



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Seventh meeting
Kuala Lumpur, 9-20 and 27 February 2004
Item 25 of the provisional agenda*

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION (ARTICLES 16 AND 18)

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. In paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Parties to the Convention recognized that both access to and transfer of technology among contracting Parties are essential elements for the attainment of the objectives of the Convention. The central importance that Parties attach to technology transfer is further underlined by the fact that no less than four articles of the Convention touch on the subject. ^{1/} In Article 19, technology transfer is mentioned specifically as a means of achieving the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources, one of the main objectives of the Convention. Moreover, at each of the six meetings held to date, the Conference of the Parties has adopted decisions that confirmed the need for technology transfer and cooperation to successfully implement the provisions of the Convention. ^{2/}
2. In its decision IV/16, the Conference of the Parties decided that, as part of its programme of work for the period from fourth to the seventh meetings of the Conference of the Parties, transfer of technology and technology cooperation would be subject for in-depth consideration at its seventh meeting.
3. In its decision VI/30, the Conference of the Parties endorsed the proposals by the Executive Secretary regarding preparatory work on this issue, as outlined in section IV of the note by the Executive Secretary on preparations for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/2). These proposals, *inter alia*, suggested that SBSTTA would consider technology transfer and cooperation at its ninth meeting and adopt a recommendation for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties. That recommendation would include elements for a programme of work on technology transfer.

* UNEP/CBD/COP/7/1 and Corr.1.

^{1/} Articles 12, 16, 18 and 19. See section II of the note by the Executive Secretary prepared for the Inter-Sessional Meeting (UNEP/CBD/MYPOW/5) for further discussion.

^{2/} An overview of these decisions and a review of their status of implementation is provided in document the note by the Executive Secretary on review of status of implementation of decisions on technology transfer and cooperation (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/7/Add.2), prepared for the ninth meeting of SBSTTA.

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4. Subsequently, the SBSTTA Bureau requested that the legal and socio-economic aspects of technology transfer be included as part of the agenda of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties agreed to that request, while expressing the view that the SBSTTA mandate covers advice on legal and socio-economic issues.

5. The Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, held from 17 to 20 March 2003, took up the issue under item 6 of its agenda, based on a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/MYPOW/5), and adopted recommendation 4, on the legal and socio-economic aspects of technology transfer and cooperation. This recommendation is contained in the annex to the report of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/5).

6. Furthermore, SBSTTA addressed technology transfer and cooperation at its eighth meeting, held in Montreal from 10 to 14 March 2003, in its recommendation VIII/1 B, on mountain biodiversity. This recommendation is reproduced in annex I to the report of that meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/3).

7. Further to the proposals by the Executive Secretary regarding preparatory work endorsed by the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary prepared for consideration by SBSTTA at its ninth meeting three notes containing, respectively: (i) proposals for the development of a programme of work on technology transfer and cooperation (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/7), draft elements of a programme of work on technology transfer and cooperation (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/7/Add.1), and a review of the status of implementation of decisions on technology transfer and cooperation (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/7/Add.2). An indicative list of existing technologies for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, prepared by the Executive Secretary, was also made available as an information document (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/7/INF/13), as was the report of the Norway/United Nations Conference on Technology Transfer and Capacity Building, held in Trondheim from 23 to 27 June 2003 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/7/INF/1).

8. At its ninth meeting, held in Montreal from 10 to 14 November 2003, SBSTTA adopted recommendation IX/3, which includes draft elements of a programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation. This recommendation is contained in annex I to the report of that ninth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/4).

9. In addition, the Executive Secretary has prepared a synthesis of thematic reports on technology transfer and cooperation submitted by Parties as of 30 September 2003, for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/9). A preliminary analysis of those thematic reports submitted as of 15 June 2003 had already been provided to SBSTTA at its ninth meeting in the note by the Executive Secretary on review of status of implementation of decisions on technology transfer and cooperation (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/7/Add.2).

10. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to consider recommendation 4 of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, as well as SBSTTA recommendation IX/3, and to adopt a programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation.
