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

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Item 21 of the provisional agenda\*

#### FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

*Elaboration of elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity – relation to the existing work programme, activities of the United Nations Forum on Forests, and framework for selecting priorities and defining activities*

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

*Addendum*

#### POTENTIAL PRIORITIES FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF WORK ON FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

##### I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its recommendation VII/6 (see UNEP/CBD/COP/6/4, annex I), the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) adopted elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity and, in paragraph 3 of the same recommendation, requested the Executive Secretary to invite Parties to submit their views and suggestions for potential priorities for the proposed expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity, taking into account the chapeau of the annex to the recommendations VII/6 to be incorporated into an information document and report to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting for consideration.

2. In December 2001, the Executive Secretary invited national focal points to submit their views (Notification 2001-12-05/02). As of 16 February 2002, only the European Union has responded to the request of the Executive Secretary. Comments on possible priorities were also received from members of the SBSTTA Bureau, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and

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

Greenpeace International. In addition, on the occasion of the Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity held in Accra from 28 to 30 January 2002, the Secretariat carried out informal consultations with experts participating in the Workshop to identify possible criteria for prioritisation and potential priority activities and objectives of the expanded work programme on forest biological diversity.

3. The Executive Secretary has prepared the present note to summarize the information gathered and to assist the Conference of the Parties in identifying priorities in the programme of work on forest biodiversity. Section II contains some guidance and proposes criteria for the prioritisation of the programme elements, goals, objectives and activities in the elements for an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. Section III suggests priorities, first at the level of programme elements, goals and objectives, and then at the activity level. Section IV provides some information on ways and means for the implementation of the expanded programme of work. Section V contains a suggested decision for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties, which is based on recommendation VII/6 of SBSTTA, with additional material added to reflect development since the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body.

## **II. GUIDANCE FOR PRIORITIZATION**

4. The elements for an expanded work programme, as annexed to SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, consist of three programme elements, 12 goals, 27 objectives and 130 activities. To be effective, there is a need to prioritize the programme elements, goals, objectives and activities. Many activities are for implementation at the local and national levels, and others at the regional and international levels. The priorities at the local and national level are or should be incorporated in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and in national forest programmes. For prioritization of actions, in particular at the regional and international level, some guidance can be drawn upon from decision V/4 of the Conference of the Parties, recommendations of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and the Implementation of the Convention (MSP), as contained in its report (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/5), and SBSTTA recommendation VII/6. The inter-sessional meetings on forest biological diversity issues also identified some areas where priority actions may be needed.

### **A. *Decision V/4 of the Conference of the Parties***

5. In its decision V/4, the Conference of the Parties identified the following issues for which it requested advice from SBSTTA:

- (a) Impact of climate change on forest biological diversity (para. 11);
- (b) Causes and effects of human induced uncontrolled forest fires on forest biological diversity and possible approaches to address negative effects (para. 12);
- (c) Impact of, and sustainable practices for, the harvesting on non-timber forest resources, including bush meat and living botanical resources (para. 14);
- (d) Integration of biodiversity considerations, including biodiversity conservation, in the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (para. 18).

6. SBSTTA considered these issues at its seventh meeting and recommended follow-up actions, some of which were included in the elements for an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity annexed to its recommendation VII/6, namely in programme element 1, goal 2, objective 3

programme element 1, goal 2, objective 4; programme element 1, goal 4, objective 2; and programme element 1, goal 2, objective 3.

7. In the preamble of decision V/4, the Conference of the Parties stressed, *inter alia*, that due consideration should be given to the role of all types of forests, including planted forests, and the restoration of forest ecosystems. The importance of supporting work on taxonomic, ecological and socio-economic issues was also recognized, as well as the importance of forest ecosystems and forest resources to indigenous and local communities and the need to ensure their participation in the programme of work.

8. In addition, the Conference of the Parties urged Parties to consider without delay the proposal for action of the IPF/IFF on programme element II.d (v) on valuation on forest goods and services (para. 13). SBSTTA included this activity in programme element 2, goal 2, objective 1, especially activity (b).

***B. Recommendation of the Open-Ended inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Report and Implementation of the Convention (MSP)***

9. The annex to recommendation 1 of the MSP contains a draft Strategic Plan for the Convention. <sup>1/</sup> The Plan gives guiding principles for the development and implementation of the work programmes of the Convention. The vision and operational goals of the strategy are reflected/translated in the elements of the programme of work on forest biological diversity, particularly in programme element 1, and to a lesser extent, in programme element 2.

10. The draft Strategic Plan also highlights constraints, which hamper the implementation of the Convention. Addressing these constraints can also be considered among the priority actions in the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity.

***C. SBSTTA recommendation VII/6***

11. The participants in the seventh meeting of SBSTTA considered that, because a lot of information was available on the status and trends of forest biological diversity, more emphasis should be placed on programme element 1 (Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing) and programme element 2 (Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment) in implementing the elements of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity.

12. In paragraph 3 of its recommendation VII/6, SBSTTA requested that in providing views on priorities, the chapeau of the annex to the recommendation be taken into account. Some elements of the chapeau are merely guiding principles for the implementation of the objectives and activities of the programme of work. The Subsidiary Body recalled the need to:

(a) Facilitate adequate participation of indigenous and local communities and the need to respect their rights and interests;

(b) Achieve synergies and avoid duplications between the work of the key international bodies, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;

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<sup>1/</sup> See UNEP/CBD/COP/6/5, annex.

(c) Ensure capacity building and the provision of adequate financial, human and technical resources to allow implementation of the work programme by all relevant stakeholders;

(d) Ensure that relevant activities be effectively incorporated into national and subnational forest and biodiversity strategies and programmes;

(e) Clarify the linkages between the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management;

13. These needs are included respectively in programme element 2, goal 1, objective 3 (a); programme element 2, goal 1, objective 2, activities b and h (b); capacity building is mentioned in various goals and objectives of all programme elements, e.g. programme element 1, goal 4 (c); programme element 2, goal 1, objective 2 (d); and programme element 1, goal 1, objective 1 (e).

14. The following elements of the chapeau provide clear priorities:

(a) Biodiversity conservation efforts should be prioritised on the most endangered and environmentally-significant forest ecosystems and species, in particular primary forests. In paragraph 1 (e) of recommendation VII/6, SBSTTA recommended that the Conference of the Parties recognize the need to give priority to activities that can significantly contribute to the conservation of primary forests;

(b) There is a need to focus on key priorities for sustainable use of forests resources and to ensure equitable sharing of benefits.

15. Other areas of importance, *inter alia*, specific threats to forest biological diversity (climate change, forest fires, harvesting of non-timber forest resources) and collaboration with other bodies and processes, are highlighted in SBSTTA recommendations VII/6.

#### ***D. Suggestions from the Accra Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity***

16. The Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity held in Accra, Ghana, from 28 to 30 January 2002 identified several areas for collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests among the elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity. The following areas, addressed in programme element 1, goal 3 and objective 3 (a); programme element 1, goal 1, objective 1 (b); programme element 2, goal 1, objectives 2 (c)-(d), programme element 3 in general (e) and programme element 2, goal 2, objective 1 (f), were agreed by the Workshop as the most important areas for collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Forum on Forests and the other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests:

(a) Forest protected areas;

(b) Issues related to sustainable forest management and the ecosystem approach;

(c) Integration of conservation and sustainable use of forests at the national level, especially in national forest programmes and national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

(d) Addressing cross-sectoral impacts of forest biodiversity (e.g. agriculture, infrastructure, water, industrial development, transport, mining);

(e) Monitoring, assessment and reporting;

- (f) Valuation of forests and the goods and services they provide.

***E. Views of Parties, SBSTTA Bureau members, members of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity and participants in the Accra Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity***

17. As of 16 February, only the European Union had submitted views on prioritization. The European Union suggested priorities mostly at the level of goals and objectives.

18. The following criteria for prioritization were derived from the informal consultations undertaken by the Secretariat:

(a) *Efficacy*: How much will a goal, objective or activity contribute to reducing forest biodiversity loss or achieving restoration of forest biodiversity?

(b) *Feasibility*: How likely is it that an activity would be successfully carried out? Are the actors in a position to either undertake the action or persuade or facilitate another body to do so?

(c) *Urgency*: How imminent is the biodiversity loss that a given goal, objective or activity would address?

(d) *Cost-effectiveness*: How cost-effective is a given activity in comparison to other ways to achieve the objective, or other activities achieving other objectives?

(e) *Capacity building*: Will an activity provide additional long-term benefits, in terms of capacity building?

(f) *Integration*: Does the activity integrate with existing processes or plans, hence resulting in synergy?

(g) *Relevance to policy*: Will an activity result in a substantive policy or legislative change?

19. A number of experts were of the view that efficacy, feasibility and urgency would be the easiest criteria to use in prioritizing activities at the international level.

20. Some experts proposed a breakdown of the activities for the expanded programme of work into national and international level before prioritization. They considered the activities related to the following issues primarily as national priorities, which should be incorporated into the national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes: (i) land-use changes, (ii) reducing effects of forest fragmentation, (iii) fires, (iv) invasive alien species impacts, (v) restoration of forest ecosystems (vi) protected areas, (vii) developing sustainable use approaches that will address all three objectives of the Convention, (viii) underlying causes of forest biodiversity loss, and (ix) capacity building – knowledge, assessment and monitoring. Many of these activities may also contain important aspects to be implemented at the regional and international level. Other experts suggested a prioritization under the three programme elements identified by SBSTTA at its seventh meeting.

### **III. SUGGESTED PRIORITIES IN THE EXPANDED WORK PROGRAMME ON FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

#### ***A. Priorities at the level of goals and objectives***

##### ***1. Programme element 1: Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing***

###### ***Brief description of the programme element***

21. The first programme element deals with the overarching issues of conserving and restoring components of forest biological diversity, and using them in a sustainable and equitable way. The underlying assumption of this element is that management of forest biodiversity is a continuum from lightly managed protected areas to heavily managed plantation forests and agro-ecosystems, bearing in mind that ecosystem approach is the primary mechanism for achieving sustainable use of forest biodiversity over time.

###### ***Priority goals and objectives:***

22. The ecosystem approach is the primary framework for any action in the Convention, including conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity. Principles of the ecosystem approach should be integrated in policies, programmes and projects dealing with all types of forests. Further practical guidance should be developed in order to facilitate the application of ecosystem approach, including through adequate participation of local and indigenous communities, and to clarify its linkages with sustainable forest management.

23. It is important to establish, at the national, regional and global level, adequate and effective biologically and geographically representative protected forest areas for the conservation of the most endangered and environmentally significant forest ecosystems and species, in particular primary forests. There is a need to revise and ensure the comprehensiveness, representativeness, complementarity, and better management of existing protected areas and networks. Conservation of components of forest biological diversity in areas outside forest protected areas, for instance through forest management practices targeting the conservation of endemic and threatened species, is important. Particular conservation and management efforts should also address areas with high biodiversity value. Restoration of biological diversity in degraded forests, especially in the tropics, exchange of information and transfer of technologies for the restoration of degraded forests and, where needed, establishment of restoration areas in protected areas are also considered urgent.

24. Consideration of the impacts of threatening processes or factors, such as invasive alien species, global warming resulting from climate change, uncontrolled forest fires, habitat fragmentation, and conversion of forests to other land uses, is also urgently required. The integration of forest biodiversity consideration into strategies and policies to improve forest resistance/resilience to and mitigate the impacts of the changing environment should be promoted.

25. Preventing unsustainable harvesting of timber and non-timber forest resources, including bushmeat and living biological resources, is urgently required. The negative impacts on biological diversity of unsustainable patterns of consumption and production should also be addressed. Measures should also be taken to prevent and combat domestic and international trade of illegally harvested forest resources. The implementation of voluntary third-party credible forest certification schemes that include relevant and scientifically-based forest biodiversity criteria and cover chain-of-custody of forest products can be used as one of the main tools towards this end.

26. The fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the utilization of forest genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge is important and Parties and Governments should take specific actions to apply the draft Bonn Guidelines on Access and Benefit-sharing upon their adoption the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.

## *2. Programme element 2: Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment*

### *Brief description of the programme element*

27. By implementing programme element 2, Parties will develop or strengthen their institutional frameworks for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity, including the recognition of policies that are counter-productive to this goal. The element has three components: improved governance, determining causes for and addressing failures in policy, and the improvement of the understanding of the value of forest biodiversity to humans.

### *Priority goals and objectives*

28. Addressing the various obstacles that hamper the implementation of the objectives of the Convention including, in particular, the underlying causes of deforestation and socio-economic failures and distortions that result in loss of forest biological diversity is crucial. There is an urgent need for the coordination and integration of national forest programmes, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, poverty reduction strategies and sustainable development programmes to strengthen conservation and sustainable use activities. A strategic framework for mainstreaming biodiversity concerns into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies should be developed and implemented.

29. Indigenous and local communities can play a central role in forest biodiversity management and, with other stakeholders, should be given fair opportunities to participate in all decision-making processes, implementation of actions and evaluation of this implementation.

## *3. Programme element 3: Knowledge, assessment and monitoring*

### *Brief description of the programme element*

30. The ultimate goal of this programme element is to enhance our knowledge of forest biodiversity functions, and status and trends at the national, regional and global scales and to improve reporting systems. The programme element has three main components: monitoring of trends including through criteria and indicators, development of tools to improve the quality of monitoring programmes, and fostering of research to enable a better understanding of forest biodiversity value and functions.

### *Priority goals and objectives*

31. There is a need for research to improve our knowledge and develop methods for assessing the status and trends of forest biological diversity, and enhance our understanding of the role of forest biological diversity and ecosystem functioning. Agreed sets of indicators of forest biological diversity, which describe progress against identified baselines and targets, are also needed. .

32. Improved coordination and effectiveness of national and international bodies are required in carrying out the activities in the programme of work.

**B. Suggested priorities at the activity level**

33. Table 1 is a compilation of the priority elements from section II above, including decision V/4 of the Conference of the Parties, recommendation 1 of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and Implementation of the Convention, SBSTTA recommendation VII/6 and the suggestions received on possible priorities in the elements of an expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity. Ninety-one activities were recognized as possible priority activities. Most of these activities are to be implemented at the local and national level and can benefit from regional and international cooperation.

34. Activities that are not identified in table 1 among the proposed priority activities may be very relevant in some countries and regions, and should be implemented in those situations as a matter of urgency, as needed. This is the case, for example, for activities addressing pollution in programme element 1, goal 2, objective 2, activities for mitigating effects of the loss of natural disturbances necessary to maintain biodiversity in regions where these no longer occur (programme element 1, goal 2, objective 5), or programme element 1, goal 2, objective 4, activity (c) on the use of fire management tools for maintaining and enhancing forest biological diversity.

**Table 1. Suggested priority activities in the expanded work programme on forest biodiversity <sup>2/</sup>**

Programme element	Goal	Objective	Priority activities
1. Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing	1	1	a,b,e,i
		2	a,b
		3	<sup>3/</sup>
		4	a,e,f,g,h <sup>4/</sup>
		5	
		6	a-d
	3	1	a,b
		2	a,b
		3	a-f
		4	a-h
		5	a-d
	4	1	a-f
		2	a,b
		3	a,b
		4	a,b
		5	a,b
	5	1	a,b
		2	
		3	
		4	
		5	
2. Institutional and socio-	1	1	a,b

<sup>2/</sup> Numbers and letters in the Table refer to the numbering of programme elements, goals, objectives and activities in SBSTTA recommendation VII/6 contained in document UNEP/CBD/COP/6/4

<sup>3/</sup> Priority activities will be defined by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change.

<sup>4/</sup> Activities (e), (f) and (h) have many elements in common and might be integrated



economic enabling environment			
		2	a-i
		3	a-e
		4	a-f
	2	1	a-i
	3	1	a,b
3. Knowledge, assessment and monitoring	1	1	a,c
		2	a-c
		3	a
	2	1	a,b
	3	1	b,c
	4	1	a

#### IV IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELEMENTS OF AN EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF WORK

##### A. *Actors*

35. A detailed but indicative description of actors, timeframes, ways and means, and indicators of progress in implementation of the activities of the expanded work programme is presented separately in an information document.

36. Although the majority of activities are to be carried out at the national and local level, international and regional organizations, bodies and processes have an important role in the national implementation and are expected to coordinate their input and facilitate sectoral and cross-sectoral implementation of forest biodiversity programmes and projects at the national level. Parties have encouraged in particular collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests established by UNFF, and establishment of a liaison group consisting of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. the clearing house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity has an important role in promoting technical and scientific cooperation.

##### B. *Timeframe and reporting*

37. The objectives and activities in the expanded work programme require long-term implementation, and should be subject to periodic review and refinement. The proposed prioritised activities for the expanded work programme should be implemented in the short and medium term and, as appropriate, in harmony with the Strategic Plan of the Convention. The timeframe of most priority activities ranges between four and eight years.

38. The reporting on the implementation of the work programme will take place mainly in the national reports and, as required, as thematic reports. It is envisaged that the next in-depth review of the programme of work on forest biological diversity will be done at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties scheduled in 2008.

## V. SUGGESTED DECISION

### *The Conference of the Parties*

#### **[Expert group meetings and other intersessional meetings]**

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity established by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/INF/3), and *takes note* of the assessment of status and trends of, and major threats to, forest biological diversity contained in the report;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Canada and to the Government of the United Kingdom for their financial support to the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity, and to the other Governments and international organizations for the participation of their representatives;

3. *Also expresses its gratitude* to the Co-Chairs, the experts and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity for their work regarding the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity;

4. *Welcomes* the report of the Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity, held in Accra from 28 to 30 January 2002, (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/7) and *takes note* of the recommendations of the workshop for an effective collaboration on forests and biodiversity among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Forum on Forests, and their partners contained in the report;

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Ghana for hosting the Workshop on forests and biological diversity and the Government of the Netherlands for its financial support, and to the other Governments and international organizations for the participation of their representatives;

6. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Co-Chairs, the experts and the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests for their work regarding the Workshop;

7. *Welcomes* the report of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change, held in Helsinki from 21 to 25 January 2002 (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/6), and *expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Finland for hosting the workshop and the Government of Switzerland for financial support, and to the Co-Chairs and the experts;

8. *Takes note* of the report of technical experts' meeting on harmonization of forest-related definitions, held in Rome in January 2002, under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Center for International Forestry Research, and other partners;

9. *Welcomes* the establishment of the liaison group of the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and *encourages* the activities of the group in promoting complementarity and synergies in their activities on forests and forest ecosystems.

#### **[Expanded programme of work]**

10. *Noting* that the elements for an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity developed by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as annexed to its recommendation VII/6, constitute a comprehensive set of goals, objectives and activities required for the conservation of forest biodiversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the utilization of forest genetic resources, *adopts* the elements as the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity;

11. *Recognizing* that the most important part of work is action at the national level, and bearing in mind the varied circumstances of Parties, which implies that inclusion of an activity in the work programme does not necessarily imply participation in that activity by all Parties, *urges* Parties, other Governments and relevant organisations to implement the programme of work, taking into account the indicative matrices listing potential actors, time-frames, performance measures for the implementation of the proposed activities, as well as indicators of progress, given in the information note on the subject prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/9);

12. *Recognizes* the need to prioritize the elements in the expanded work programme, and *adopts* the proposed set of priority activities, as contained in the note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/17/Add.1) and to be annexed to this decision;

13. *Agrees*, recognizing the critical values of primary forests and other environmentally significant forest ecosystems for the conservation of biodiversity and the current alarming rate of loss of such forests, to give priority in the programme of work to activities that could significantly contribute to their conservation;

#### **[National level]**

14. *Urges* Parties and other governments to incorporate relevant objectives and related activities of the programme of work into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes;

15. *Invites* Parties to undertake national-level coordination of their work relating to forest biological diversity at an international level, particularly in respect of work relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests, and to achieve greater integration and collaboration between their implementing agencies at the national level through, for example, joint strategies or policies, and co-ordinating committees at political and/or technical levels;

16. *Encourages* the development of community-based approaches in the implementation of the programme of work, *inter alia*, for issues related to forest fires and non-timber forest resources;

17. *Further encourages* Parties and other Governments to develop closer collaboration for the conservation and sustainable use of transboundary forests, forest ecosystem types and populations of species;

#### **[Collaboration on specific issues]**

*Noting* that both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests have important and complementary roles to address the problem of forest biological diversity loss, that collaboration between the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity can strengthen their ability to support and guide immediate and effective action by governments and other bodies, and that such collaboration will also facilitate the integration of forest biodiversity considerations in

national development programmes, which will be vital for effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

*Recognizing* that there are many other bodies addressing issues of relevance to forest biodiversity (for example, other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests including in particular the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification), and collaboration with these bodies is also important,

18. *Invites* Parties to foster cooperation and synergies between the expanded work programme on forest biological diversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Multi-Year Programme of Work and Plan of Action of the United Nations Forum on Forests; as proposed in the report of the Workshop on forests and biological diversity;

19. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Forum on Forests, and taking into account the proposal for effective collaboration on forests and biological diversity among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Forum on Forests, and their partners, developed by the Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity held in Accra from 28 to 30 January 2002, and implement collaborative actions for selected items in the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity;

20. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in accordance with the availability of funds, to convene with the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Forum on Forests in two years time, a small group to review, progress in collaborative work, to recommend future collaborative initiatives, and report to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

21. *Invites* the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to support the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity, recognizing that the Collaborative Partnership on Forests provides a mechanism for enhancing collaboration on activities addressing common goals of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests;

22. *Also invites* the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, in the context of its global change and terrestrial ecosystems global transect programme, and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment to enhance collaboration in research and monitoring activities on forest biological diversity and climate change, and explore possibilities of establishing an international network to monitor and assess the impact of climate change on forest biological diversity;

23. *Further invites* the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change to consider issues related to interlinkages between biological diversity and climate change in the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity and the note by the Executive Secretary on consideration of specific threats to forest biological diversity, prepared for the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/7)), as well as the outcome of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties with respect to forest biological diversity, including the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity;

24. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, on the basis of goal 4, objective 2, of programme element 1 for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity, to establish a liaison group on non-timber forest resources, including members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the secretariat

of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), IUCN—The World Conservation Union, and other relevant organizations. On the basis of the work of the liaison group, the Subsidiary Body will prepare recommendations on this matter for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;

25. *Invites* members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its network to explore possibilities for enhancing the integration of non-timber forest resources in the forest inventory and management, and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

26. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Tropical Timber Organization and the Global Fire Monitoring Center, as well as other relevant organizations, to include forest biodiversity in their assessments of fire impacts; to explore possibilities for a joint work programme with the Convention on Biological Diversity, including, *inter alia*, fire impact assessments, development of guidelines on fire management, and community-based approaches to fire prevention and management; and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

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