant plant resources and methods to address their decline are largely site specific and thus implementation must be locally driven. The scope of the target is understood to encompass plant resources and associated ethnobotanical knowledge. Measures to address the decline in associated local and indigenous knowledge should be implemented consistent with the Convention’s programme of work on article 8j and related articles.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Articles 8 and 10.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Agricultural Biodiversity; Forest Biodiversity; Sustainable Use;

Key international initiatives: Global Plan of Action for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, UNDP/FAO sustainable livelihoods programme.

TARGET 14:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into educational programmes

Proposed revision

The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, education and public awareness programmes.

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Communication, education and the raising of public awareness about the importance of plant diversity are crucial for the achievement of all the targets of the strategy. This target is understood to refer to both informal and formal education at all levels, including primary, secondary and tertiary education. Key target audiences include not only children and other students, but also policy-makers and the public in general. Consideration should be given to developing specific indicators to monitor progress towards achievement of the overall target. It may be helpful to develop indicators for specific target audiences. Given the strategic importance of education about plant conservation, this issue should be included not only in environmental curricula, but should also be included in broader areas of mainstream education policy.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 13.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Communication, education and public awareness.

Key international initiatives: Education and public awareness: implementation of the Global Initiative on Biological Diversity Education and Public Awareness.

TARGET 15:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

The number of trained people working with adequate facilities in plant conservation and related activities [doubled]/[increased], according to national needs

Proposed revision

The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this strategy.

Terms and technical rationale for the target

The achievement of the targets included in the strategy will require very considerable capacity-building, particularly to address the need for conservation practitioners trained in a range of disciplines, with access to adequate facilities. In addition to training programmes, the achievement of this target will require long-term commitment to maintaining infrastructure. “Appropriate facilities” are understood to include adequate technological, institutional and financial resources. Capacity-building should be based on national needs assessments. It is likely that the number of trained people working in plant conservation world-wide will need to double by 2010. Given the current geographical disparity between biodiversity and expertise, this is likely to involve considerably more than a doubling of capacity in many developing countries, small island States and countries with economies in transition. Increased capacity should be understood to include not only in-service training, but also the training of additional staff and other stakeholders, particularly at the community level.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Article 12

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Global Taxonomy Initiative and Thematic Programmes

Key international initiatives: No key international initiatives.

TARGET 16:

Target as formulated in SBSTTA recommendation VII/8

Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at international, regional, and national levels

Proposed revision

Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels

Terms and technical rationale for the target

Networks can enhance communication and provide a mechanism to exchange information, know-how and technology. Networks will provide an important component in the coordination of effort among many stakeholders for the achievement of all the targets of the strategy. They will also help to avoid duplication of effort and to optimise the efficient allocation of resources. Effective networks provide a means to

develop common approaches to plant conservation problems, to share policies and priorities and to help disseminate the implementation of all such policies at different levels. They can also help to strengthen links between different sectors relevant to conservation, e.g. the botanical, environmental, agricultural, forest and educational sectors. Networks provide an essential link between on-the-ground conservation action and coordination, monitoring and policy development at all levels. This target is understood to include the broadening of participation in existing networks, as well as the establishment, where necessary, of new networks.

Articles of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties: Articles 17 and 18.

Key programmes and cross-cutting initiatives under the Convention: Global Taxonomy Initiative and Thematic Programmes

Key international initiatives: International Agenda for Botanic Gardens; IUCN – Species Survival Commission; BioNet International.
