



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/COP/7/14
19 November 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Seventh meeting
Kuala Lumpur, 9-20 and 27 February 2004
Item 23 of the provisional agenda*

MOUNTAIN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. At its fourth meeting, in 1998, the Conference of the Parties selected mountain biodiversity as one of the three themes for in-depth consideration at its seventh meeting (decision IV/16, annex II). At its sixth meeting, in 2002, the Conference of the Parties welcomed, in its decision VI/30, the proposals presented by the Executive Secretary in his note on preparations for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/2) and requested that such preparations continue as outlined in the note.
2. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), at its eighth meeting held in Montreal from 10 to 14 March 2003, considered mountain biological diversity as the main theme and adopted the structure, elements and goals of the proposed programme of work on mountain biological diversity, as contained in annex I to its recommendation VIII/1 A. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice also developed an indicative list of possible actions to be taken under the different goals of the proposed programme of work and decided to complement this structure with actions to be identified with the help of an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group and through consultations with Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations.
3. Pursuant to this request, the Executive Secretary consulted Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, on the proposed programme of work on mountain biological diversity, and prepared a list of actions for possible inclusion in the proposed programme of work. The Executive Secretary, with support from the Government of Italy, convened a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Mountain Biodiversity in Rome, from 1 to 3 July 2003. The mandate of the Expert Group was to:
 - (a) Review the suggested actions contained in the proposed programme of work on mountain biological diversity, as stated in annex I to SBSTTA recommendation VIII/1 A;
 - (b) Review the results of the consultation carried out by the Executive Secretary and consider them for inclusion in the proposed programme of work on mountain biological diversity; and
 - (c) Identify gaps in suggested actions, and include new actions whenever appropriate, under the relevant programme elements and programme goals;

* UNEP/CBD/COP/7/1.

4. Based on the work of the Expert Group, the Executive Secretary prepared a note on the proposed programme of work on mountain biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/12), and for consideration of SBSTTA at its ninth meeting, together with the report from the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Mountain Biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/11)

5. At its ninth meeting, held in Montreal from 10 to 14 November 2003, SBSTTA considered those documents and adopted recommendation IX/12, which includes a programme of work on mountain biological diversity. This recommendation is contained in annex I to the report of the ninth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/4).

6. The Conference of Parties is invited to consider SBSTTA recommendation IX/12, and to adopt a programme of work on mountain biological diversity.
